

FISCAL NOTE

April 13, 2017

Bill No:	HB 409	Printer's No:	PN 1235	Sponsor:	Evankovich
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COST / (SAVINGS)

Fund (s)	2016-17	2017-18
General Fund	"See Fiscal Impact"	\$323,000 Annually plus additional biennial costs

SUMMARY: HB 409 amends the PA Construction Code Act (Act 45 of 1999) to make comprehensive changes to the process used by the Uniform Construction Code (UCC) Review and Advisory Council (RAC).

ANALYSIS: This legislation will amend the PA Construction Code Act to reform the triennial code review process used by the UCC RAC to update the UCC.

This legislation will increase the timeframe that the UCC RAC has to review triennial ICC code updates to 24 months. Under current law, the RAC is required to begin review of the latest triennial code updates upon official publication of the codes. The RAC is required to then submit a report to the Secretary of Labor and Industry within 12 months of the start of the review process. HB 409 will extend the review period to 21 months from the date of publication.

This legislation amends the act to require a 120 day public comment period be commenced 30 days after the RAC begins the review process of the triennial code updates. Under current law, there is no requirement for a public comment period.

This legislation will change the composition of the UCC RAC and will create a RAC administration account in the State Treasury to fund RAC operations. Additionally, this legislation requires the RAC to establish technical advisory committees. Each committee will have a RAC member appointed as the chair. The committees will be tasked with reviewing specific portions of triennial code updates. Current law does not specify any requirement for technical committees.

This legislation also requires that the RAC initiate a new review of the updated provisions of the 2015 triennial codes within 30 days of passage of the bill.

Lastly, this legislation will grant code officials the option of using the department's technical standards to issue a certificate of occupancy to an uncertified building. The legislation will eliminate the current requirement that such standards can only be used if the municipality adopts an ordinance electing to use the department's standards.

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The amendment to section 902(c), uncertified buildings over which the department does not have jurisdiction shall take effect in 60 days.

The remainder of the act shall take effect immediately.

FISCAL IMPACT: The department's estimated projections include \$323,000 annually for program costs, \$22,000 biennially for BOIS expenditures and \$57,000 biennially for RRAC hearing expenditures. These projections do not include any additional costs that may be incurred if additional technical/expert advice is needed.