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**SENATE BILL 5875**

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**State of Washington**

**68th Legislature**

**2024 Regular Session**

**By** Senator Fortunato

Prefiled 12/19/23.

1       AN ACT Relating to balancing energy efficiency with consideration  
2 of other factors such as housing affordability, development costs,  
3 and feasibility in the state energy code for residential structures;  
4 and amending RCW 19.27A.045.

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

6       **Sec. 1.** RCW 19.27A.045 and 1990 c 2 s 5 are each amended to read  
7 as follows:

8       The state building code council shall maintain the state energy  
9 code for residential structures in a status which is consistent with  
10 the state's interest as set forth in section 1, chapter 2, Laws of  
11 1990. In maintaining the Washington state energy code for residential  
12 structures, beginning in 1996 the council shall review the Washington  
13 state energy code every three years. After January 1, 1996, by rule  
14 adopted pursuant to chapter 34.05 RCW, the council may amend any  
15 provisions of the Washington state energy code to increase the energy  
16 efficiency of newly constructed residential buildings as long as the  
17 benefits of increasing energy efficiency are not outweighed by  
18 considerations of housing affordability, development costs,  
19 feasibility, or other similar factors apart from energy efficiency.  
20 Decisions to amend the Washington state energy code for residential  
21 structures shall be made prior to December 1<sup>st</sup> of any year and shall

1 not take effect before the end of the regular legislative session in  
2 the next year.

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