2022 Regular Session
HOUSE BILL NO. 571
BY REPRESENTATIVE GADBERRY

BUILDING CODES: Provides relative to the State Uniform Construction Code

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 40:1730.26(3), relative to the State Uniform Construction Code; to provide for the adoption of the State Uniform Construction Code within five years from publication of the appropriate code; to provide for an extension to the time period in which the code is required to be adopted; to provide for limitations relative to the length and number of extensions to the adoption of the code; to limit the extension to no more than one year; to limit the authority of the council relative to the number of times an extension may be granted; to provide for a definition; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 40:1730.26(3) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§1730.26. Adoption and promulgation of certain building codes and standards as State Uniform Construction Code; procedures

The council shall review, adopt, modify, and promulgate the building codes referenced in R.S. 40:1730.28 and 1730.28.1 of this Part, provided that:

*       *       *

(3)(a) The council shall review, evaluate, and update the State Uniform Construction Code no later than five years from the date of publication of the appropriate code as provided for in R.S. 40:1730.28. The council shall submit the updated State Uniform Construction Code to the House Committee on Commerce...
and the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and International Affairs for oversight and approval. Additionally, the council shall provide the members of each house of the legislature a summary of the major proposed changes to the International Residential Code at the time of submission to the oversight committees.

(b) The council shall have the authority to suspend the five-year deadline as referenced in Subparagraph (a) of this Paragraph, for a period of up to one year due to extraordinary circumstances.

(c) "Extraordinary circumstances" means a federally declared disaster, a gubernatorially declared disaster or emergency, a pandemic, or other acts of God.

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DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

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Abstract: Authorizes a suspension of the time period for when a new code may be adopted as the State Uniform Construction Code, but limits the length and number of extensions that may be granted by the council.

Present law provides that the council shall adopt new versions of the State Uniform Construction Code no later than five years following publication of the most recent code to be adopted as provided for in present law (R.S. 40:1730.28).

Proposed law retains present law and authorizes the council to suspend the five-year time period in which a new code must be adopted, for up to one year, provided the suspension is necessary because of extraordinary circumstances and is approved by the council.

Proposed law limits the number of times the suspension may be extended to only one additional one-year period, provided the extension is approved by the council.

Proposed law defines "extraordinary circumstances."

(Amends R.S. 40:1730.26(3))

CODING: Words in struck through type are deletions from existing law; words underscored are additions.