

FHBA NEWS

FHBA Responds to BOAF Position Statement Against Building Code Bill

SB 7000 is one of FHBA's primary priorities for the 2017 Legislative Session. SB 7000 proposes to move the building code development process from the "shade" and place it in the "sunshine."

Florida's building code is not developed like all other rule and laws in Florida. Current law requires the Florida Building Commission to adopt the most recent code developed by the International Code Council (ICC) then embark on the arduously inexact task of identifying and amending provisions of the ICC that conflict with the standards of Florida. Current law also requires that all Florida specific amendments to the code be sunsetted (removed from the code) until re-enacted by the Building Commission. Once the process is completed, it is not a surprise that this new code is often misunderstood and unfamiliar to contractors.

SB 7000 seeks to stabilize the code and enhance its understanding by establishing the 6th edition as Florida's base code and then requiring the Florida Building Commission to update the code every three years. SB 7000 requires that the triennium updating process include a review of the most recent ICC. How does it change the building code development process? The ICC is not automatically adopted in its entirety. Proposed changes will be drafted to Florida's base code and vetted to determine the impact on Florida's consumers.

SB 7000 has been approved unanimously by the Senate Committee on Community Affairs. A companion bill is being introduced in the House and has early support amongst some of its leaders.

Gov. Rick Scott Proposes Cut to Building Permit Fees

Gov. Rick Scott is planning to ask the Legislature to cut \$2.6 million in fees charged to homebuilders when they file building permits. The fee cut is part of an \$8 million package of fees Scott said he wants to cut that affect businesses, veterans and seniors. The building permit cut is the largest of the nine fee reductions Scott rolled earlier this month. The building permit cut would reduce funding for enforcing state building codes, but Scott's office said there would still be "sufficient funds" to do enforcement activities if the Legislature agreed to the cut fees.

Access FREE Model Contracts

FHBA offers up-to-date model contracts for builder, contractor, and trade partners - saving members an average \$5,000 in lawyer fees for contract creation.

- Disclosure Statements
- Standard Construction Contracts on Owner's or Customer's Property
- Standard Construction Contracts on Builder's Property
- Standard Remodel Contract
- Standard Subcontract
- Residential Rebuilding Agreement
- Escalation Clauses

Submit Your Q4'16 Member Rebate Claims!

All of your Builder & Remodeler members can claim for any completed residential addresses from October 1 – December 31, 2016 that used any of our 50+ Manufacturer brands.

The deadline to submit your claims is February 24, 2017. Visit www.fhbarebates.com to start your claim today!