

Department of Planning and Budget 2003 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number HB1727

House of Origin ☐ Introduced ☐ Substitute ☐ Engrossed

Second House ☒ In Committee ☐ Substitute ☐ Enrolled

2. Patron Sherwood

3. Committee General Laws

4. Title Protection of certain records in the possession of building officials

5. Summary/Purpose: The bill expands the current exemption under the Freedom of Information Act relating to building permit records to include critical structural components, security systems, telecommunication equipment, etc., submitted for the purpose of complying with the Uniform Statewide Building Code or the Statewide Fire Prevention Code, the disclosure of which would jeopardize the safety or security of any building or its occupants in the event of terrorism or other threat to public safety. The bill requires the owner or lessee to invoke these protections in writing prior to or upon submission of such drawings, plans or other materials; identify the drawings, plans, or other materials to be protected; and state the reasons why protection is necessary, which reasons are found to be satisfactory to the local building or fire official, as appropriate. The bill also requires building officials to institute procedures to ensure these sensitive records are securely stored, handled, and released in accordance with law.

6. Fiscal Impact Estimates are not available: SEE ITEM 8.

7. Budget amendment necessary: No.

8. Fiscal implications: The bill would have a minimal fiscal impact on the state. It does require state building officials to institute procedures to be used by local officials. Staff at the Department of Housing and Community Development would be responsible for developing such procedures, however current staff would absorb the additional workload of preparing such procedures.

9. Specific agency or political subdivisions affected: Department of Housing and Community Development and localities.

10. Technical amendment necessary: No.

11. Other comments: None.

Date: 02/06/03/mst

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cc: Secretary of Commerce and Trade