Building Code Alerts - February 20, 2024



Upcoming Code Body Meetings

State	Body	Date	Formula
Idaho	Idaho Building Code Board Meeting	2/20/2024	<u>Info</u>
Rhode Island	Rhode Island Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal and Review Meeting	2/20/2024	<u>Info</u>
Oklahoma Uniform Building Code Commission Public Hearing		2/20/2024	<u>Info</u>
Idaho	Idaho HVAC Board Meeting	2/21/2024	<u>Info</u>
California	California Energy Commission Business Meeting	2/21/2024	<u>Info</u>
Georgia	Georgia Department of Community Affairs IRC Task Force Meeting	2/21/2024	<u>Info</u>
Florida Building Commission Mechanical TAC Meeting		2/21/2024	<u>Info</u>
Florida	Florida Building Commission Plumbing TAC Meeting	2/21/2024	<u>Info</u>
Florida	Florida Building Commission Special Occupancy TAC Meeting	2/21/2024	<u>Info</u>
Florida	Florida Building Commission Swimming Pool TAC Meeting	2/21/2024	<u>Info</u>
Louisiana	Louisiana State Uniform Construction Code Council Meeting	2/21/2024	<u>Info</u>
Massachusetts	Massachusetts Board of State Examiners of Plumbers and Gas Fitters Meeting	2/21/2024	<u>Info</u>
Alabama	Alabama Plumbers and Gasfitters Examining Board Meeting	2/22/2024	<u>Info</u>
Georgia	Georgia Department of Community Affairs IBC Task Force Meeting	2/22/2024	<u>Info</u>
Washington	Washington SBC Legislative Committee Meeting	2/22/2024	<u>Info</u>
Florida	Florida Building Commission Building Structural TAC Meeting	2/22/2024	<u>Info</u>
Florida	Florida Building Commission Fire TAC Meeting	2/22/2024	<u>Info</u>
New Mexico	New Mexico Public Regulation Commission Regular Open Meeting	2/22/2024	<u>Info</u>
Ohio	Ohio Board of Building Standards Code Committee	2/22/2024	<u>Info</u>

Ohio	Ohio Board of Building Standards Conference Meeting	2/23/2024	<u>Info</u>
Vermont	Vermont Access Board Meeting	2/26/2024	<u>Info</u>
Minnesota	Minnesota Residential Energy Code TAG Meeting	2/26/2024	<u>Info</u>
Minnesota	Minnesota Construction Codes Advisory Council Meeting		<u>Info</u>
Washington State Building Code Council Legislative Washington Committee Meeting		2/29/2024	<u>Info</u>
Texas Commission on Fire Protection Meeting		2/29/2024	<u>Info</u>
Maine	Maine Electricians' Examining Board Meeting	3/1/2024	<u>Info</u>
Washington	Washington State Building Code Council Legislative Committee Meeting	3/7/2024	<u>Info</u>
Washington	Washington MVE Committee Meeting	3/8/2024	<u>Info</u>
Washington	Washington State Building Code Council BFP Committee Meeting	3/8/2024	<u>Info</u>
Washington	Washington State Building Code Council MVE Committee Meeting	3/8/2024	<u>Info</u>
Virginia	Virginia Board for Contractors Meeting	3/12/2024	<u>Info</u>
California	California Energy Commission Business Meeting	3/13/2024	<u>Info</u>
New Hampshire	New Hampshire Mechanical Safety and Licensing Board Meeting	3/13/2024	<u>Info</u>
Washington	Washington State Building Code Council Meeting	3/15/2024	<u>Info</u>
Maine	Maine Electricians' Examining Board Meeting	3/15/2024	<u>Info</u>

Code Alerts

Building

State	Date	Title
		Minnesota Construction Codes Advisory Council to Convene on
Minnesota	2/29/2024	<u>2/29/2024</u>

During the upcoming Minnesota Construction Codes Advisory Council meeting, agenda items will include a legislative update on proposed point access blocks, EV charging requirements for residential construction, and well contractors seeking authority to design water service piping. New business will focus on the 2024 Code Cycle and Technical Advisory Groups, covering various chapters of the Minnesota Rules such as administration, building codes, elevators, conservation codes, energy codes, accessibility codes, and structural provisions.

		Louisiana Construction Codes Council Agenda: Focus on
		Plumbing in Educational Cafeterias and Roof Permitting
Louisiana	2/21/2024	Inspections

The Louisiana Construction Codes Council will address the Technical Codes Study and Advisory Committee's report on plumbing requirements for handwashing in educational cafeterias. Additionally, the LSUCCC chairman will provide comments on roof permitting and inspections.

