



June 19, 2008

**MEMORANDUM**

**BULLETIN G-10-08**

To: All Permit Applicants

From: Thomas H. Goldsbury, P.E., C.B.O., LEED AP  
Chief, Building Inspection Division

Subject: **Highlights of House Bill 697**

Below are some of the items that were in House Bill 697, recently signed into law, which I thought you may be interested in.

- The scope of work of a roofing contractor also includes required roof-deck attachments and any repair or replacement of wood roof sheathing or fascia as needed during roof repair or replacement.

**Affect:**

Roofing contractors can now do sheathing replacement during re-roofing operations without limitation

- The commission shall select the most current version of the International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) as a foundation code; however, the IECC shall be modified by the commission to maintain the efficiencies of the Florida Energy Efficiency Code for Building Construction adopted and amended pursuant to s. 553.901.

**Affect:**

This will require Florida to adopt as a base code for the Florida Energy Code the International Energy Code. The 2007 Florida Building Code was delayed till December 31<sup>st</sup> in part due to this issue

- Adoption of an updated edition of the National Electrical Code if the commission finds that delay of implementing the updated edition causes undue hardship to stakeholders or otherwise threatens the public health, safety, and welfare.

**Affect:**

The Building Commission will decide on the adoption date of the NEC. There is industry opposition at the present time due to financial considerations.

- One member who is a swimming pool contractor licensed to do business in this state and actively engaged in the profession. The Florida Swimming Pool Association and the United Pool and Spa Association are encouraged to recommend a list of candidates for consideration.

- (v) One member who is a representative of the green building industry and who is a third-party commission agent, a Florida board member of the United States Green Building Council or Green Building Initiative, or a LEED-accredited professional.

**Affects:**

Adds two additional seats to the Commission

- The commission may render declaratory statements in accordance with s. 120.565 relating to the provisions of the Florida Accessibility Code for Building Construction not attributable to the Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines.

**Affect:**

The accessibility TAC can now hear Declaratory statements on Florida specific issues and recommend interpretations to the commission.

- Roof-to-wall connections shall not be required unless evaluation and installation of connections at gable ends or all corners can be completed for 15 percent of the cost of roof replacement. For houses that have both hip and gable roof ends, the priority shall be to retrofit the gable end roof-to-wall connections unless the width of the hip is more than 1.5 times greater than the width of the gable end. Priority shall be given to connecting the corners of roofs to walls below the locations at which the spans of the roofing members are greatest

**Affect:**

Roof to wall connections are not required if the gable ends or corner connections of all corners can not be accomplished within the 15% cost.

- Every building, other than a hospital, an inpatient hospice facility, or a nursing home facility licensed by the Agency for Health Care Administration, for which a building permit is issued for new construction on or after July 1, 2008, and having a fossil-fuel-burning heater or appliance, a fireplace, or an attached garage shall have an approved operational carbon monoxide alarm installed within 10 feet of each room used for sleeping purposes. For a new hospital, an inpatient hospice facility, or a nursing home facility licensed by the Agency for Health Care Administration, an approved operational carbon monoxide detector shall be installed inside or directly outside of each room or area within the hospital or facility where a fossil-fuel burning heater, engine, or appliance is located. This detector shall be connected to the fire-alarm system of the hospital or facility as a supervisory signal.

**Affect:**

This allows for alternative locations for carbon monoxide detector at the source equipment and has it tied into the fire alarm system.

- 553.9061 Scheduled increases in thermal efficiency standards.—

The purpose of this section is to establish a schedule of increases in the energy performance of buildings subject to the Florida Energy Efficiency Code for Building Construction.

The Florida Building Commission shall:

(a) Include the necessary provisions by the 2010 edition of the Florida Energy Efficiency Code for Building construction to increase the energy performance of new buildings by at least 20 percent as compared to the energy efficiency provisions of the 2007 Florida Building Code adopted October 31, 2007.

(b) Increase energy efficiency requirements by the 2013 edition of the Florida Energy Efficiency Code for Building Construction by at least 30 percent as compared to the energy efficiency provisions of the 2007 Florida Building Code adopted October 31, 2007.

(c) Increase energy efficiency requirements by the 2016 edition of the Florida Energy Efficiency Code for Building Construction by at least 40 percent as compared to the energy efficiency provisions of the 2007 Florida Building Code adopted October 31, 2007.

(d) Increase energy efficiency requirements by the 2019 edition of the Florida Energy Efficiency Code for Building Construction by at least 50 percent as compared to the energy efficiency provisions of the 2007 Florida Building Code adopted October 31, 2007.

**Affect:**

Sets the requirements for energy conservation for the next 10 years.

- The repeal of s. 553.731, Florida Statutes, by this act, does not diminish or authorize changes that diminish the provisions of the Florida Building Code relating to wind resistance or water intrusion which were adopted pursuant to chapter 2007-1, Laws of Florida

**Affect:**

This section removes the requirement that all window replacement within the windborne debris area would require debris protection. Instead it now defers to the Building Code. The building code for existing buildings requires the following:

507.3 Replacement of windows and doors.

The replacement of garage doors, exterior doors, skylight, operative and inoperative windows shall be designed and constructed to comply with Chapter 16 of the Florida Building Code, Building.

Exceptions:

1. Opening protection exception: For one- and two-family dwellings constructed under codes other than the Florida Building Code and located in windborne debris regions, the replacement of garage doors and exterior doors with glazing, sliding glass doors, glass patio doors, skylights, and operable and inoperable windows within any 12-month period shall not be required to have opening protection but shall be designed for wind pressures for enclosed buildings, provided the aggregate area of the glazing in the replaced components does not exceed 25 percent of the aggregate area of the glazed openings in the dwelling or dwelling unit.
2. Opening protection exception for High Velocity Hurricane Zones: For one-and two-family dwellings constructed under codes prior to September 1, 1994 the replacement of exterior doors with glazing, sliding glass doors, glass patio doors, skylights, and operable and inoperable windows within any 12 month period shall not be required to have opening protection provided the aggregate area of the glazing in the replaced components does not exceed 25 percent of the aggregate area of the glazed openings in the dwelling or dwelling unit.