

2024 SESSION

INTRODUCED

24103185D

SENATE BILL NO. 409

Offered January 10, 2024

Prefiled January 9, 2024

A *BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Article 5 of Chapter 9 of Title 15.2 a section numbered 15.2-987, relating to energy efficiency and climate standards; more stringent energy efficiency and climate requirements.*

Patron—Boysko

Referred to Committee on Commerce and Labor

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Article 5 of Chapter 9 of Title 15.2 a section numbered 15.2-987 as follows:

§ 15.2-987. *Energy efficiency and climate standards; more stringent energy efficiency and climate requirements.*

A. For purposes of this section, "stretch code" means an ordinance that implements at least one energy efficiency standard or climate mitigation or resiliency standard that is in addition to or more stringent than a current standard set by the Uniform Statewide Building Code (§ 36-97 et seq.).

B. Any locality may by ordinance adopt and require compliance with stretch codes for construction or rehabilitation of buildings within its jurisdiction and may reasonably vary standards by type of building.

C. Any locality may by ordinance adopt stretch codes as a more stringent alternative means of compliance with a locality's building requirements.

D. Such ordinance shall include periodic review of the locality's stretch codes, including review within six months of a Uniform Statewide Building Code update addressing the same issues. The review shall include consideration of revisions to the Uniform Statewide Building Code and the International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) published by the International Code Council, and may consider other proposals, including model standards promulgated by the U.S. Department of Energy. Upon review, the locality may amend stretch codes in the manner of amending ordinances and shall amend or delete standards that have become less stringent than the Uniform Statewide Building Code.

INTRODUCED

SB409