Electrical / Plumbing

State	Date	Title
		Massachusetts Board of State Examiners of Plumbers and Gas
Massachusetts	2/21/2024	Fitters Gas Code-Subcommittee will convene on 2/21

The Massachusetts Board of State Examiners of Plumbers and Gas Fitters Gas Code-Subcommittee will convene on 2/21 to review section 5, 9, 11, 13, 10 of 2024 NFPA- 54.

Bills with Recent Activity

Bill #	State		Primary Sponsor	Last Action	Date
				Referred to	
				Committee on	
				Facilities and Family	
			Phil	Services, and	
B 25-		Green Building Requirements	Mendels	Committee on	2/20/
<u>0697</u>	DC	Amendment Act of 2024	on	Transportation and	2024

	the Environment	

The "Green Building Requirements Amendment Act of 2024" would amend the Green Building Act of 2006 in the District of Columbia. The amendment aims to revoke the requirement for certain residential projects to maintain net-zero energy compliance. The proposed legislation argues that applying net-zero energy requirements to affordable housing developments that receive financing or land dispositions from the District will require significant redesign and additional funding. It suggests that imposing this requirement prematurely would create financial gaps that the District's resources would need to fill. The legislation acknowledges that comprehensive net-zero regulations have not been finalized and integrated with other elements of the construction codes. It argues that determining net-zero compliance at this stage would be complex and costly. It suggests that updating the construction codes, including the integration of an appropriate net-zero standard, should be completed by 2026, at which point the net-zero requirements will apply to these projects.

				Scheduled for	
				executive session in	
		Streamlining the state building code		the House Committee	
		council operating procedures by		on Local Government	
SB		establishing criteria for statewide	Lynda	at 10:30 AM (Subject	2024-
<u>6291</u>	WA	amendments to the state building code.	Wilson	to change).	02-20

This bill proposes amendments to streamline the operating procedures of the State Building Code Council, primarily by establishing criteria for statewide amendments to the state building code. The bill outlines a three-year state-building code adoption cycle aligned with the adoption cycle of model codes. Substantive changes to the state building code are restricted to this three-year cycle, with provisions for exceptional cases. The council is mandated to review and take action on the most recent editions of model codes within 30 months of their publication. Additionally, the bill introduces the possibility of an interim code adoption cycle to address errors, omissions, or outdated regulations. Emergency statewide amendments to the building code can be considered at any time, and off-cycle amendments can be initiated when directed by the legislature. In terms of council membership, the bill outlines a transparent process for filling open positions, involving posting on the council website, trade association nominations, and gubernatorial appointments.

				Scheduled for	
				executive session in	
				the Senate Committee	
				on Local Government,	
				Land Use & Tribal	
HB		Concerning residential housing	Davina	Affairs at 8:00 AM	2/20/
<u>2071</u>	WA	regulations.	Duerr	(Subject to change).	2024

This bill proposes several new sections to the state's residential housing regulations. It includes provisions for multiplex housing, stating that the state building code council must convene a technical advisory group to recommend additions or amendments to rules and codes that would apply the international residential code to multiplex housing and exempt multiplex

housing from the international building code. Additionally, it provides provisions for retrofits of existing buildings and requirements for new residential construction meeting passive house requirements.

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				T: ((
				Tiffany		
	<u>HB</u>			Esposit		2/19/
	<u> 267</u>	FL	Building Regulations	0	1st Reading	2024

The bill mandates that local building officials must issue permits or provide specific reasons for permit denial within predetermined timeframes, with requirements varying based on the type of application—ranging from next business day for certain professionals sealing affidavits to 30 or 60 business days for other applications. If the local government does not meet the specified timeframe for approving, denying, or requesting additional information for building permit applications, the application is deemed approved, and additional requests for information are limited unless waived by the applicant. Additionally, the bill introduces thermal efficiency standards for unvented attic and unvented enclosed rafter assemblies, requiring certain insulation standards and mechanical ventilation systems, with the commission tasked to review and report on these standards by the end of 2024.

				House/ to standing	
			Thomas	committee : House	
HB			Peterso	Business and Labor	2/16/
<u>518</u>	UT	State Construction Code Modifications	n	Committee	2024

This bill outlines several amendments to the International Building Code (IBC) and the International Residential Code (IRC). In the IBC, it introduces requirements for blended assisted living facilities regarding egress locking systems and resident containment. It also adds a new section specifying compliance standards for buildings under the National Green Building Standard. Amendments to the IRC include changes related to building permits documentation, energy efficiency standards, and conversion factors for heat pumps and air conditioners. These changes aim to enhance safety, energy efficiency, and regulatory clarity in building construction and maintenance.

