

By: Ritter

H.B. No. 230

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to an optional premium discount for certain resource-efficient buildings.

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

SECTION 1. The heading of Subchapter A, Chapter 2006, Insurance Code, as effective April 1, 2007, is amended to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER A. OPTIONAL PREMIUM DISCOUNT FOR CERTAIN STRUCTURES

~~[USE OF INSULATING CONCRETE FORM SYSTEM]~~

SECTION 2. Section 2006.001, Insurance Code, as effective April 1, 2007, is amended by adding Subdivision (1-a) to read as follows:

(1-a) "High-performance building" means a structure that is designed, constructed, renovated, and operated in a resource-efficient manner.

SECTION 3. The heading of Section 2006.002, Insurance Code, as effective April 1, 2007, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 2006.002. OPTIONAL PREMIUM DISCOUNT: INSULATING CONCRETE FORM SYSTEM.

SECTION 4. Subchapter A, Chapter 2006, Insurance Code, as effective April 1, 2007, is amended by adding Section 2006.0025 to read as follows:

Sec. 2006.0025. OPTIONAL PREMIUM DISCOUNT: HIGH-PERFORMANCE BUILDING. (a) In accordance with the rules

1 adopted by the commissioner under this subchapter, an insurer may  
2 grant to an applicant a discount in the applicant's property  
3 insurance premiums for insured property on receipt of written  
4 verification from the applicant that a covered structure is a  
5 high-performance building.

6 (b) The commissioner by rule shall prescribe the  
7 requirements for determining that a structure is a high-performance  
8 building. The requirements may address:

9 (1) energy conservation and the use of renewable  
10 energy;

11 (2) water conservation;

12 (3) use of recyclable or reclaimed materials;

13 (4) protection of the health of building occupants;

14 (5) improvement of the work productivity of building  
15 occupants;

16 (6) improvement in the durability of the structure;  
17 and

18 (7) reduction of the overall environmental impact of  
19 the structure.

20 (c) Verification under this section must comply with the  
21 requirements prescribed by the commissioner.

22 SECTION 5. This Act applies only to an insurance policy that  
23 is delivered, issued for delivery, or renewed on or after January 1,  
24 2008. A policy that is delivered, issued for delivery, or renewed  
25 before January 1, 2008, is governed by the law as it existed  
26 immediately before the effective date of this Act, and that law is  
27 continued in effect for that purpose.

1 SECTION 6. This Act takes effect September 1, 2007.