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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE STATE BUILDING CODES.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

1           SECTION 1. For centuries, Hawaii has been blessed with  
2 consistent rainfall and, due to its geology, with high-quality  
3 fresh water. Recently, however, scientists, farmers, and others  
4 have observed signs that threaten the long-term fresh water  
5 security of the Hawaiian islands.

6           The Pacific Islands Regional Climate Assessment reports  
7 that throughout the Pacific region, warmer and drier conditions  
8 will result in drought and rising temperatures, thus causing a  
9 decrease of fresh water supplies.

10           Hawaii needs to make changes that will increase its ability  
11 to capture, store, and efficiently use fresh water. Among the  
12 least expensive and most efficient ways to increase the supply  
13 of fresh water are water conservation and reuse. An important  
14 component in the conservation and reuse of water is the timely  
15 adoption, through amendments to the state building codes, of  
16 changes to the model Uniform Plumbing Code that encourage water



1 resource conservation, improvements to water distribution  
2 systems, and recovery of used water.

3 The purpose of this Act is to expedite the review,  
4 updating, and adoption of appropriate updates to the Uniform  
5 Plumbing Code, through amendments to the state building codes.

6 SECTION 2. Section 107-24, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
7 amended by amending subsection (f) to read as follows:

8 "(f) The council shall review and adopt, as appropriate,  
9 new model building codes within eighteen months of the official  
10 publication date[-]; provided that the council shall review and  
11 adopt the necessary and desirable amendments to the Uniform  
12 Plumbing Code within one year after the updated Uniform Plumbing  
13 Code is published by the International Association of Plumbing  
14 and Mechanical Officials."

15 SECTION 3. Section 107-28, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
16 amended to read as follows:

17 "**§107-28 County authority to amend and adopt the Hawaii**  
18 **state building codes without council approval.** (a) The  
19 governing body of each county shall amend, adopt, and update the  
20 Hawaii state building codes as they apply within their  
21 respective jurisdiction, in accordance with section 46-1.5(13),



1 without approval of the council. Each county shall amend and  
2 adopt the Hawaii state building codes and standards listed in  
3 section 107-25, as the referenced Hawaii state building codes  
4 and standards for its respective county building code ordinance,  
5 no later than two years after the adoption of the Hawaii state  
6 building codes[-]; provided that each county shall adopt the  
7 necessary and desirable amendments to the Uniform Plumbing Code  
8 specified in section 107-25(2), within one year after the  
9 updated Uniform Plumbing Code is adopted by the council.

10 (b) If a county does not amend the Hawaii state building  
11 codes within the two-year time frame[7] specified in section  
12 107-25(1), (3), and (4), or the one-year time frame specified in  
13 section 107-25(2), the Hawaii state building codes shall become  
14 applicable as an interim county building code."

15 SECTION 4. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
16 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

17 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.



**Report Title:**

State Building Codes; Uniform Plumbing Code; Adoption

**Description:**

Expedites the review, update, and adoption of the Uniform Plumbing Code as it relates to the Hawaii State Building Codes. (HB637 HD1)

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

