

HB 351

2009

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to property insurance rate reduction;
3 creating the "Property Insurance Rate Reduction Act";
4 providing findings; requiring insurance companies writing
5 property insurance policies in the state to consider local
6 ordinances and amendments to the Florida Building Code
7 when setting property insurance rates; providing an
8 effective date.

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10 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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12 Section 1. (1) This act may be cited as the "Property
13 Insurance Rate Reduction Act."

14 (2) (a) The Legislature has delegated to local
15 governments the responsibility to adopt regulations
16 designed to protect the public health, safety, and
17 general welfare of residents of this state.

18 (b) Due to a large number of ground settlement insurance
19 claims in portions of this state, owners of property located in
20 such areas have been subjected to increased property insurance
21 rates by insurers.

22 (c) Local government officials have taken substantial
23 steps to reduce increasing property insurance rates through the
24 enactment of local ordinances focused upon mitigating the risk
25 of insurers relating to sinkholes.

26 (3) When assessing risk and setting rates, insurance
27 companies writing property insurance policies in this state
28 shall consider local ordinances and local amendments to the

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29 Florida Building Code that are intended to reduce or eliminate
30 geologic hazards. Such considerations shall be made for the
31 purpose of reducing the level of risk assumed by an insurer
32 when setting property insurance rates for persons owning
33 property located in this state.

34 Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.