				House/ 1st reading	
SB		Affordable Building	Lincoln	(Introduced) : House Rules	2/16/202
168	UT	Amendments	Fillmore	Committee	4

This bill adds ICC/Modular Building Institute Standards 1200 and 1205, except as modified by the title to the definition of Construction Code. This bill sets out regulations for modular unit construction, installation, and permit issuance in alignment with state construction codes. The bill provides guidelines for who could review the construction documents, issue a permit for the construction of a modular building unit, inspect onsite construction, verify compliance with state codes and requirements, and discover any violations or potential hazards. The bill also outlines the role of the Division of Facilities Construction and Management in maintaining up-to-date information relevant to modular building unit installation, conducting inspections, imposing additional oversight if deficiencies are discovered, and creating rules for a continuing education requirement for modular building unit construction and installation contractors. The bill further emphasizes the need for third-party inspection agencies to be licensed, approved, and insured, and to perform duties in accordance with established standards. A modular manufacturer is required to contract third-party agencies or inspectors to perform offsite construction document review and inspection.

				Report adopted; Passed	
				Second Reading, as	
SB		Relating To The State	Troy	amended (SD 1) and	2/16/202
2994	HI	Building Code.	Hashimoto	referred to JDC.	4

This bill requires that the adoption, amendment, or update of a building code or standard by the State Building Code Council be within two years of every other official publication date of a code or standard. It also clarifies that the Hawaii state building code acts as the interim county building code until superseded by the county.

				Passed Second Reading as	
				amended in HD 1 and	
				referred to the committee(s)	
				on CPC with none voting aye	
				with reservations;	
				Representative(s) Kapela	
				voting no (1) and	
				Representative(s) Aiu,	
HB		Relating To The State		Garrett, Perruso, Takayama,	2/16/202
<u>HB</u> 2089	HI	Building Code.	Luke Evslin	Todd excused (5).	4

This bill requires that the adoption, amendment, or update of the International Building Code and International Residential Code by the State Building Code Council be within two years of every other official publication date of the applicable code or standard. Provides that if a county does not amend the Hawaii State Building Codes within the required two-year time frame, the Hawaii State Building Codes will become applicable as the interim county building code, until superseded by the adoption of an amended version of the Hawaii State Building Codes or standards by the county.

			State Fire Marshal: fire			
SB			safety: regulations:	Monique	From printer. May be acted	2/15/202
11	<u>52</u>	CA	lithium-ion batteries.	Limon	upon on or after March 16.	4

This bill focuses on fire safety regulations for lithium-ion batteries in California. The bill requires the State Fire Marshal to propose updates to the fire standards for lead-acid and nickel-cadmium battery systems to also include identical requirements for lithium-ion batteries. These updates must be proposed before the next triennial edition of the California Building Standards Code adopted after January 1, 2025. The Legislature intends that no additional requirements, beyond those described in the bill, are included in the updated battery requirement regulations.

		Expedited rulemaking			
		authorization to modify			
		the State Building Code			
		to allow a single exit			
		stairway to serve			
		multifamily residential			
<u>SF</u> 3538		structures under certain	Lindsey		2/15/202
<u>3538</u>	MN	circumstances	Port	Author added Fateh	4

The bill mandates the modification of the State Building Code to permit single exit stairways for certain nontransient multifamily residential structures, provided they adhere to specified conditions regarding height, use of the first floor, and safety measures including fire sprinklers and fire department response time. These modifications, aimed at ensuring public health, safety, and general welfare, must be adopted through an expedited rulemaking process and implemented by July 1, 2026.

	l				
SB					
<u>599,</u>					
LSR				Committee Report: Ought to	
LOIX				Committee Neport. Ought to	
2024-		relative to the state fire	Sharon	Pass, 02/21/2024; Vote 5-0;	2/15/202
<u>3157</u>	NH	code.	Carson	CC; SC 8	4

The bill is updating the references within the definition of "New Hampshire fire code" or "state fire code" from the 2018 editions to the 2021 editions of the Life Safety Code, NFPA 101, and the Uniform Fire Code NFPA 1, which are both published by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA). Furthermore, the bill maintains that any provisions from other national codes, model codes, or standards that are referenced within either NFPA 101 or NFPA 1 will remain included in the state fire code unless specifically amended by the state board of fire control and ratified by the general court pursuant to RSA 153:5.

