Overview

This bill deals with various aspects of the relationship between two of the agencies responsible for adopting and enforcing codes relating to buildings, the department of administration and the department of public safety.

Background: In January 1999, the Office of the Legislative Auditor issued a program evaluation report on the state building code. Some of the provisions of the bill address concerns in the Legislative Auditor's report.

1 Administration by commissioner. Directs the commissioner of administration to contract with the commissioner of public safety for plan review and inspection of fire sprinkler systems in public buildings and state licensed facilities.

2 Code adoption and coordination. Directs the commissioners of administration and public safety to coordinate the adoption of the state building and fire codes. Provides for an administrative law judge to make binding decisions on issues where the commissioners disagree over proposed rules governing the common sections of the respective codes.

3 Enforcement by certain bodies. Clarifies that the enforcement of the fire code by the state fire marshal falls under the direction of the commissioner of public safety.

4 Relation of building and fire codes. Requires the commissioners of administration and public safety to establish cooperative, written agreements addressing fire protection provisions of the respective codes.