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**SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5485**

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**State of Washington**

**62nd Legislature**

**2011 Regular Session**

**By** Senate Environment, Water & Energy (originally sponsored by Senators Hargrove and Ranker)

READ FIRST TIME 02/16/11.

1       AN ACT Relating to maximizing the use of our state's natural  
2 resources; and creating new sections.

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

4       NEW SECTION.   **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that research has  
5 shown the importance of reducing environmental impacts through building  
6 design. The primary focus on building designs has been an attempt to  
7 reduce energy requirements, primarily heating and cooling, over the  
8 course of a building's lifetime. However, what has been overlooked are  
9 opportunities to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and other  
10 environmental impacts at earlier stages in the building and  
11 construction design process. The selection of building materials and  
12 products, such as using wood and wood products in the design stage,  
13 provides substantial opportunities to reduce lifetime greenhouse gas  
14 emissions. A key component of life-cycle cost analysis is the energy  
15 expended in the extraction, transportation, manufacturing, and  
16 production of the building materials being considered in the  
17 construction of buildings.

1        NEW SECTION.        **Sec. 2.**        (1) The department of general  
2 administration, in consultation with the state building code council,  
3 shall conduct a review of other states' existing codes, international  
4 standards, and literature on life-cycle assessment, embodied energy,  
5 and embodied carbon in building materials.

6        (2) By July 2012, the department of general administration shall  
7 make recommendations to the legislature for methodologies to: (1)  
8 Conduct an assessment and determine the amount of embodied energy and  
9 carbon in building materials or greenhouse gas emissions avoided by  
10 using building materials with low-embodied energy or carbon; and (2)  
11 develop a comprehensive guideline using a common and consistent metric  
12 for the embodied energy and carbon in building materials. The  
13 department of general administration shall seek input from building  
14 materials industries and other interested parties when developing its  
15 recommendations. The recommendations must also include suggestions for  
16 streamlining current regulatory requirements for life-cycle cost  
17 analysis, energy conservation in design, and high performance of public  
18 buildings.

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