SB					
437,				Committee Report: Ought to	
<u>LSR</u>		relative to local authority		Pass with Amendment #	
2024-		to amend the state	Sharon	2024-0712s, 02/21/2024;	2/15/202
<u>3065</u>	NH	building code.	Carson	Vote 5-0; CC; SC 8	4
	437, LSR 2024-	437, LSR 2024-	437, LSR relative to local authority to amend the state	437, LSR relative to local authority to amend the state Sharon	Committee Report: Ought to relative to local authority to amend the state Committee Report: Ought to Pass with Amendment # 2024-0712s, 02/21/2024;

The "New Hampshire Fire Code" bill adopts the references of the 2021 editions of both the Life Safety Code, NFPA 101, and the Uniform Fire Code, NFPA 1, as published by the National Fire Protection Association. This adoption is endorsed by the state's fire control board and ratified by the general court under RSA 153:5. Any other national or model codes, or standards cited within these given codes will become part of the state fire code unless amendments are made accordingly under RSA 153:5.

<u>S</u>					
473	<u>,</u>				
SD		An Act promoting	Lydia	Accompanied a study order,	2/15/202
<u>18</u>	MA	climate safe buildings	Edwards	see S2649	4

This bill mandates the incorporation of climate-safe practices into building regulations, focusing on climate resilience and the adoption of enhanced floodplain maps to guide construction and renovation standards. It establishes a specialized stretch resilience code to integrate forward-looking climate data in building codes for new constructions and existing buildings, ensuring they are better equipped to withstand future climate-related challenges.

		Maryland Building			
		Performance Standards			
		 Fossil Fuel Use and 		Hearing 2/14 at 1:15 p.m.	
<u>HB</u>		Electric-Ready	Gabriel	(Environment and	2/14/202
<u>210</u>	MD	Standards	Acevero	Transportation)	4

This bill would reaffirm the Board of Building Regulations and Standards under the Division of Occupational Licensure. The bill directs the Board to set uniform standards and requirements for construction and construction materials, compatible with accepted standards of engineering and fire prevention practices, energy conservation, climate resilience, and public health and safety. In the formulation of such standards and requirements, performance for the use intended shall be the test of acceptability, in accordance with accredited testing standards. Additionally, the adoption of modern technical methods, devices, and improvements which may reduce the cost of construction and maintenance over the life of the building and reduce the impacts of and damage from climate change without affecting the health, safety, and security of the occupants or users of the buildings.

<u>HB</u> 151	VA	Energy, Department of; building standards for certain local buildings.	Senate: Rereferred to Finance and Appropriations	2/14/202 4

This bill directs the Maryland Department of Labor to adopt, on or before January 1, 2025, and as part of the Maryland Building Performance Standards, a requirement that new buildings meet all energy demands of the building without the use of fossil fuels and an electric–ready standard for certain buildings. The policy also creates a new standard which requires new buildings that receive a waiver to be built to an electric-ready standard. For new buildings that are less than seven stories high and for which a building permit application has been received, this requirement must be fulfilled on or before October 1, 2026. For new buildings that are seven or more stories high and have a building permit application, the deadline is extended to October 1, 2030. However, certain types of new buildings, such as those designated for commercial food establishments, laboratories, laundromats, hospitals, or crematoriums, or buildings with emergency back-up power systems, may be eligible for waivers. These waivers can only be granted for areas that cannot feasibly use energy generated from a source other than fossil fuels. Financial considerations cannot be deemed a reason for infeasibility.

<u>HB</u>					
<u>1059,</u>					
LSR				Subcommittee Work	
2024-		relative to the state	Michael	Session: 02/20/2024 01:00	2/14/202
2388	NH	building code.	O'Brien	pm LOB 305	4
		II			

This bill requires any locality that is planning to construct a new building larger than 5,000 gross square feet or renovate a building where the renovation costs exceed 50% of the building's value to adhere to certain standards.

Firstly, the building must be designed, constructed, verified, and operated in accordance with a high performance building certification program. Additionally, the building must have sufficient zero-emission vehicle (ZEV) charging and fueling infrastructure. The locality must also implement features that allow for the measurement of the building's energy consumption and the calculation of associated carbon emissions, including metering of all electricity, gas, water, and other utilities.

The bill also states that for buildings that are smaller than 20,000 gross square feet, the locality has the option to achieve relevant ENERGY STAR certification and implement commissioning instead of the high-performance building standards. If the building type is not eligible for ENERGY STAR certification, energy modeling must be used to demonstrate that the project will perform at least as well as the ENERGY STAR Target Finder value or meet equivalent standards provided in the guidance.

