
Local Government & Housing Committee

HB 2775

Brief Description: Regarding membership on the state building code council.

Sponsors: Representatives Dammeier, Hasegawa, Hunt, Armstrong, Short, Kristiansen, Springer, Kelley, Morrell, Pearson, Chase and Kretz.

Brief Summary of Bill

- Requires Senate confirmation of gubernatorial appointees to the State Building Code Council.
- Requires that, in order to remain on the State Building Code Council, members representing private sector industries must maintain employment within the specific industry they represent.

Hearing Date: 1/21/10

Staff: Becca Kenna-Schenk (786-7291).

Background:

The State Building Code Council (Council) is responsible for the adoption and maintenance of the various building, residential, fire, and other model codes that comprise the state building code (SBC).

The Council is comprised of 15 members, who are appointed by the Governor. At least six of the 15 Council members must reside east of the Cascade Mountains.

In addition, the Council must consist of:

- two members who are elected county legislators or executives;
- two members who are elected city legislators or mayors;
- one member who is a local government building code enforcement official;
- one member who is a local government fire service official;
- one member who represents the commercial and industrial building construction industry;

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- one member who represents the residential and multifamily building construction industry;
- one member who represents the architectural design profession;
- one member who represents the structural engineering profession;
- one member who represents the mechanical engineering profession;
- one member who represents the construction building trades;
- one member who represents manufacturers, installers, or suppliers of building materials and components;
- one member who represents the community of persons with disabilities; and
- one member who represents the general public.

The Council also includes the following ex officio, nonvoting members:

- two members of the House of Representatives, one from each caucus, who are appointed by the Speaker of the House;
- two members of the Senate, one from each caucus, who are appointed by the President of the Senate; and
- one employee of the electrical division of the Department of Labor and Industries.

Before making any appointment to the Council, the Governor must seek nominations from recognized organizations with an interest in the building construction trade or industry. Members serve three-year terms on the Council.

Summary of Bill:

Gubernatorial appointments to the Council are subject to Senate confirmation. If a Council member is not confirmed by the Senate by the end of the regular session following the appointment, the appointee's position is considered vacant.

Any Council member appointed to represent a specific private sector industry must maintain similar employment throughout his or her term on the Council. If a Council member enters into new employment outside of the industry he or she was appointed to represent, he or she must be removed from the Council. If the member remains on the Council, any vote taken 30 days after the start of the new employment is null and void. Retirement or unemployment may not be cause for termination from the Council.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Not requested.

Effective Date: The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of the session in which the bill is passed.