

HB 267 -- Environmentally Sustainable Construction for State-Funded Buildings

Sponsor: McNeil

This bill establishes requirements for environmentally sustainable construction for state-funded buildings. In its main provisions, the bill:

- (1) Requires all major state-funded facility projects to be designed, constructed, and at least certified as receiving two globes using the Green Globes Rating System or the silver standard as established by Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED);
- (2) Defines "major facility project" as a state-funded new construction project with more than 5,000 square footage, a renovation project involving more than 50% of the square footage or occupancy displacement, or a commercial interior fit-out project with more than 7,000 square feet of leasable area;
- (3) Exempts a correctional facility constructed for the department of Corrections or Mental Health and certain buildings that do not have air conditioning;
- (4) Specifies that a project certified as receiving two globes must earn at least 20% of the available points for energy consumption and a project certified as meeting the LEED Silver standard must reduce energy use by 24% over certain professional standards for new buildings and 20% for existing buildings. The Office of Administration may waive these requirements if costs to meet these requirements are not economically feasible;
- (5) Allows the Office of Administration to petition the General Assembly to require all major facility projects to be certified to a high-performance building rating system standard in addition to or in lieu of the systems in these provisions. However, any alternate rating system adopted by the General Assembly cannot be less stringent than the systems in the provisions of the bill;
- (6) Requires all major facility projects which were certified at the LEED Silver or two globes standard or higher to be inspected by a third-party commissioning agent and requires the agent to report his or her findings to the Office of Administration and the department or departments occupying the facility;
- (7) Requires the Office of Administration to develop and implement a process to monitor and evaluate the energy and environmental benefits of each project;

(8) Requires all qualified existing facilities to meet the energy performance goals of the Energy Star Program and try to earn an energy star rating of 70 within certain periods of time as specified in the bill; and

(9) Requires the Office of Administration to submit a report regarding major facility projects and Energy Star data of qualified existing buildings to the House of Representatives and the Senate committees on energy and environment.