

2022 -- S 2855 SUBSTITUTE A

=====
LC005695/SUB A/2
=====

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2022

A N A C T

RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- STATE BUILDING CODE

Introduced By: Senators Gallo, Goodwin, Pearson, Lombardo, Ciccone, and Miller

Date Introduced: April 05, 2022

Referred To: Senate Housing & Municipal Government

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 23-27.3-108.2 of the General Laws in Chapter 23-27.3 entitled "State
2 Building Code" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **23-27.3-108.2. State building commissioner's duties.**

4 (a) This code shall be enforced by the state building commissioner as to any structures or
5 buildings or parts thereof that are owned or are temporarily or permanently under the jurisdiction
6 of the state or any of its departments, commissions, agencies, or authorities established by an act
7 of the general assembly, and as to any structures or buildings or parts thereof that are built upon
8 any land owned by or under the jurisdiction of the state.

9 (b) Permit fees for the projects shall be established by the committee. The fees shall be
10 deposited as general revenues.

11 (c)(1) The local cities and towns shall charge each permit applicant an additional .1 (.001)
12 percent levy of the total construction cost for each permit issued. The levy shall be limited to a
13 maximum of fifty dollars (\$50.00) for each of the permits issued for one-and two-family (2)
14 dwellings. This additional levy shall be transmitted monthly to the state building office at the
15 department of business regulation, and shall be used to staff and support the purchase or lease and
16 operation of a web-accessible service and/or system to be utilized by the state and municipalities
17 for uniform, statewide electronic plan review, permit management, and inspection system and other
18 programs described in this chapter. The fee levy shall be deposited as general revenues.

19 (2) On or before July 1, 2013, the building commissioner shall develop a standard statewide

1 process for electronic plan review, permit management, and inspection. The process shall include,
2 but not be limited to: applications; submission of building plans and plans for developments and
3 plots; plan review; permitting; inspections; inspection scheduling; project tracking; fee calculation
4 and collections; and workflow and report management.

5 (3) On or before December 1, 2013, the building commissioner, with the assistance of the
6 office of regulatory reform, shall implement the standard statewide process for electronic plan
7 review, permit management, and inspection. In addition, the building commissioner shall develop
8 a technology and implementation plan for a standard web-accessible service or system to be utilized
9 by the state and municipalities for uniform, statewide electronic plan review, permit management,
10 and inspection. The plan shall include, but not be limited to: applications; submission of building
11 plans and plans for developments and plots; plan review; permitting; inspections; inspection
12 scheduling; project tracking; fee calculation and collections; and workflow and report management.

13 (d) The building commissioner shall, upon request by any state contractor described in §
14 37-2-38.1, review, and when all conditions for certification have been met, certify to the state
15 controller that the payment conditions contained in § 37-2-38.1 have been met.

16 (e) The building commissioner shall coordinate the development and implementation of
17 this section with the state fire marshal to assist with the implementation of § 23-28.2-6. On or before
18 January 1, 2022, the building commissioner shall promulgate rules and regulations to implement
19 the provisions of this section and § 23-27.3-115.6.

20 (f) The building commissioner shall submit, in coordination with the state fire marshal, a
21 report to the governor and general assembly on or before April 1, 2013, and each April 1st
22 thereafter, providing the status of the web-accessible service and/or system implementation and
23 any recommendations for process or system improvement. In every report submitted on or after
24 April, 2024, the building commissioner shall provide the following information:

25 (1) The identity of every municipality in full compliance with the provisions § 23-27.3-
26 115.6 and the rules and regulations promulgated pursuant to the provisions of this section;

27 (2) The identity of every municipality failing to fully implement and comply with the
28 provisions of § 23-27.3-115.6 and/or the rules and regulations promulgated pursuant to the
29 provisions of this section, and the nature, extent, and basis or reason for the failure or
30 noncompliance; and

31 (3) Recommendations to achieve compliance by all municipalities with the provisions of §
32 23-27.3-115.6 and the rules and regulations promulgated pursuant to this section.

