

An Act to amend the _____ law of the State of _____ in relation to the adoption of the 2012 edition (*the most recent draft of*) of the International Green Construction Code ® as published by the International Code Council relating to the establishment of sustainability requirements to reduce the negative potential impacts and increase the positive potential impacts of the built environment on the natural environment and building occupants.

Section 1 – Purpose – In furtherance of good environmental policy, the legislature of the State of _____ hereby grants the right to local government entities to adopt a Green Construction Code to safeguard the environment, public health, safety and general welfare through the establishment of sustainability requirements to reduce the negative potential impacts and increase the positive potential impacts of the built environment on the natural environment and building occupants, by means of minimum requirements related to: conservation of natural resources, materials and energy; the employment of renewable energy technologies, indoor and outdoor air quality; and building operations, building maintenance and owner responsibility.

Municipalities and counties may adopt by reference only the latest edition of the *International Green Construction Code*®, hereinafter referred to as “this code,” and as promulgated, published or made available by the International Code Council for regulation of construction within their respective jurisdictions. The appendices of the code may be adopted as needed, but the specific appendix or appendices must be referenced by name or letter designation in the adopting ordinance. Local governments may also establish administrative regulations necessary for the enforcement of this code.

The enforcement of this code and all pertaining rules and regulations providing for the issuance of permits, the collection of fees and any sanctions for violations shall be administered by the existing governing body (or department) (or shall be amended as follows...)

Where there is a conflict between an existing state law or regulation and a specific requirement of this code, the specific law or regulation shall be applicable. Where, in any specific case, different sections of the code specify different materials, methods of construction or other requirements, the most practical and effective requirement to meet the intent of the code shall govern in the general enforcement and administration of this code (unless an existing variance procedure already exists).

Section 2 – Definitions – For the purposes of this article, the following words and phrases shall have the following meanings unless is plainly required by the content:

(List any words currently not in this code. See chapter 2 of this code for a full list of defined terms)

Section 3 – Compliance – Local government entities may apply the provisions of this code as applicable to the construction, addition, alteration, change in use, movement, enlargement, replacement, repair, equipment, location, maintenance, removal and demolition of every building or structure or any appurtenances connected or attached to such buildings or structures and to the site on which the building is located.

Section 4 – Effective Date - This Act shall take effect upon the signature of the Governor