



# House of Representatives

## File No. 610

General Assembly

February Session, 2026

**(Reprint of File No. 325)**

Substitute House Bill No. 5401  
As Amended by House Amendment  
Schedule "A"

Approved by the Legislative Commissioner  
April 13, 2026

**AN ACT CONCERNING REVISIONS TO THE STATE BUILDING CODE,  
STATE FIRE PREVENTION CODE AND FIRE SAFETY CODE.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 29-252 of the general statutes is  
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*  
3 *1, 2026*):

4 (a) (1) The State Building Inspector and the Codes and Standards  
5 Committee shall, jointly, with the approval of the Commissioner of  
6 Administrative Services and in accordance with the provisions of  
7 section 29-252b, adopt and administer a State Building Code based on a  
8 nationally recognized model building code for the purpose of regulating  
9 the design, construction and use of buildings or structures to be erected  
10 and the alteration of buildings or structures already erected and make  
11 such amendments thereto as they, from time to time, deem necessary or  
12 desirable. Such amendments shall be limited to administrative matters,  
13 geotechnical and weather-related portions of said code, amendments to

14 said code necessitated by a provision of the general statutes and any  
15 other matter which, based on substantial evidence, necessitates an  
16 amendment to said code. The [code] State Building Code shall be  
17 revised as deemed necessary to incorporate any subsequent revisions to  
18 the nationally recognized model building code not later than [eighteen  
19 months] two years following the date of first publication of such  
20 subsequent revisions to the nationally recognized model building code,  
21 provided no revisions to the State Building Code shall be required after  
22 the first publication of revisions to the 2024 nationally recognized model  
23 code and prior to the first publication of revisions to the 2030 nationally  
24 recognized model code. The purpose of [said] the State Building Code  
25 shall also include, but not be limited to, promoting and ensuring that  
26 such buildings and structures are designed and constructed in such a  
27 manner as to conserve energy and, wherever practicable, facilitate the  
28 use of renewable energy resources, including provisions for electric  
29 circuits capable of supporting electric vehicle charging in any newly  
30 constructed residential garage in any code adopted after July 8, 2013.  
31 [Said] The State Building Code includes any code, rule or regulation  
32 incorporated therein by reference. As used in this subsection,  
33 "geotechnical" means any geological condition, such as soil and  
34 subsurface soil condition, which may affect the structural characteristics  
35 of a building or structure.

36 (2) In adopting amendments to the State Building Code pursuant to  
37 subdivision (1) of this subsection, the State Building Inspector, the  
38 Codes and Standards Committee and the Commissioner of  
39 Administrative Services shall consider that the housing shortage in the  
40 state compromises the safety of residents who cannot afford a safe  
41 home, and any such amendments shall encourage production of  
42 buildings that include safe housing and can be constructed at a  
43 reasonable cost.

44 Sec. 2. Subsection (a) of section 29-291a of the general statutes is  
45 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*  
46 *1, 2026*):

47 (a) The State Fire Marshal, in coordination with the advisory  
48 committee established under subsection (b) of this section and in  
49 accordance with the provisions of section 29-291e, shall adopt and  
50 administer a State Fire Prevention Code based on a nationally  
51 recognized fire code. The [code] State Fire Prevention Code shall be  
52 used to enhance the enforcement capabilities of local fire marshals and  
53 for the purposes of prevention of fire and other related emergencies. The  
54 [code] State Fire Prevention Code shall be revised as deemed necessary  
55 to incorporate any subsequent revisions to the nationally recognized fire  
56 code not later than [eighteen months] two years following the date of  
57 first publication of such revisions, provided no revisions to the State Fire  
58 Prevention Code shall be required after the first publication of the  
59 revisions to the 2024 nationally recognized fire code and prior to the first  
60 publication of the revisions to the 2030 nationally recognized fire code.  
61 The [code] State Fire Prevention Code shall include provisions for oil  
62 burners, flammable and combustible liquids, gas equipment and piping,  
63 liquefied gas and liquefied natural gas, hazardous chemicals, and  
64 processes and activities that occur in all buildings and structures  
65 regulated by the code and the areas adjacent to such buildings and  
66 structures.

