

---

**SENATE BILL 5429**

---

**State of Washington**

**69th Legislature**

**2025 Regular Session**

**By** Senators Short, Bateman, Chapman, and Nobles

Read first time 01/22/25. Referred to Committee on Local Government.

1 AN ACT Relating to membership in the state building code council;  
2 and amending RCW 19.27.070.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 19.27.070 and 2024 c 170 s 2 are each amended to  
5 read as follows:

6 There is hereby established in the department of enterprise  
7 services a state building code council, to be appointed by the  
8 governor.

9 (1) The state building code council shall consist of ~~((15))~~ the  
10 following members:

11 (a) ~~((Two members must be county elected legislative body members~~  
12 ~~or elected executives;~~

13 ~~(b) Two members must be city elected legislative body members or~~  
14 ~~mayors))~~ One member must be an elected legislative body member or  
15 elected county executive serving a population of no more than 300,000  
16 residents;

17 (b) One member must be an elected county legislative body member  
18 or elected county executive serving a population greater than 300,000  
19 residents;

20 (c) One member must be an elected city legislative body member or  
21 city mayor serving a population of no more than 50,000 residents;

1 (d) One member must be an elected city legislative body member or  
2 city mayor serving a population greater than 50,000 residents;  
3 ~~((e))~~ (e) One member must be a local government building code  
4 enforcement official;  
5 ~~((d))~~ (f) One member must be a local government fire service  
6 official;  
7 ~~((e))~~ (g) One member must be a person with a physical  
8 disability ~~((and shall represent the disability community;~~  
9 ~~(f) One member, who is not eligible for membership on the council~~  
10 ~~in any other capacity, and who has not previously been nominated or~~  
11 ~~appointed to the council to represent any other group, must represent~~  
12 ~~the general public; and~~  
13 ~~(g) Seven))~~ or an expert in accessibility;  
14 (h) One member shall be a utility provider serving residents and  
15 businesses;  
16 (i) Thirteen members must represent the private sector or  
17 professional organizations as follows:  
18 (i) One member shall represent general construction, specializing  
19 in commercial and industrial building construction;  
20 (ii) One member shall represent general construction,  
21 specializing in single-family residential ~~((and—multifamily))~~  
22 building construction;  
23 (iii) One member shall represent general construction,  
24 specializing in multifamily building construction;  
25 (iv) One member shall represent general construction,  
26 specializing in green or sustainable building construction;  
27 (v) One member shall represent general construction, specializing  
28 in remodeling and renovation building construction;  
29 (vi) One member shall represent the architectural design  
30 profession;  
31 ~~((iv))~~ (vii) One member shall represent the structural  
32 engineering profession;  
33 ~~((v))~~ (viii) One member shall represent the mechanical  
34 engineering profession;  
35 ~~((vi))~~ (ix) One member shall represent the plumbing profession;  
36 (x) One member shall represent the construction building trades;  
37 ~~((vii) One member shall represent manufacturers, installers, or~~  
38 ~~suppliers of building materials and components))~~ (xi) One member  
39 shall represent manufacturers or suppliers of building materials and  
40 components;

1 (xii) One member shall represent specialty construction,  
2 specializing in the installation of building materials and  
3 components; and

4 (xiii) One member shall represent licensed real estate agents.

5 (2) At least (~~six~~) 10 of (~~these 15~~) the council members shall  
6 reside (~~east of the crest of the Cascade mountains~~) in cities with  
7 no more than 50,000 residents or counties with no more than 300,000  
8 residents.

9 (3) The council shall include: Two members of the house of  
10 representatives appointed by the speaker of the house, one from each  
11 caucus; two members of the senate appointed by the president of the  
12 senate, one from each caucus; and an employee of the electrical  
13 division of the department of labor and industries, as ex officio,  
14 nonvoting members with all other privileges and rights of membership.  
15 Ex officio members shall not be counted for purposes of quorums,  
16 calling special meetings, or voting thresholds.

17 (4) (a) Terms of office shall be for three years, or for so long  
18 as the member remains qualified for the appointment.

19 (b) The council shall elect a member to serve as chair of the  
20 council for one-year terms of office.

21 (c) Any member who is appointed by virtue of being an elected  
22 official or holding public employment shall be removed from the  
23 council if he or she ceases being such an elected official or holding  
24 such public employment.

25 (d) Any member who is appointed to represent a specific private  
26 sector industry must maintain sufficiently similar private sector  
27 employment or circumstances throughout the term of office to remain  
28 qualified to represent the specified industry. Retirement or  
29 unemployment is not cause for termination. However, if a  
30 councilmember appointed to represent a specific private sector  
31 industry enters into employment outside of the industry, or outside  
32 of the private sector, he or she has been appointed to represent,  
33 then he or she must be removed from the council.

34 (e) Any member who no longer qualifies for appointment under this  
35 section may not vote on council actions, but may participate as an ex  
36 officio, nonvoting member until a replacement member is appointed. A  
37 member must notify the council staff and the governor's office within  
38 30 days of the date the member no longer qualifies for appointment  
39 under this section. The governor shall appoint a qualified  
40 replacement for the member within 60 days of notice.

1 (f) Each of the (~~15~~) 21 councilmembers appointed by the  
2 governor shall hold office until the appointment of a successor, not  
3 to exceed 90 days after the term has expired. If no appointment is  
4 made to replace the member after 90 days, the member's position shall  
5 become vacant. Vacant positions shall not be counted for purposes of  
6 quorums, calling special meetings, or voting thresholds.

7 (5) Before making any appointments to the building code council,  
8 the governor shall seek nominations from recognized organizations  
9 which represent the entities or interests identified in this section.  
10 The governor shall select appointees to represent private sector  
11 industries from a list of three nominations provided by the largest  
12 trade associations representing the industry unless no names or  
13 insufficient qualifying names are put forth by the trade  
14 associations. Within three days after a councilmember's term has  
15 expired, the council must post a message on the council website  
16 informing the stakeholders and members of the public that there is an  
17 open council position. The trade associations must provide  
18 nominations no later than 30 days after a council position is open.  
19 The governor shall appoint a qualified replacement within 60 days  
20 after the qualified nominations are received.

21 (6) Members shall not be compensated but shall receive  
22 reimbursement for travel expenses in accordance with RCW 43.03.050  
23 and 43.03.060.

24 (7) Within one year of employment or appointment, employees of  
25 the state building code council and members of the state building  
26 code council must receive training on ethics in public service  
27 including, but not limited to, provisions of chapter 42.52 RCW.

28 (8) For purposes of this section, a "professional organization"  
29 includes an entity whose members are engaged in a particular lawful  
30 vocation, occupation, or field of activity of a specialized nature,  
31 including but not limited to associations, boards, educational  
32 institutions, and nonprofit organizations.

--- END ---