

House Bill 26

By: Representatives Thomas of the 65<sup>th</sup>, Lim of the 98<sup>th</sup>, Drenner of the 85<sup>th</sup>, and Buckner of the 137<sup>th</sup>

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Code section 8-2-23 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to  
2 amendment and revision of codes generally, so as to require the Department of Community  
3 affairs to include certain indoor air quality provisions in applicable state minimum standard  
4 codes; to provide for a short title; to provide for related matters; to provide for an effective  
5 date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 This Act shall be known and may be cited as the "Right to Breath Act."

9 **SECTION 2.**

10 Code section 8-2-23 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to amendment and  
11 revision of codes generally, is amended by adding a subsection to read as follows:

12 "(e) On or before July 1, 2024, the department, with the approval of the board, shall amend  
13 applicable state minimum standard codes to require the installation of indoor air quality  
14 equipment and utilization of best practices in new construction permitted on or after  
15 July 1, 2024. Such provisions shall include, but shall not be limited to:

- 16 (1) HVAC systems that can utilize a MERV 13 filter;  
17 (2) The provision of adequate humidity control to maintain the humidity near or  
18 below 50 percent at room temperature; and  
19 (3) Fresh air ventilation through HVAC systems."

20 **SECTION 3.**

21 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.