

2022 -- S 2294

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LC003454  
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2022

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A N A C T

RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- HURRICANE, STORM AND FLOOD  
STANDARDS

Introduced By: Senators Sosnowski, Ruggerio, Raptakis, Archambault, F Lombardi,  
Ciccone, and Miller

Date Introduced: February 15, 2022

Referred To: Senate Environment & Agriculture

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 23-27.3-100.1.5.5 of the General Laws in Chapter 23-27.3 entitled  
2 "State Building Code" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **23-27.3-100.1.5.5. Hurricane, storm, and flood standards.**

4 The state building code standards committee has the authority in consultation with the  
5 building code commissioner, to adopt, maintain, amend, and repeal code provisions, which shall  
6 be reasonably consistent with recognized and accepted standards and codes, including for existing  
7 buildings, for storm and flood resistance. Such code provisions shall, to the extent reasonable and  
8 feasible, take into account climatic changes and potential climatic changes and sea level rise [and](#)  
9 [inundation areas below dams classified by the department of environmental management as high](#)  
10 [hazard, significant hazard, or low hazard](#). Flood velocity zones may incorporate freeboard  
11 calculations adopted by the Coastal Resources Management Council pursuant to its power to  
12 formulate standards under the provisions of § 46-23-6.

13 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 -- HURRICANE, STORM AND FLOOD  
STANDARDS

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1           This act would amend dam safety standards to require the state building code standards  
2 committee to take into account climate change effect on inundation areas below dams classified as  
3 high, significant, or low hazard.

4           This act would take effect upon passage.

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