

By: Uresti

H.B. No. 2857

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to increasing certain new construction energy efficiency standards and reducing the consumption of natural resources.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 388.002, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Subdivision (13) to read as follows:

(13) "Energy Star program" means the federal program that authorizes the placement of the ENERGY STAR label on appliances that meet energy efficiency criteria set by the United States Environmental Protection Agency or the United States Department of Energy.

SECTION 2. Chapter 388, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Sections 388.0112, 388.012, and 388.013 to read as follows:

Sec. 388.0112. RESIDENTIAL RECOMMENDATIONS FOR NEW CONSTRUCTION. A builder may show compliance with the applicable standards developed under this chapter by:

(1) using and meeting the passing level of residential construction compliance software developed specifically for north central Texas that incorporates amendments to the International Energy Conservation Code recommended by the North Central Texas Council of Governments and raises the passing level to 15 percent above the International Energy Conservation Code standards;

(2) using windows that meet higher ratings

1 requirements; or

2 (3) participating in the Energy Star program or
3 another approved above-code program with 100 percent testing of
4 houses.

5 Sec. 388.012. NONRESIDENTIAL RECOMMENDATIONS FOR NEW
6 CONSTRUCTION. For nonresidential construction, a builder may show
7 compliance with the applicable energy efficiency standards under
8 this chapter and those amended under the 2003 International Energy
9 Conservation Code by meeting the 2003 amended:

10 (1) cool roof standards;

11 (2) variable speed control standards for fans; or

12 (3) lighting efficiency standards.

13 Sec. 388.013. APPLIANCE STANDARDS FOR APPLIANCES NOT
14 FEDERALLY REGULATED. The State Energy Conservation Office may set
15 energy efficiency standards for appliances that are not federally
16 regulated.

17 SECTION 3. Sections 388.0112 and 388.012, Health and Safety
18 Code, as added by this Act, apply only to new construction completed
19 on or after the effective date of this Act.

20 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2005.