

Ohio House Bill 7

As Passed by the Ohio House of Representatives

Energy Efficient State Buildings

Sponsored by Representative Marion Harris

OEC's Summary

SUPPORT



Requires a building or structure constructed using state capital moneys to adhere to certain energy efficiency and building standards and to encourage the use of Ohio-produced products. Such state-funded projects must:

- 1) Achieve a rating of either Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) silver (or higher) or two green globes (or higher) from the Green Globes Environmental Assessment and Rating system by the Green Building Initiative, or an equivalent standard as determined by ODAS.
- 2) Exceed by at least 30% the most current energy efficiency standards developed by ASHRAE or achieve a national energy performance rating of not less than 77 using the Energy Star system.
- 3) Make a reasonable effort to use Ohio products and materials and to recoup the costs of implementing the requirements over a period of not more than twenty years as measured by reduced energy costs.

OEC's Perspective

Imagine a state law that could assure the public that all new state-funded building projects will be engineered to save taxpayers money, improve the physical workplace, and reduce energy use and environmental impacts.

Sound too good to be true? Think again.

House Bill 7 proposes employing the latest in building design, construction, and operation standards to:

- Reduce building life cycle costs for energy use, building maintenance and operation;
- Safeguard occupant health and improve worker productivity through improved indoor air quality, capture and use of natural light, and improved work space design;
- Enhance energy savings and water efficiency while reducing air emissions.

The legislation even includes a “Buy Ohio” provision to encourage the use of Ohio

The Ohio Environmental Council strongly supports this bill.

Bill Ratings



This legislation will help resolve a serious problem that threatens Ohio's environment and demonstrates significant leadership for Ohio's future.



This legislation will benefit Ohio's environment or shows foresight in setting future environmental policy.



This legislation will somewhat - or on balance - benefit Ohio's environment.



This legislation will cause substantial harm to Ohio's environment and demonstrates serious disregard for Ohio's future.



This legislation will harm Ohio's environment or sets the state on the wrong path for future environmental policy.



This legislation will somewhat - or on balance - harm Ohio's environment.