



Ohio Legislative Service Commission

Bill Analysis

Amber Hardesty

H.B. 7

128th General Assembly
(As Introduced)

Reps. Harris and Pillich, Garrison, Stewart, B. Williams, Phillips, Hagan, Fende, Murray, Ujvagi, Koziura, Newcomb, Szollosi, Bolon, Letson, Yuko, Luckie, S. Williams, Heard

BILL SUMMARY

- Requires a building or structure erected or constructed using state capital moneys to adhere to certain sustainability standards.

CONTENT AND OPERATION

Building standards

(R.C. 153.013)

The bill requires that whenever any building or structure is to be erected or constructed using any state capital moneys, including moneys from the Education Facilities Trust Fund, the building or structure must be certified as meeting at least the silver standard of the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Green Building Rating System that has been developed by the United States Green Building Council (USGBC).

USGBC is a nonprofit organization that is committed to expanding sustainable building practices. According to its web site, LEED "provides building owners and operators with the tools they need to have an immediate and measureable impact on their buildings' performance."¹ The LEED Green Building Rating System "encourages and accelerates global adoption of sustainable green building and development practices through the creation and implementation of universally understood and

¹ <http://www.usgbc.org/DisplayPage.aspx?CategoryID=19>.

accepted tools and performance criteria."² "LEED certification provides independent, third-party verification that a building project is environmentally responsible, profitable and a healthy place to live and work."³ "To earn LEED certification, a project must satisfy all prerequisites and earn a minimum number of points outlined in the LEED Rating System under which it is registered."⁴ There is an application process and fees involved in the certification. The rating system assigns points to certain criteria. In order to obtain the silver standard status as required by the bill, the applicant must receive enough points to fall within the range allotted for that status. Apparently, silver standard status ranks above certified standard status and below gold standard status, which in turn ranks below platinum standard status.

HISTORY

ACTION	DATE
Introduced	02-17-09

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² <http://www.usgbc.org/DisplayPage.aspx?CMSPageID=222>.

³ <http://www.usgbc.org/DisplayPage.aspx?CategoryID=19>.

⁴ <http://www.usgbc.org/DisplayPage.aspx?CMSPageID=1497>.