33 [\(g\) The building commissioner shall assist with facilitating the goals and objectives set](#)
34 [forth in § 28-42-84\(a\)\(9\).](#)

1 SECTION 2. Section 28-42-84 of the General Laws in Chapter 28-42 entitled
2 "Employment Security - General Provisions" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **28-42-84. Job development fund -- Disbursements -- Unexpended balance.**

4 (a) The moneys in the job development fund shall be used for the following purposes:

5 (1) To reimburse the department of labor and training for the loss of any federal funds
6 resulting from the collection and maintenance of the fund by the department;

7 (2) To make refunds of contributions erroneously collected and deposited in the fund;

8 (3) To pay any administrative expenses incurred by the department of labor and training
9 associated with the collection of the contributions for employers paid pursuant to § 28-43-8.5, and
10 any other administrative expenses associated with the maintenance of the fund, including the
11 payment of all premiums upon bonds required pursuant to § 28-42-85;

12 (4) To provide for job training, counseling and assessment services, and other related
13 activities and services. Services will include, but are not limited to, research, development,
14 coordination, and training activities to promote workforce development and business development
15 as established by the governor's workforce board Rhode Island (workforce board);

16 (5) To support the state's job training for economic development;

17 (6) Beginning January 1, 2001, two hundredths of one percent (0.02%) out of the job
18 development assessment paid pursuant to § 28-43-8.5 shall be used to support necessary core
19 services in the unemployment insurance and employment services programs operated by the
20 department of labor and training;

21 (7) Beginning January 1, 2011, and ending in tax year 2014, three tenths of one percent
22 (0.3%) out of the fifty-one hundredths of one percent (0.51%) job development assessment paid
23 pursuant to § 28-43-8.5 shall be deposited into a restricted receipt account to be used solely to pay
24 the principal and/or interest due on Title XII advances received from the federal government in
25 accordance with the provisions of Section 1201 of the Social Security Act [42 U.S.C. § 1321];
26 provided, however, that if the federal Title XII loans are repaid through a state revenue bond or
27 other financing mechanism, then these funds may also be used to pay the principal and/or interest
28 that accrues on that debt. Any remaining funds in the restricted receipt account, after the
29 outstanding principal and interest due has been paid, shall be transferred to the employment security
30 fund for the payment of benefits; ~~and~~

31 (8) Beginning January 1, 2019, and ending December 31, 2019, the amount of the job
32 development assessment paid pursuant to § 28-43-8.5 above nineteen hundredths of one percent
33 (0.19%) shall be used to support necessary core services in the unemployment insurance and
34 employment services programs operated by the department of labor and training; and

1 (9) Beginning January 1, 2023, and through the end of the subsequent biennial employment
2 and training plan required by § 42-102-6(a)(2), at least four percent (4%) of prior fiscal year job
3 development assessment revenues shall be utilized to provide contractor training program grants
4 that shall prioritize minority business enterprises, and state and local building officials. As an
5 addendum to that plan required by § 42-102-6(a)(2), there shall be a report that assesses the impact
6 of the funding required by this subsection on these prioritized groups, including any impact on §
7 37-14.1-1, and prospectively assesses the need to continue this support, and provides
8 recommendations to incorporate funding in the furtherance of developing these aforementioned
9 workforce sectors.

10 (b) The general treasurer shall pay all vouchers duly drawn by the workforce board upon
11 the fund, in any amounts and in any manner that the workforce board may prescribe. Vouchers so
12 drawn upon the fund shall be referred to the controller within the department of administration.
13 Upon receipt of those vouchers, the controller shall immediately record and sign them and shall
14 promptly transfer those signed vouchers to the general treasurer. Those expenditures shall be used
15 solely for the purposes specified in this section and its balance shall not lapse at any time but shall
16 remain continuously available for expenditures consistent with this section. The general assembly
17 shall annually appropriate the funds contained in the fund for the use of the workforce board and,
18 in addition, for the use of the department of labor and training effective July 1, 2000, and for the
19 payment of the principal and interest due on federal Title XII loans beginning July 1, 2011;
20 provided, however, that if the federal Title XII loans are repaid through a state revenue bond or
21 other financing mechanism, then the funds may also be used to pay the principal and/or interest
22 that accrues on that debt.

23 SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon passage.

=====
LC005695/SUB A/2
=====

EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
A N A C T
RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- STATE BUILDING CODE

1 This act would dedicate job development assessment revenues to provide contractor
2 training grants that prioritize minority business enterprises and building officials. This act would
3 also include within the duties of the state building commissioner, the facilitation of this grant
4 program.

5 This act would take effect upon passage.

=====
LC005695/SUB A/2
=====