67 Sec. 3. Subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section 29-292 of the general  
68 statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof  
69 (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

70 (a) (1) The State Fire Marshal and the Codes and Standards  
71 Committee shall adopt and administer a Fire Safety Code and at any  
72 time may amend the same in accordance with the provisions of section  
73 29-292a. The [code] Fire Safety Code shall be based on nationally  
74 recognized model fire and life safety codes and shall be revised as  
75 deemed necessary to incorporate advances in technologies and  
76 improvements in construction materials and any subsequent revisions  
77 to the model fire and life safety codes not later than [eighteen months]  
78 two years following the date of first publication of such revisions, unless  
79 the State Fire Marshal and the committee certify that a revision is not  
80 necessary for such purpose and provided no revisions to the Fire Safety

81 Code shall be required after the first publication of the revisions to the  
82 2024 model fire and life safety codes and prior to the first publication of  
83 the revisions to the 2030 model fire and life safety codes. The code shall  
84 provide for reasonable safety from fire, smoke and panic therefrom, in  
85 all buildings, structures and areas adjacent to such buildings and  
86 structures, except in private dwellings occupied by one or two families  
87 and upon all premises. The code shall require (A) carbon monoxide  
88 detection and warning equipment in (i) new residential buildings not  
89 exempt under the code and designed to be occupied by one or two  
90 families for which a building permit for new occupancy is issued on or  
91 after October 1, 2005, and (ii) all public or nonpublic school buildings,  
92 and (B) smoke detection and warning equipment in residential  
93 buildings designed to be occupied by one or more families.

94 Sec. 4. (*Effective October 1, 2026*) Not later than January 1, 2029, the  
95 Commissioner of Administrative Services, in consultation with the State  
96 Building Inspector, Codes and Standards Committee and State Fire  
97 Marshal, shall submit a report, in accordance with the provisions of  
98 section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the speaker of the House of  
99 Representatives, the president pro tempore of the Senate, the majority  
100 leader of the House of Representatives, the majority leader of the Senate,  
101 the minority leader of the House of Representatives, the minority leader  
102 of the Senate and the joint standing committee of the General Assembly  
103 having cognizance of matters relating to public safety and security. Such  
104 report shall include, but need not be limited to, the effects of extending  
105 the cycle for revisions to the State Building Code pursuant to section 29-  
106 252 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, the State Fire  
107 Prevention Code pursuant to section 29-291a of the general statutes, as  
108 amended by this act, and the Fire Safety Code pursuant to section 29-  
109 292 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, and any  
110 recommendations for amendments to the cycle for revisions to said  
111 codes.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	29-252(a)
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	29-291a(a)
Sec. 3	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	29-292(a)(1)
Sec. 4	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	New section

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

---

### **OFA Fiscal Note**

**State Impact:** None

**Municipal Impact:** None

### **Explanation**

#### **No Fiscal Impact**

The bill as amended, which prohibits revisions to the State Building Code, the State Fire Prevention Code, and the Fire Safety Code until the publication of the national model codes in 2030, results in no fiscal impact. The bill as amended also requires the Department of Administrative Services to submit a report related to the effects of extending the cycle of revisions for these codes which results in no fiscal impact.

House "A" strikes the underlying bill and its associated fiscal impact resulting in the fiscal impact described above.

### **The Out Years**

**State Impact:** None

**Municipal Impact:** None

---

**OLR Bill Analysis****sHB 5401 (as amended by House "A")\******AN ACT CONCERNING THE PROCEDURE FOR ADOPTING, REVISING AND AMENDING THE STATE BUILDING CODE AND REQUIRING RELATED TRAINING.*****SUMMARY**

This bill makes identical changes to when the State Building Code, State Fire Prevention Code, and Fire Safety Code must be amended. Under current law, each of these codes must be updated whenever the nationally recognized model codes they are based on are revised, within 18 months after the revisions' first publication. The bill extends this timing to within two years after that first publication date and provides that no revisions are required between the first publication of revisions to the respective 2024 model codes and the 2030 model codes' first publication of revisions.

The bill additionally requires the Department of Administrative Services commissioner, in consultation with the state building inspector, Codes and Standards Committee, and state fire marshal, to submit a report to the six legislative leaders and the Public Safety and Security Committee on the effects of extending the cycles for revising these three state codes and any recommendations for amending their cycles. She must do this by January 1, 2029.

\*House Amendment "A" replaces the underlying bill, which made several changes to when and under what circumstances the State Building Code may be amended.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2026

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Public Safety and Security Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 29 Nay 0 (03/17/2026)