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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE STATE BUILDING CODE COUNCIL.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that in 2020, the median  
2 price of a single-family home in Hawaii was \$738,000 and the  
3 median price of a condominium in Hawaii was \$522,000. The  
4 legislature also finds that the cost of residential construction  
5 on Oahu is \$290 per square foot and the cost of residential  
6 construction on the neighbor islands is \$200 per square foot.

7           The legislature further finds that building codes and  
8 standards passed by the International Code Council add to the  
9 cost of housing construction and reduce affordability. In  
10 determining whether to adopt international standards, the state  
11 building code council should assess the financial impact of  
12 changes to the construction costs, and the impact on amortized  
13 utility costs, for single-family and multi-family dwellings in  
14 the State.

15           The purpose of this Act is to require the state building  
16 code council to:



1 (1) Consider the impact of building codes and standards on  
2 the cost of single-family and multi-family homes built  
3 in the State, including the code's or standard's  
4 impact on amortized utility costs for single-family  
5 and multi-family homes; and

6 (2) Include a financial impact assessment on each code and  
7 standard adopted by the state building code council in  
8 the annual written report submitted to the governor.

9 SECTION 2. Section 107-24, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
10 amended to read as follows:

11 **"§107-24 Authority and duties of the council.** (a) Any  
12 law to the contrary notwithstanding, the council shall establish  
13 the Hawaii state building codes.

14 (b) The council shall appoint a subcommittee comprising  
15 the four council members representing county building officials,  
16 whose duty shall be to recommend any necessary or desirable  
17 state amendments to the codes and standards identified in  
18 section 107-25. Any recommended state amendments shall require  
19 the unanimous agreement of the subcommittee.

20 (c) The council shall adopt, amend, or update codes and  
21 standards identified in section 107-25 on a staggered basis as



1 established by the council; provided that adoption of a code or  
2 standard shall be within two years of the official publication  
3 date of the code or standard, pursuant to chapter 92, and exempt  
4 from the requirements of chapter 91. If the council does not  
5 adopt a code or standard identified in section 107-25 within the  
6 two-year time period, that code or standard shall automatically  
7 become part of the Hawaii state building code until superseded  
8 by the adoption of an amended version of the code or standard by  
9 the council pursuant to this subsection.

10 (d) The council may appoint other investigative, technical  
11 expertise committees, which may include council members.

12 (e) The council shall consult with general building  
13 contractor associations and building trade associations to  
14 gather information and recommendations on construction practices  
15 and training relevant to building codes and standards.

16 (f) When considering the adoption of any code or standard,  
17 the council shall consider the financial impact of the code or  
18 standard on the cost of single-family and multi-family homes  
19 built in the State, including the code's or standard's impact on  
20 amortized utility costs for single-family and multi-family  
21 homes.



1           ~~(f)~~ (g) The council may make expenditures for technical  
2 references, equipment and supplies, and other operating  
3 expenses, and may contract for the conduct of research studies  
4 and other technical services.

5           ~~(g)~~ (h) The council may provide education and technical  
6 training and administrative assistance in the form of services  
7 or grants at the state and county levels relating to the  
8 implementation and enforcement of the Hawaii state building  
9 codes adopted pursuant to this part.

10          ~~(h)~~ (i) At the end of each fiscal year, the council  
11 shall submit a written report to the governor on the council's  
12 activities, including the codes and standards adopted, amended,  
13 or updated by the council. The written report shall include a  
14 financial impact assessment on each code and standard adopted by  
15 the council to determine whether the codes and standards  
16 substantially benefit residents of the State."

17           SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
18 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

19           SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on January 1, 2050.



**Report Title:**

State Building Code Council; Building Codes and Standards;  
Financial Impact Assessment

**Description:**

Requires the state building code council to make determinations on the financial impact, including the impact on amortized utility costs, of the adoption of a code or standard on single-family and multi-family homes and include the determinations in its annual reports to the governor. Effective 1/1/2050. (HD1)

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