

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

FILE NUMBER: H.F. 3029

DATE: February 28, 2002

Version: First Engrossment

Authors: Boudreau and others

Subject: Energy Code

Analyst: Wendy Simons, 651-296-5052

This publication can be made available in alternative formats upon request. Please call 651-296-6753 (voice); or the Minnesota State Relay Service at 1-800-627-3529 (TTY) for assistance. Summaries are also available on our website at: www.house.mn/hrd.

Overview

This bill would repeal the specific requirements currently in statute governing air intake and exhaust requirements for new homes once the Department of Administration has adopted new rules in the mechanical code to address combustion air and make-up air in residential construction. The bill also directs the Department of Administration to adopt a new energy code for one- and two-family residential buildings, after examining available model codes.

Section

1 **Energy code rules.** Repeals certain statutory requirements relating to air intake and exhaust requirements in new homes. The repeal of these requirements is effective when the commissioner of administration adopts rules addressing combustion air and make-up air in residential construction as part of the mechanical code.

The remainder of current section 16B.617, containing some transitional provisions relating to application of the energy code, is repealed when the commissioner adopts a new energy code.

2 **Energy code.** Requires the commissioner of administration, in consultation with the construction codes advisory council, to review and take steps to adopt a model energy codes for one and two-family residential buildings.

Provides that the commissioner may not adopt all or part of a model energy code relating to construction of residential buildings without research and analysis that addresses air quality, building durability, moisture, enforcement, enforceability cost benefit, and liability. Provides that this research and analysis must be completed in cooperation with practitioners in residential construction and building science, and an affirmative recommendation by the construction codes advisory council.

3 **Effective date.** Authorizes the commissioner of administration to adopt combustion air and make-up air rules for residential construction. Provides that current statutory requirements on

this topic are repealed when the rules are adopted. Section 2 is effective the day following final enactment.