		Directs the state fire			
		prevention and building			
		code council to update			
<u>S</u>		the state fire prevention			
<u>3531,</u>		and building code and			
<u>S</u>		the state energy			
<u>3531</u>		conservation	James	ADVANCED TO THIRD	2/14/202
<u>A</u>	NY	construction code	Skoufis	READING	4

This bill updates the definition of the state building code to include the 2021 versions of the adopted I-Codes and the 2020 NEC.

		Cozy Homes Cleanup Act: building standards:			
SB		gas-fuel-burning	Josh	From printer. May be acted	2/13/202
<u>1095</u>	CA	appliances.	Becker	upon on or after March 14.	4

This bill directs the state fire prevention and building code council to update the state fire prevention and building code and the state energy conservation construction code within 18 months of the publication of any updated or revised edition of the international and national codes.

		State Building Code;			
		expedited rulemaking			
		authorized to modify			
		State Building Code to			
		allow single exit stairway			
<u>HF</u>		to serve multifamily		Authors added Agbaje and	2/13/202
<u>3351</u>	MN	residential structures.	Larry Kraft	Sencer-Mura	4

This bill amends Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 326B.106, by introducing a provision that authorizes expedited rulemaking to update the State Building Code to permit multifamily residential buildings to have a single exit stairway, given that the topmost occupiable floor or roof is no more than 75 feet above the level of access for fire department vehicles. These amendments will take into account factors such as adequate water supply for fire sprinklers, fire department response time, and other elements critical to ensuring public safety and welfare, with a deadline set for these changes to be implemented by July 1, 2026.

		Maryland Building			
		Performance Standards			
		Fossil Fuel Use,			
		Energy Conservation,			
		and Electric- and Solar-			
SB		Ready Standards (Better	Benjamin		2/13/202
1023	MD	Buildings Act of 2024)	Brooks	Hearing 3/01 at 9:00 a.m.	4

This bill mandates the Maryland Department of Labor to adopt new requirements for the Maryland Building Performance Standards to ensure new buildings meet all their water and space heating demands without using fossil fuels, incorporate energy conservation measures, and adhere to an electric— and solar—ready standard for certain buildings, with these changes taking effect through a combination of repealing and reenacting, with amendments, relevant sections of the Annotated Code of Maryland. It specifies deadlines for the adoption of these

standards, procedures for reviewing and modifying building codes to enhance energy efficiency, and establishes exceptions and waivers for certain buildings, including provisions for electric vehicle charging infrastructure and guidelines for buildings that cannot feasibly eliminate the use of fossil fuels.

		Building Code - Construction and			
		Significant Renovation			
		of Housing Units -			
SB		Electric Vehicle Parking	Brian		2/13/202
<u>695</u>	MD	Spaces	Feldman	Hearing 3/01 at 9:00 a.m.	4

The bill mandates the Maryland Department of Labor to adopt new requirements for the Maryland Building Performance Standards by certain deadlines to ensure that new buildings fulfill all water and space heating demands without using fossil fuels, implement energy conservation measures, and achieve electric- and solar-ready standards for specific buildings. Additionally, the bill involves amendments to public safety codes and introduces standards for electric vehicle charging infrastructure, allowing local jurisdictions to waive certain requirements under specific conditions while encouraging stricter local energy conservation regulations.

		Fire Protection and			
		Prevention – Residential			
		Rental Property –			
		Requirements (Melanie			
<u>SB</u>		Nicholle Diaz Fire Safety	William		2/13/202
<u>689</u>	MD	Act)	Smith	Hearing 3/01 at 9:00 a.m.	4

This bill establishes certain requirements relating to the installation of certain fire safety equipment in residential rental high-rise buildings and certain other property. It authorizes the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore City or the governing body of a county or municipal corporation to grant a certain property tax credit and establishes the Workgroup to Develop Fire Safety Best Practices for Pre-1974 High-Rise Buildings.

		Solar-ready roofs for			
		certain gov't bldgs.; net-			
		zero energy			
<u>HB</u>		consumption bldg.			2/13/202
<u>1456</u>	VA	design for schools.	Betsy Carr	House: Left in Appropriations	4

The proposed amendments require any executive branch agency or institution entering the design phase for the construction of a new building greater than 5,000 gross square feet in size, or the renovation of a building where the cost of the renovation exceeds 50 percent of the value of the building, to ensure that the building is designed, constructed, verified, and operated to comply with high-performance building certification programs and VEES. The building must also have sufficient electric vehicle charging infrastructure, features that permit tracking of energy efficiency and associated carbon emissions, and a solar-ready, cool, or energy-efficient roof. The Director of the Department may grant exemptions from these

standards under certain circumstances. Each agency or institution must submit an annual report detailing energy efficiency and associated carbon emissions metrics for each building built or renovated in accordance with the standards.