House



LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate . Comm: RCS . 04/22/2025 . .

The Committee on Rules (Grall) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment to Amendment (564952) (with title amendment)

Delete lines 76 - 369

and insert:

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Section 6. Subsection (10) of section 553.73, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

553.73 Florida Building Code.-

9 (10) The following buildings, structures, and facilities
10 are exempt from the Florida Building Code as provided by law,
11 and any further exemptions shall be as determined by the

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12 Legislature and provided by law: 13 (a) Buildings and structures specifically regulated and 14 preempted by the Federal Government. 15 (b) Railroads and ancillary facilities associated with the railroad. 16 17 (c) Nonresidential farm buildings on farms. 18 (d) Temporary buildings or sheds used exclusively for 19 construction purposes. 20 (e) Mobile or modular structures used as temporary offices, 21 except that the provisions of part II relating to accessibility 22 by persons with disabilities apply to such mobile or modular 23 structures. 24 (f) Those structures or facilities of electric utilities, 25 as defined in s. 366.02, which are directly involved in the 26 generation, transmission, or distribution of electricity. 27 (a) Temporary sets, assemblies, or structures used in 28 commercial motion picture or television production, or any 29 sound-recording equipment used in such production, on or off the 30 premises.

(h) Storage sheds that are not designed for human 31 32 habitation and that have a floor area of 720 square feet or less 33 are not required to comply with the mandatory wind-borne-debris-34 impact standards of the Florida Building Code. In addition, such 35 buildings that are 400 square feet or less and that are intended 36 for use in conjunction with one- and two-family residences are 37 not subject to the door height and width requirements of the 38 Florida Building Code.

39 (i) Chickees constructed by the Miccosukee Tribe of Indians40 of Florida or the Seminole Tribe of Florida. As used in this

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41	paragraph, the term "chickee" means an open-sided wooden hut
42	that has a thatched roof of palm or palmetto or other
43	traditional materials, and that does not incorporate any
44	electrical, plumbing, or other nonwood features.
45	(j) Family mausoleums not exceeding 250 square feet in area
46	which are prefabricated and assembled on site or preassembled
47	and delivered on site and have walls, roofs, and a floor
48	constructed of granite, marble, or reinforced concrete.
49	(k) A building or structure having less than 1,000 square
50	feet which is constructed and owned by a natural person for
51	hunting and which is repaired or reconstructed to the same
52	dimension and condition as existed on January 1, 2011, if the
53	building or structure:
54	1. Is not rented or leased or used as a principal
55	residence;
56	2. Is not located within the 100-year floodplain according
57	to the Federal Emergency Management Agency's current Flood
58	Insurance Rate Map; and
59	3. Is not connected to an offsite electric power or water
60	supply.
61	(1) A drone port as defined in s. 330.41(2).
62	(m) Any system or equipment, whether affixed or movable,
63	which is located on property within a spaceport territory
64	pursuant to s. 331.304 and which is used for the production,
65	erection, alteration, modification, repair, launch, processing,
66	recovery, transport, integration, fueling, conditioning, or
67	equipping of a space launch vehicle, payload, or spacecraft.
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69	With the exception of paragraphs (a), (b), (c), and (f), in

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70 order to preserve the health, safety, and welfare of the public, 71 the Florida Building Commission may, by rule adopted pursuant to 72 chapter 120, provide for exceptions to the broad categories of 73 buildings exempted in this section, including exceptions for 74 application of specific sections of the code or standards 75 adopted therein. The Department of Agriculture and Consumer 76 Services shall have exclusive authority to adopt by rule, 77 pursuant to chapter 120, exceptions to nonresidential farm 78 buildings exempted in paragraph (c) when reasonably necessary to preserve public health, safety, and welfare. The exceptions must 79 80 be based upon specific criteria, such as under-roof floor area, 81 aggregate electrical service capacity, HVAC system capacity, or 82 other building requirements. Further, the commission may 83 recommend to the Legislature additional categories of buildings, 84 structures, or facilities which should be exempted from the 85 Florida Building Code, to be provided by law. The Florida 86 Building Code does not apply to temporary housing provided by 87 the Department of Corrections to any prisoner in the state 88 correctional system.

89 Section 7. Paragraph (f) of subsection (1) of section 90 553.79, Florida Statutes, is amended, and subsection (11) of 91 that section is reenacted, to read:

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553.79 Permits; applications; issuance; inspections.(1)

94 (f) A local government may not require a contract between a 95 builder and an owner, any copies of such contract, or any 96 associated document, including, but not limited to, letters of 97 intent, material costs lists, labor costs, or overhead or profit 98 statements, for the issuance of a building permit or as a

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requirement for the submission of a building permit application. (11) Any state agency whose enabling legislation authorizes it to enforce provisions of the Florida Building Code may enter into an agreement with any other unit of government to delegate its responsibility to enforce those provisions and may expend public funds for permit and inspection fees, which fees may be no greater than the fees charged others. Inspection services that are not required to be performed by a state agency under a federal delegation of responsibility or by a state agency under the Florida Building Code must be performed under the alternative plans review and inspection process created in s. 553.791 or by a local governmental entity having authority to enforce the Florida Building Code.

Section 8. Paragraphs (1) and (q) of subsection (1) and subsections (5) through (8) of section 553.791, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

553.791 Alternative plans review and inspection.-

(1) As used in this section, the term:

(1) "Permit application" means a properly completed and submitted application for the requested building or construction permit, including:

1. The plans reviewed by the private provider, or in the case of a single-trade plans review where a private provider uses an automated or software-based plans review system pursuant to subsection (6), the information reviewed by the automated or software-based plans review system to determine compliance with one or more applicable codes.

