

April 3, 2003

S 913. STREAMLINE BUILDING CODE. TO STREAMLINE BUILDING CODE ADOPTION FOR GENERAL AND RESIDENTIAL CONSTRUCTION AND THE REVIEW PROCESS FOR STATE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS. Amends GS 143-136 to decrease membership of Building Code Council to 10 (was, 17) members. Adopts new Part 2 of Art. 9, Ch. 143 entitled "Residential Building Code Council and Building Code." (1) Creates Residential Building Code Council composed of seven members appointed by the Governor and prescribes organization of Council, which shall meet within thirty days of creation and at least once every six months thereafter. (2) Authorizes Council to adopt NC State Residential Building Code for one-family and two-family residential buildings after holding public hearing on proposed Code, which shall include the following: (a) general building restrictions as to location, height and floor areas; (b) requirements concerning egress and ingress, materials, construction precautions, chimneys and other facilities, and other reasonable rules deemed necessary for occupant and public safety; and (c) regulation of building activities and conditions that pose fire and explosion or related hazards. Codes adopted shall not apply to farm buildings located outside municipal building-rules jurisdiction or to state agency construction under \$20,000 (non-public or institutional buildings only). (3) Requires that provisions of Building Code have a substantial connection to public safety, conform to good engineering practices, and be in accordance with the International Building Code of the International Code Council. (4) Requires that handbooks explaining Code be provided within 180 days of Code's adoption. (5) Provides that Code shall apply throughout state, but that political subdivisions may adopt fire prevention code and floodplain management regulations. (6) Assigns the Insurance Comm'r responsibility for administration and enforcement of Code, including the adoption of implementing rules, and establishes remedies for Code violations, including injunctive relief to prevent construction or occupancy of structures and civil penalties imposed by political subdivisions. (7) Requires that Council and DOI provide training on the Code for trades affected. (8) Effective Oct. 1, 2003, creates 13-member State Construction Task Force and establishes membership of that Task Force. Requires that the Task Force recommend to 2004 Regular Session means of streamlining construction approval process and that by March 1, 2004, DOI make recommendations to General Assembly necessary to establish separate residential State Building Code and Council. Makes conforming changes to GS 143-136 and 143-138. Unless otherwise indicated above, effective Oct. 1, 2004.

Intro. by Clodfelter, Hoyle, Queen.

Ref. to	GS 143, STUDY
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