
HOUSE BILL 1435

State of Washington 65th Legislature 2017 Regular Session

By Representatives Buys, Pike, and Springer

Read first time 01/19/17. Referred to Committee on Local Government.

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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