

Bill No. SB 4-A

Barcode 431052

CHAMBER ACTION

Senate

House

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Comm: WD  
01/17/2007 10:47 AM

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The Committee on Banking and Insurance (Bennett) recommended  
the following amendment:

**Senate Amendment (with title amendment)**

On page 171, between lines 4 and 5,

insert:

Section 37. Section 553.841, Florida Statutes, is  
amended to read:

(Substantial rewording of section. See  
s. 553.841, F.S., for present text.)

553.841 Building code education and outreach  
program.--

(1) The Legislature finds that compliance with the  
Florida Building Code is vital to the public health, safety,  
and welfare, and more particularly so in light of the threat  
that hurricanes pose to Florida residents and visitors. The  
Legislature further finds that the code can only be effective  
if all participants in the construction industry and the code  
enforcement process maintain a thorough knowledge of the code  
and amendments thereto. As such, the Legislature finds that

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1 there is a pressing need for a program to provide ongoing  
 2 building code education and outreach to such persons.  
 3 Moreover, the Legislature finds that such outreach should  
 4 include the operation of a clearinghouse through which  
 5 construction licensees, suppliers, and Florida consumers can  
 6 find each other in order to facilitate repairs in the  
 7 aftermath of a natural disaster.

8 (2) The Department of Community Affairs shall  
 9 administer a program, designated the "Building Code Education  
 10 and Outreach Program." The program will develop, coordinate,  
 11 and maintain education and outreach to licensees required to  
 12 comply with the Florida Building Code, ensuring consistent  
 13 education, training, and communication of the code's  
 14 requirements. The program will also operate a clearinghouse  
 15 through which construction licensees, suppliers, and Florida  
 16 consumers can find each other in order to facilitate repairs  
 17 in the aftermath of a natural disaster.

18 (3) All services and materials under the program shall  
 19 be provided through a private, nonprofit corporation, under  
 20 contract with the department. The term of the contract shall  
 21 be 4 years, with the option of one 4-year renewal at the end  
 22 of the contract term. The initial contract shall be entered  
 23 into within 120 days after the effective date of this act. In  
 24 selecting a private provider for the program, the department  
 25 shall give primary consideration to:

26 (a) The provider's demonstrated experience and ability  
 27 to develop and deliver building code related education,  
 28 training, and outreach;

29 (b) The provider's demonstrated experience and ability  
 30 to deliver education and outreach on a statewide basis in  
 31 Florida;

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1       (c) A provider whose membership is comprised of trade  
 2 and professional organizations whose members consist primarily  
 3 of persons and entities that are required to comply with the  
 4 Florida Building Code and that are licensed under part XII of  
 5 chapter 468, chapter 471, chapter 481, and chapter 489;

6       (d) The provider's demonstrated experience and ability  
 7 to prioritize its education and outreach based upon input from  
 8 the Florida Building Commission, licensee regulatory boards,  
 9 local building departments, and the design and construction  
 10 industries;

11       (e) The provider's demonstrated experience and ability  
 12 to promote hurricane design and construction mitigation  
 13 techniques and materials via a Florida-based trade conference  
 14 that includes participants across the broadest possible range  
 15 of design and construction trades and professions, including  
 16 both the private sector and those public sector entities with  
 17 jurisdiction over building codes and design and construction  
 18 licensure; and

19       (f) The provider's demonstrated experience and ability  
 20 to operate a clearinghouse through which construction  
 21 licensees, suppliers, and Florida consumers can find each  
 22 other in order to facilitate repairs in the aftermath of a  
 23 natural disaster

24       (4) Each biennium, upon receipt of funds by the  
 25 Department of Community Affairs from the Construction Industry  
 26 Licensing Board and the Electrical Contractors' Licensing  
 27 Board provided under ss. 489.109(3) and 489.509(3), the  
 28 department shall determine the amount of funds available for  
 29 education and outreach projects from the proceeds of  
 30 contractor licensing fees and identify, solicit, and accept  
 31 funds from other sources for education and outreach projects

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1 to be provided through the Building Code Education and  
2 Outreach Program.

3 (5) If the education and outreach projects provided  
4 through the Building Code Education and Outreach Program in  
5 any state fiscal year do not require the use of all available  
6 funds, the unused funds shall be carried forward and allocated  
7 for this same purpose during the following fiscal year.

8 (6) This section does not prohibit or limit the  
9 subject areas or development of continuing education or  
10 training on the Florida Building Code by any qualified entity.

11  
12 (Redesignate subsequent sections.)

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15 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

16 And the title is amended as follows:

17 On page 11, line 14, following the semicolon

18

19 insert:

20 amending s. 553.841, F.S.; revising the  
21 Building Code Education and Outreach Program;  
22 providing for obtaining services and materials;

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