

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2007

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SENATE BILL 581  
State & Local Government Committee Substitute Adopted 5/1/07

Short Title: Building Permit Reductions/Rebates.

(Public)

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Sponsors:

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Referred to:

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March 7, 2007

1                                   A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT ALLOWING COUNTIES TO PROVIDE BUILDING PERMIT FEE  
3 REDUCTIONS OR REBATES TO ENCOURAGE CONSTRUCTION OF  
4 BUILDINGS USING SUSTAINABLE DESIGN PRINCIPLES TO ACHIEVE  
5 ENERGY PERFORMANCE STANDARDS.

6 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

7           **SECTION 1.** G.S. 153A-340 is amended by adding a new subsection to  
8 read:

9           "(i) A county may provide for reductions or partial rebates of building permit fees  
10 for buildings to encourage their construction using sustainable design principles and  
11 achieving the energy performance standards provided by this subsection. To receive the  
12 benefit of the reduction or rebate, the building must be built to:

- 13           (1) A Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED)  
14 certification or higher rating as adopted by the U.S. Green Building  
15 Council;  
16           (2) A Green Globes USA rating of one globe or higher, as adopted by the  
17 Green Building Initiative;  
18           (3) A similar rating to those provided by subdivision (1) or (2) of this  
19 subsection by another nationally recognized rating system with  
20 equivalent rating; or  
21           (4) The building must exceed the State energy code by at least thirty  
22 percent (30%). Achievement of the energy performance standard shall  
23 be determined by a qualified licensed engineer, architect, or contractor,  
24 not related to the building owner, who shall certify to the reasonable  
25 satisfaction of the inspection department that he or she is qualified to  
26 provide the certification.

27           This subsection applies only to counties with a population of 650,000 or over  
28 according to the most recent decennial federal census."

29           **SECTION 2.** This act is effective when it becomes law.