2. The affidavit from the private provider required under 127 subsection (6).

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3. Any applicable fees.

4. Any documents required by the local building official to
determine that the fee owner has secured all other government
approvals required by law.

(q) "Single-trade inspection" or "single-trade plans review" means any inspection or plans review focused on a single construction trade, such as plumbing, mechanical, or electrical. The term includes, but is not limited to, inspections or plans reviews of door or window replacements; fences and block walls more than 6 feet high from the top of the wall to the bottom of the footing; stucco or plastering; reroofing with no structural alteration; solar energy and energy storage installations or alteration or installation of wiring, lighting, and service panels; water heater changeouts; sink replacements; and repiping.

(5) After construction has commenced and if <u>either</u> the local building official is unable to provide inspection services in a timely manner <u>or the work subject to inspection is related</u> to a single-trade inspection for a single-family or two-family <u>dwelling</u>, the fee owner or the fee owner's contractor may elect to use a private provider to provide inspection services by notifying the local building official of the owner's or contractor's intention to do so by 2 p.m. local time, 2 business days before the next scheduled inspection using the notice provided for in paragraphs (4) (a)-(c).

(6) A private provider performing plans review under this
section shall review the plans to determine compliance with the
applicable codes. For single-trade plans reviews, a private

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157 provider may use an automated or software-based plans review 158 system designed to determine compliance with one or more applicable codes, including, but not limited to, the National 159 160 Electrical Code and the Florida Building Code. Upon determining that the plans reviewed comply with the applicable codes, the 161 162 private provider shall prepare an affidavit or affidavits certifying, under oath, that the following is true and correct 163 164 to the best of the private provider's knowledge and belief:

(a) The plans were reviewed by the affiant, who is duly
authorized to perform plans review pursuant to this section and
holds the appropriate license or certificate.

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(b) The plans comply with the applicable codes.

Such affidavit may bear a written or electronic signature and may be submitted electronically to the local building official.

172 (7) (a) No more than 20 business days, or if the permit 173 application is related to a single-trade plans review for a 174 single-family or two-family dwelling, no more than 5 business 175 days, after receipt of a permit application and the affidavit 176 from the private provider required pursuant to subsection (6), 177 the local building official shall issue the requested permit or 178 provide a written notice to the permit applicant identifying the 179 specific plan features that do not comply with the applicable codes, as well as the specific code chapters and sections. If 180 181 the local building official does not provide a written notice of 182 the plan deficiencies within the prescribed time 20-day period, 183 the permit application must shall be deemed approved as a matter 184 of law, and the permit must shall be issued by the local building official on the next business day. 185

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(b) If the local building official provides a written notice of plan deficiencies to the permit applicant within the prescribed <u>time 20-day</u> period, the <u>time 20-day</u> period <u>is shall</u> be tolled pending resolution of the matter. To resolve the plan deficiencies, the permit applicant may elect to dispute the deficiencies pursuant to subsection (15) or to submit revisions to correct the deficiencies.

193 (c) If the permit applicant submits revisions, the local 194 building official has the remainder of the tolled time 20-day 195 period plus 5 business days after from the date of resubmittal 196 to issue the requested permit or to provide a second written 197 notice to the permit applicant stating which of the previously 198 identified plan features remain in noncompliance with the 199 applicable codes, with specific reference to the relevant code 200 chapters and sections. Any subsequent review by the local 201 building official is limited to the deficiencies cited in the 202 written notice. If the local building official does not provide 203 the second written notice within the prescribed time period, the 204 permit must shall be deemed approved as a matter of law, and the 205 local building official must issue the permit on the next 206 business day.

207 (d) If the local building official provides a second 208 written notice of plan deficiencies to the permit applicant 209 within the prescribed time period, the permit applicant may 210 elect to dispute the deficiencies pursuant to subsection (15) or 211 to submit additional revisions to correct the deficiencies. For 212 all revisions submitted after the first revision, the local 213 building official has an additional 5 business days after from the date of resubmittal to issue the requested permit or to 214

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215 provide a written notice to the permit applicant stating which 216 of the previously identified plan features remain in 217 noncompliance with the applicable codes, with specific reference 218 to the relevant code chapters and sections.

219 (8) A private provider performing required inspections 220 under this section shall inspect each phase of construction as 221 required by the applicable codes. Such inspection, including a 222 single-trade inspection, may be performed in person in-person or 223 virtually. The private provider may have a duly authorized 224 representative perform the required inspections, provided all 225 required reports are prepared by and bear the written or 226 electronic signature of the private provider or the private 227 provider's duly authorized representative. The duly authorized 228 representative must be an employee of the private provider 229 entitled to receive reemployment assistance benefits under 230 chapter 443. The contractor's contractual or legal obligations 231 are not relieved by any action of the private provider.

Delete lines 399 - 422

236 and insert:

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providing an exemption from the Florida Building Code to systems or equipment located within a spaceport territory which is used for specified purposes; reenacting and amending s. 553.79, F.S.; prohibiting local governments from requiring copies of contracts and certain associated documents for the issuance of building permits or as a requirement for submitting

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244 building permit applications; amending s. 553.791, 245 F.S.; revising definitions; revising the conditions 246 under which specified contractors may elect to use a 247 private provider to provide inspection services; 248 authorizing private providers to use automated or 249 software-based plans review systems designed to make 250 certain determinations; requiring local building 251 officials to issue permits within a specified 2.52 timeframe if the permit application is related to 253 certain single-trade plans reviews; authorizing 254 certain inspections to be performed in person or 255 virtually; reenacting s. 201.21(2), F.S.,

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