



General Assembly

February Session, 2022

Raised Bill No. 292

LCO No. 2569



Referred to Committee on HOUSING

Introduced by:
(HSG)

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

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 29-256a of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2022*):

3 (a) The State Building Inspector and the Codes and Standards
4 Committee shall revise the State Building Code to require that
5 commercial and residential buildings and building elements be
6 designed to provide optimum cost-effective energy efficiency over the
7 useful life of the building and to incorporate the 2012 International
8 Energy Conservation Code, not later than eighteen months after the
9 publication of said code. The provisions of this section shall not be
10 construed to impose any new requirement for any renovation or
11 construction of a state building that is subject to the requirements of
12 section 16a-38k, regardless of whether such building has been granted
13 an exemption under said section.

14 (b) Notwithstanding subsection (a) of this section, on and after July 1,

15 2010, the State Building Inspector and the Codes and Standards
16 Committee, in consultation with the Commissioner of Administrative
17 Services, shall revise the State Building Code to include provisions
18 requiring certain buildings of or over a specified minimum size, that
19 qualify as a new construction or a major alteration of a residential or
20 nonresidential building, to meet or exceed optimum cost-effective
21 building construction standards concerning the thermal envelope or
22 mechanical systems, including, but not limited to, indoor air quality and
23 water conservation, and the lighting and electrical systems of the
24 building. Such provisions shall reference nationally accepted green
25 building rating systems, including, but not limited to, the Leadership in
26 Energy and Environmental Design rating system, the Green Globes
27 USA design program, as established by the Green Building Initiative,
28 the National Green Building Standard, as established by the National
29 Association of Home Builders, or an equivalent rating system approved
30 by the State Building Inspector and the Codes and Standards
31 Committee. Such requirements shall include a method for
32 demonstrating compliance at the time of application for a certificate of
33 occupancy, including, but not limited to, private third-party
34 certification or verification of compliance with the relevant portions of
35 such rating systems, including, but not limited to, the energy and
36 environmental portions.

37 (c) The State Building Inspector and the Codes and Standards
38 Committee shall, in the adoption of the 2024 International Energy
39 Conservation Code and subsequent versions, prohibit the use of any
40 electric resistance or fossil fuel combustion system as the primary source
41 of heating, ventilation and air conditioning or water heating in new
42 residential construction or in major alterations of residential buildings.

43 Sec. 2 (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2022*) (a) The Department of Energy
44 and Environmental Protection shall, within available appropriations,
45 develop a program for the training and education of engineers, builders,
46 contractors or superintendents of construction doing business in this
47 state on the mechanics and application of thermal space and water
48 heating systems other than electric resistance or fossil fuel combustion

49 systems, including, but not limited to, air source heat pumps, ground
50 source heat pumps, solar thermal water or space heating systems or on-
51 demand electric water heaters.

52 (b) The Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection may
53 apply for any federal or private funds or contributions available for
54 training and education of persons eligible to receive training under
55 subsection (a) of this section.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2022</i>	29-256a
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2022</i>	New section

Statement of Purpose:

To (1) prohibit the use of electric resistance or fossil fuel combustion systems in new residential construction or major alterations of residential buildings; and (2) establish a program for training and education of construction professionals in certain alternative residential heating sources.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]