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Maine Adopts 2009 IECC

On Friday, April 18, the Maine Senate gave final approval and sent to the Governor LD 2257, a bill that adopts the 2009 IECC and that will require enforcement of the this code. Prior to this, adoption and enforcement of a building energy code in Maine was left to the discretion of the local jurisdiction. The Governor has 10 days to act.

Specifically, the bill establishes a new Bureau of Building Codes and Standards within the Department of Public Safety. The Bureau will provide administrative support and technical assistance to the Technical Building Codes and Standards Board, which is established to adopt, amend and maintain the Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code. The new statute requires the Board to adopt, by January 1, 2010, the 2009 IECC and other ICC family of codes. All jurisdictions, with more than 2,000 residents, that have adopted any building code by August 1, 2008 must begin to enforce the State code by July 1, 2010. For those jurisdictions with under 2,000 residents and that have not adopted a building code by August 1, 2008, the date for initial enforcement of the State code would be July 1, 2012.