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HOUSE BILL 1435

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State of Washington

65th Legislature

2017 Regular Session

By Representatives Buys and Pike

1 AN ACT Relating to adoption of the International Plumbing Code as  
2 an alternative recognized building code; amending RCW 19.27.031 and  
3 19.27.170; and creating a new section.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that minimizing  
6 construction and long-term maintenance costs of buildings is in the  
7 public interest. The legislature further finds that providing  
8 flexibility in building construction methods can result in efficient,  
9 resilient, and sustainable buildings, help local communities achieve  
10 their goals of increasing affordable housing, and ease code  
11 administration and enforcement, all of which benefits the safety and  
12 welfare of building owners, occupants, and the general public.  
13 Providing the option for the citizens to benefit from the material  
14 and labor efficiencies provided by the international plumbing code  
15 and innovations approved in accordance with the international  
16 organization for standardization are in line with Governor Inslee's  
17 Results Washington goal of improving nonelectrical energy efficiency  
18 of building and industrial processes to reduce greenhouse gas  
19 emissions.

1       **Sec. 2.** RCW 19.27.031 and 2015 c 11 s 2 are each amended to read  
2 as follows:

3       Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, there shall be in  
4 effect in all counties and cities the state building code which shall  
5 consist of the following codes which are hereby adopted by reference:

6       (1)(a) The International Building Code, published by the  
7 International Code Council, Inc.;

8       (b) The International Residential Code, published by the  
9 International Code Council, Inc.;

10       (2) The International Mechanical Code, published by the  
11 International Code Council, Inc., except that the standards for  
12 liquefied petroleum gas installations shall be NFPA 58 (Storage and  
13 Handling of Liquefied Petroleum Gases) and ANSI Z223.1/NFPA 54  
14 (National Fuel Gas Code);

15       (3) The International Fire Code, published by the International  
16 Code Council, Inc., including those standards of the National Fire  
17 Protection Association specifically referenced in the International  
18 Fire Code: PROVIDED, That, notwithstanding any wording in this code,  
19 participants in religious ceremonies shall not be precluded from  
20 carrying hand-held candles;

21       (4)(a) Except as provided in RCW 19.27.170, the Uniform Plumbing  
22 Code and Uniform Plumbing Code Standards, published by the  
23 International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials:  
24 PROVIDED, That any provisions of such code affecting sewers or fuel  
25 gas piping are not adopted; and

26       (b) As an alternative code, and not in addition to the code in  
27 (a) of this subsection, the International Plumbing Code, published by  
28 the International Code Council, Inc., with the exception of sections  
29 104.4, 108.7, and 109 and Appendix A of such Code, which are not  
30 adopted;

31       (5) The rules adopted by the council establishing standards for  
32 making buildings and facilities accessible to and usable by  
33 individuals with disabilities or elderly persons as provided in RCW  
34 70.92.100 through 70.92.160; and

35       (6) The state's climate zones for building purposes are  
36 designated in RCW 19.27A.020(3) and may not be changed through the  
37 adoption of a model code or rule.

38       In case of conflict among the codes enumerated in subsections  
39 (1), (2), (3), and (4) of this section, the first named code shall  
40 govern over those following.

1 The codes enumerated in this section shall be adopted by the  
2 council as provided in RCW 19.27.074. The council shall solicit input  
3 from first responders to ensure that firefighter safety issues are  
4 addressed during the code adoption process.

5 The council may issue opinions relating to the codes at the  
6 request of a local official charged with the duty to enforce the  
7 enumerated codes.

8 **Sec. 3.** RCW 19.27.170 and 1991 c 347 s 16 are each amended to  
9 read as follows:

10 (1) The state building code council shall adopt rules under  
11 chapter 34.05 RCW that implement and incorporate the water  
12 conservation performance standards in subsections (4) and (5) of this  
13 section. These standards shall apply to all new construction and all  
14 remodeling involving replacement of plumbing fixtures in all  
15 residential, hotel, motel, school, industrial, commercial use, or  
16 other occupancies determined by the council to use significant  
17 quantities of water.

18 (2) The legislature recognizes that a phasing-in approach to  
19 these new standards is appropriate. Therefore, standards in  
20 subsection (4) of this section shall take effect on July 1, 1990. The  
21 standards in subsection (5) of this section shall take effect July 1,  
22 1993.

23 (3) No individual, public or private corporation, firm, political  
24 subdivision, government agency, or other legal entity may, for  
25 purposes of use in this state, distribute, sell, offer for sale,  
26 import, install, or approve for installation any plumbing fixtures  
27 unless the fixtures meet the standards as provided for in this  
28 section.

