

---

---

# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE STATE BUILDING CODES.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

1           SECTION 1. For centuries, Hawaii has been blessed with  
2 consistent rainfall and, due to its geology, with high-quality  
3 fresh water. Recently, however, scientists, farmers, and others  
4 have observed signs that threaten the long-term fresh water  
5 security of the Hawaiian islands.

6           The Pacific Islands Regional Climate Assessment reports  
7 that throughout the Pacific region, warmer and drier conditions  
8 will result in drought and rising temperatures, thus causing a  
9 decrease of fresh water supplies.

10          Hawaii needs to make changes that will increase its ability  
11 to capture, store, and efficiently use fresh water. Among the  
12 least expensive and most efficient ways to increase the supply  
13 of fresh water are water conservation and reuse. An important  
14 component in the conservation and reuse of water is the timely  
15 adoption of amendments to the state building codes, which  
16 include the Uniform Plumbing Code, to encourage water resource



1 conservation, improvements to water distribution systems, and  
2 recovery of used water.

3 The purpose of this Act is to expedite the review,  
4 updating, and adoption of appropriate updates to the state  
5 building codes.

6 SECTION 2. Section 107-27, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
7 amended to read as follows:

8 "§107-27 Design of state buildings. (a) [~~No~~] Except as  
9 provided in subsection (d), no later than one year after the  
10 adoption of rules under this chapter, the design of all state  
11 building construction shall be in compliance with the Hawaii  
12 state building codes, except state building construction shall  
13 be allowed to be exempted from:

- 14 (1) County codes that have not adopted the Hawaii state  
15 building codes;
- 16 (2) Any county code amendments that are inconsistent with  
17 the minimum performance objectives of the Hawaii state  
18 building codes or the objectives enumerated in this  
19 part; or
- 20 (3) Any county code amendments that are contrary to code  
21 amendments adopted by another county.



1 (b) Exemptions shall include county ordinances allowing  
2 the exercise of indigenous Hawaiian architecture adopted in  
3 accordance with section 46-1.55.

4 (c) The department shall adopt rules pursuant to section  
5 91-3 for the Hawaii state building codes listed in section 107-  
6 25, no later than two years after the adoption of the codes by  
7 the council, pursuant to section 107-24.

8 (d) The state building codes listed in section 107-25  
9 shall become the interim building codes for the design of all  
10 state building construction if the department does not adopt  
11 rules for the codes pursuant to subsection (c); provided that  
12 any requirements in the interim codes are not less stringent  
13 than the current codes."

14 SECTION 3. Section 107-28, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
15 amended by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:

16 "(b) If [a]:

17 (1) A county does not amend the Hawaii state building  
18 codes within the two-year time frame [7]; or

19 (2) The department does not adopt rules as required by  
20 section 107-27(c),



1 the Hawaii state building codes shall become applicable as an  
2 interim county building code."

3 SECTION 4. For fiscal year 2017-2018, the state building  
4 code council may receive and expend private funds to conduct  
5 public hearings and develop administrative rules related to the  
6 adoption of amendments to the state building codes.

7 SECTION 5. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
8 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

9 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.



**Report Title:**

State Building Codes; Adoption; Interim Building Codes

**Description:**

Requires the department of accounting and general services to adopt rules related to certain state building codes no later than two years after the adoption of the codes by the state building code council. Specifies that the state building codes shall become interim building codes for state and county buildings if a county does not amend the Hawaii state building codes or the department does not adopt rules within the specified two-year time frame. Authorizes the use of private funding during fiscal year 2017-2018 to provide assistance to the state building code council to conduct public hearings and develop administrative rules. Effective 7/1/2050. (SD2)

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

