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## **OLR Bill Analysis**

### **SB 292**

#### ***AN ACT CONCERNING HEATING EFFICIENCY IN NEW CONSTRUCTION AND MAJOR ALTERATIONS OF RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS.***

#### **SUMMARY**

This bill requires the state building inspector and the Codes and Standards Committee, when revising the state building code (see BACKGROUND) to incorporate the 2024 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) and subsequent versions, to prohibit certain heating and cooling systems in new residential constructions or major residential alterations. (It does not define "major residential alterations.") This prohibition applies to the use of any electric resistance or fossil fuel combustion system as the primary source of heating, ventilation and air conditioning, or water heating.

The bill also requires the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) to, within available appropriations, develop a program to train and educate eligible people on the mechanics and application of thermal space and water heating systems other than electric resistance or fossil fuel combustion systems (e.g., air source and ground source heat pumps, solar thermal water or space heating systems, and on-demand electric water heaters). The program will serve engineers, builders, contractors, and construction superintendents doing business in Connecticut. The bill allows the DEEP commissioner to apply for available federal or private funding to support the program.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2022

#### **BACKGROUND**

##### ***State Building Code***

State law requires the state building inspector and the Codes and Standards Committee, with the approval of the Department of

Administrative Services commissioner, to adopt and administer a state building code based on a nationally recognized model building code to regulate the design, construction, and use of buildings or structures (CGS § 29-252). The current state building code adopts a number of the International Code Council's model codes, including the IECC.

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Housing Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 10 Nay 5 (03/15/2022)