

2017 -- S 0479

LC001631

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2017

A N A C T

RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY - STATE BUILDING CODE

Introduced By: Senators Lombardi, Lynch Prata, McCaffrey, Archambault, and Jabour

Date Introduced: March 02, 2017

Referred To: Senate Housing & Municipal Government

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 23-27.3-100.1.4 of the General Laws in Chapter 23-27.3 entitled
2 "State Building Code" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **23-27.3-100.1.4. Appointment and qualifications of the committee.**

4 (a) The building code standards committee shall be composed of ~~twenty-three (23)~~
5 twenty-five (25) members, residents of the state who shall be appointed by the governor with the
6 advice and consent of the senate. Eight (8) members are to be appointed for terms of one year
7 each, seven (7) for a term of two (2) years each, and ~~eight (8)~~ ten (10) for terms of three (3) years
8 each. Annually, thereafter, the governor, with the advice and consent of the senate, shall appoint
9 members to the committee to succeed those whose terms expired; the members to serve for terms
10 of three (3) years each and until their successors are appointed and qualified. Two (2) members
11 shall be architects registered in the state; three (3) shall be professional engineers registered in the
12 state, one specializing in mechanical, one specializing in structural, and one specializing in
13 electrical engineering; one landscape architect, registered in the state, one full-time certified
14 electrical inspector; two (2) shall be builders or superintendents of building construction; one
15 shall be a public health official; one shall be a qualified fire code official; two (2) shall be from
16 the Rhode Island building trades council; two (2) shall be from the Rhode Island builders
17 association, one shall be a holder of Class "A" electrician's license; one shall be a master
18 plumber; two (2) shall be from the general public; three (3) shall be building officials in office,
19 one from a municipality with a population of sixty thousand (60,000) persons or more, one from a

1 municipality with a population of over twenty thousand (20,000) persons but less than sixty
2 thousand (60,000), and one from a municipality with a population of less than twenty thousand
3 (20,000) persons; one shall be a minimum housing official in office from one of the local
4 municipalities; and two (2) residents of the state who shall be persons with disabilities as defined
5 in § 42-87-1.

6 (b) All members shall have no less than five (5) years practical experience in his or her
7 profession or business. The committee shall elect its own chairperson and may elect from among
8 its members such other officers as it deems necessary. ~~Twelve (12)~~ Thirteen (13) members of the
9 board shall constitute a quorum and the vote of a majority vote of those present shall be required
10 for action. The committee shall adopt rules and regulations for procedure. The state building
11 commissioner shall serve as the executive secretary to the committee. The committee shall have
12 the power, within the limits of appropriations provided therefor, to employ such assistance as may
13 be necessary to conduct business.

14 (c) Members of the commission shall be removable by the governor pursuant to § 36-1-7
15 of the general laws and for cause only, and removal solely for partisan or personal reasons
16 unrelated to capacity or fitness for the office shall be unlawful.

17 (d) The state housing and property maintenance code subcommittee shall be composed of
18 nine (9) members, residents of the state. Five (5) of these members are to be current members of
19 the state building code standards committee and are to be appointed by that committee. The four
20 (4) remaining members are to be appointed by the governor, with the advice and consent of the
21 senate. The four (4) appointed by the governor, with the advice and consent of the senate, shall
22 initially be appointed on a staggered term basis, one for one year, one for two (2) years, and two
23 (2) for three (3) years. Annually thereafter, the building code standards committee, and the
24 governor, with the advice and consent of the senate, shall appoint the subcommittee members, for
25 which they are respectively responsible, to succeed those whose terms have expired; the members
26 to serve for terms of three (3) years each and until their successors are appointed and qualified. Of
27 the members appointed by the committee one shall be a full-time certified electrical inspector;
28 one shall be a master plumber and mechanical equipment expert, one shall be a builder or
29 superintendent of building construction, one member shall be a qualified state fire code official,
30 one shall be a property manager, and one shall be a current minimum housing official from a
31 local municipality. The four (4) members to be appointed by the governor, with the advice and
32 consent of the senate, shall all be current minimum housing officials from local municipalities.
33 One shall be from a municipality with a population of sixty thousand (60,000) persons or more,
34 two (2) from municipalities with a population of over twenty thousand (20,000) persons but less

1 than sixty thousand (60,000), and one from a municipality with a population of less than twenty
2 thousand (20,000) persons.

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

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
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- 1 This act would expand the state building code standards committee by two members, to
- 2 be appointed by the Rhode Island builders association.
- 3 This act would take effect upon passage.

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