29 (4) Standards for water use efficiency effective July 1, 1990.

30 (a) Standards for waterclosets. The guideline for maximum water  
31 use allowed in gallons per flush (gpf) for any of the following  
32 waterclosets is the following:

33	Tank-type toilets .....	3.5 gpf.
34	Flushometer-valve toilets .....	3.5 gpf.
35	Flushometer-tank toilets .....	3.5 gpf.
36	Electromechanical hydraulic toilets ..	3.5 gpf.

37 (b) Standard for urinals. The guideline for maximum water use  
38 allowed for any urinal is 3.0 gallons per flush.

1 (c) Standard for showerheads. The guideline for maximum water use  
2 allowed for any showerhead is 3.0 gallons per minute.

3 (d) Standard for faucets. The guideline for maximum water use  
4 allowed in gallons per minute (gpm) for any of the following faucets  
5 and replacement aerators is the following:

6 Bathroom faucets .....	3.0 gpm.
7 Lavatory faucets .....	3.0 gpm.
8 Kitchen faucets .....	3.0 gpm.
9 Replacement aerators .....	3.0 gpm.

10 (e) Except where designed and installed for use by ((~~the~~  
11 ~~physically handicapped~~)) individuals with physical disabilities,  
12 lavatory faucets located in restrooms intended for use by the general  
13 public must be equipped with a metering valve designed to close by  
14 spring or water pressure when left unattended (self-closing).

15 (f) No urinal or watercloset that operates on a continuous flow  
16 or continuous flush basis shall be permitted.

17 (5) Standards for water use efficiency effective July 1, 1993.

18 (a) Standards for waterclosets. The guideline for maximum water  
19 use allowed in gallons per flush (gpf) for any of the following  
20 waterclosets is the following:

21 Tank-type toilets .....	1.6 gpf.
22 Flushometer-tank toilets .....	1.6 gpf.
23 Electromechanical hydraulic toilets..	1.6 gpf.

24 (b) Standards for urinals. The guideline for maximum water use  
25 allowed for any urinal is 1.0 gallons per flush.

26 (c) Standards for showerheads. The guideline for maximum water  
27 use allowed for any showerhead is 2.5 gallons per minute.

28 (d) Standards for faucets. The guideline for maximum water use  
29 allowed in gallons per minute for any of the following faucets and  
30 replacement aerators is the following:

31 Bathroom faucets .....	2.5 gpm.
32 Lavatory faucets .....	2.5 gpm.
33 Kitchen faucets .....	2.5 gpm.
34 Replacement aerators .....	2.5 gpm.

35 (e) Except where designed and installed for use by ((~~the~~  
36 ~~physically handicapped~~)) individuals with physical disabilities,  
37 lavatory faucets located in restrooms intended for use by the general

1 public must be equipped with a metering valve designed to close by  
2 water pressure when unattended (self-closing).

3 (f) No urinal or watercloset that operates on a continuous flow  
4 or continuous basis shall be permitted.

5 (6) The building code council shall establish methods and  
6 procedures for testing and identifying fixtures that meet the  
7 standards established in subsection (5) of this section. The council  
8 shall use the testing standards designated as American national  
9 standards, written under American national standards institute  
10 procedures or other widely recognized national testing standards. The  
11 council shall either review test results from independent testing  
12 laboratories that are submitted by manufacturers of plumbing fixtures  
13 or accept data submitted to and evaluated by the international  
14 association of plumbing and mechanical officials. The council shall  
15 publish and widely distribute a current list of fixtures that meet  
16 the standards established in subsection (5) of this section. The  
17 building code council shall recognize conformity assessments for  
18 standards established in subsections (1), (4), and (5) of this  
19 section that are certified pursuant to the international organization  
20 for standardization/international electrotechnical commission  
21 standard number 17065 for products, materials, processes, and  
22 services for the testing and listing of fixtures and fittings.

23 (7) The building code council shall adopt rules for marking and  
24 labeling fixtures meeting the standards established in subsection (5)  
25 of this section.

26 (8) This section shall not apply to fixtures installed before  
27 July 28, 1991, that are removed and relocated to another room or area  
28 of the same building after July 28, 1991, nor shall it apply to  
29 fixtures, as determined by the council, that in order to perform a  
30 specialized function, cannot meet the standards specified in this  
31 section.

32 (9) The water conservation performance standards shall supersede  
33 all local government codes. After July 1, 1990, cities, towns, and  
34 counties shall not amend the code revisions and standards established  
35 under subsection (4) or (5) of this section.

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