

By Senator Gruters

22-00836A-25

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1                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to mental health support residences;  
3           amending s. 553.80, F.S.; providing that the use of  
4           certain dwellings as, or the conversion of such  
5           dwellings into, certain residences is not a change in  
6           occupancy as defined in the Florida Building Code;  
7           amending s. 633.208, F.S.; providing that the use of  
8           certain dwellings as, or the conversion of such  
9           dwellings into, certain residences does not require  
10          the reclassification of such dwellings for purposes of  
11          enforcing the Florida Fire Prevention Code; providing  
12          an effective date.

13  
14 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

15  
16           Section 1. Subsection (10) of section 553.80, Florida  
17           Statutes, is amended to read:

18           553.80 Enforcement.—

19           (10) A single-family or two-family dwelling does not have a  
20 change of occupancy as defined in the Florida Building Code  
21 solely due to such dwelling's use as or conversion ~~that is~~  
22 ~~converted~~ into:

23           (a) A certified recovery residence, as defined in s.  
24 397.311, or a recovery residence, as defined in s. 397.311, that  
25 has a charter from an entity recognized or sanctioned by  
26 Congress; or

27           (b) A residence owned by a tax-exempt charitable  
28 organization under s. 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code  
29 whose stated corporate purpose relates to the support of people

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30 who suffer from mental health issues but are able to live  
 31 independently, which has no fewer than two and no more than four  
 32 bedrooms, is occupied by a group or family of no more than six  
 33 ambulatory adults suffering from mental health issues, and has  
 34 no more than two adults assigned to any bedroom ~~does not have a~~  
 35 ~~change of occupancy as defined in the Florida Building Code~~  
 36 ~~solely due to such conversion.~~

37 Section 2. Subsection (11) of section 633.208, Florida  
 38 Statutes, is amended to read:

39 633.208 Minimum firesafety standards.—

40 (11) Notwithstanding subsection (8), a single-family or  
 41 two-family dwelling may not be reclassified for purposes of  
 42 enforcing the Florida Fire Prevention Code solely due to such  
 43 dwelling's use as or conversion into:

44 (a) ~~that is~~ A certified recovery residence, as defined in  
 45 s. 397.311, or ~~that is~~ a recovery residence, as defined in s.  
 46 397.311, that has a charter from an entity recognized or  
 47 sanctioned by Congress; or

48 (b) A residence owned by a tax-exempt charitable  
 49 organization under s. 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code  
 50 whose stated corporate purpose relates to the support of people  
 51 who suffer from mental health issues but are able to live  
 52 independently, which has no fewer than two and no more than four  
 53 bedrooms, is occupied by a group or family of no more than six  
 54 ambulatory adults suffering from mental health issues, and has  
 55 no more than two adults assigned to any bedroom ~~may not be~~  
 56 ~~reclassified for purposes of enforcing the Florida Fire~~  
 57 ~~Prevention Code solely due to such use.~~

58 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2025.