
SENATE BILL 5875

State of Washington

68th Legislature

2024 Regular Session

By Senators Fortunato, Van De Wege, and L. Wilson

Prefiled 12/19/23. Read first time 01/08/24. Referred to Committee on Environment, Energy & Technology.

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 1st 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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