

LC003135

## IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- NEXT GENERATION PUBLIC BUILDINGS  
ACT

Referred To: House Municipal Government & Housing

18           (3) Comply with the provisions of chapter 27.3 of title 23 ("state building code") to include,

1 but not limited to, provisions in the Rhode Island conservation code as adopted from International  
2 Energy Conservation Code ("IECC"), 2024 edition.

3 (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this section, where no reasonable  
4 or feasible alternative exists as determined by the executive climate change coordinating council  
5 established pursuant to the provisions of § 42-6.2-1, systems for emergency back-up power, or  
6 buildings specifically designed for occupancy of a laboratory, hospital, or crematorium, shall be  
7 exempt; provided however, those buildings shall seek to minimize emissions and maximize health  
8 and safety.

9 (c) A municipality may apply to the state building code standards committee for a waiver  
10 of the provisions set forth in subsection (a) of this section in cases where the provisions would place  
11 an undue hardship or burden on their compliance by the municipality.

12 (d) During any inspection of a public building or a place of public accommodation by an  
13 inspector, building official, or other local official responsible for code enforcement, the inspector  
14 or official may inspect for compliance with this section.

15 (e) The building codes standards committee shall adopt and promulgate all rules and  
16 regulations required to implement the purposes of this section.

17 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF  
A N A C T  
RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- NEXT GENERATION PUBLIC BUILDINGS  
ACT

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- 1           This act would prohibit the use of combustion-based heating for air or water heating in any
- 2   state or municipal building open to the public constructed, altered or renovated on or after January
- 3   1, 2028. Systems for emergency back-up power, or buildings specifically designed for occupancy
- 4   of a commercial food establishment, laboratory, laundromat, hospital, or crematorium, shall be
- 5   exempt.
- 6           This act would take effect upon passage.

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