



General Assembly

February Session, 2022

**Substitute Bill No. 292**



**AN ACT CONCERNING HEATING EFFICIENCY IN NEW  
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 Section 29-256a of the general statutes is repealed and the  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 revision of the State Building Code to  
39 incorporate the 2024 International Energy Conservation Code and  
40 subsequent versions, prohibit the use of any electric resistance or fossil  
41 fuel combustion system as the primary source of heating, ventilation  
42 and air conditioning or water heating in new residential construction or  
43 in major alterations of residential buildings.

44 Sec. 2 (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2022*) (a) The Department of Energy  
45 and Environmental Protection shall, within available appropriations,  
46 develop a program for the training and education of engineers, builders,  
47 contractors or superintendents of construction doing business in this  
48 state on the mechanics and application of thermal space and water  
49 heating systems other than electric resistance or fossil fuel combustion  
50 systems, including, but not limited to, air source heat pumps, ground  
51 source heat pumps, solar thermal water or space heating systems or on-

52 demand electric water heaters.

53 (b) The Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection may  
54 apply for any federal or private funds or contributions available for  
55 training and education of persons eligible to receive training under  
56 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 Legislative Commissioners:**

In Section 1(c), a reference to the State Building Code was added for accuracy and statutory consistency.

**HSG**      *Joint Favorable Subst. -LCO*