

1-1 By: Seliger S.B. No. 658
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed February 15, 2007;
1-3 February 28, 2007, read first time and referred to Committee on
1-4 Business and Commerce; April 11, 2007, reported favorably by the
1-5 following vote: Yeas 8, Nays 0; April 11, 2007, sent to printer.)

1-6 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-7 AN ACT

1-8 relating to an energy-efficient building accreditation program.

1-9 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-10 SECTION 1. Subtitle D, Title 16, Property Code, is amended
1-11 by adding Chapter 431 to read as follows:

1-12 CHAPTER 431. ENERGY-EFFICIENT BUILDING ACCREDITATION PROGRAM

1-13 Sec. 431.001. ENERGY-EFFICIENT BUILDING ACCREDITATION
1-14 PROGRAM. (a) In this section, "National Housing Act" means
1-15 Section 203(b), (i), or (k) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C.
1-16 Sections 1709(b), (i), and (k)).

1-17 (b) The commission, in consultation with the Energy Systems
1-18 Laboratory at the Texas Engineering Experiment Station of The Texas
1-19 A&M University System, the Texas Commission on Environmental
1-20 Quality, and an advisory committee appointed by the commission, may
1-21 establish an energy-efficient building accreditation program for
1-22 buildings that exceed the building energy performance standards
1-23 under Section 388.003, Health and Safety Code, by 15 percent or
1-24 more.

1-25 (c) If the commission establishes a program under this
1-26 chapter, the commission, in consultation with the Energy Systems
1-27 Laboratory, shall update the program on or before December 1 of each
1-28 even-numbered year using the best available energy-efficient
1-29 building practices.

1-30 (d) If the commission establishes a program under this
1-31 chapter, the program must include a checklist system to produce an
1-32 energy-efficient building scorecard to help:

1-33 (1) home buyers compare potential homes and, by
1-34 providing a copy of the completed scorecard to a mortgage lender,
1-35 qualify for energy-efficient mortgages under the National Housing
1-36 Act; and

1-37 (2) communities qualify for emissions reduction
1-38 credits by adopting codes that meet or exceed the energy-efficient
1-39 building or energy performance standards established under Chapter
1-40 388, Health and Safety Code.

1-41 Sec. 431.002. PUBLIC INFORMATION PROGRAM. The commission
1-42 may establish a public information program to inform homeowners,
1-43 sellers, buyers, and others regarding energy-efficient building
1-44 ratings.

1-45 Sec. 431.003. MEASUREMENT SYSTEM FOR REDUCTION IN ENERGY
1-46 AND EMISSIONS. If the commission establishes a program under this
1-47 chapter, the Energy Systems Laboratory shall establish a system to
1-48 measure the reduction in energy and emissions produced under the
1-49 energy-efficient building program and report those savings to the
1-50 commission.

1-51 Sec. 431.004. CERTIFICATION FEE. If the commission
1-52 establishes a program under this chapter, the commission may set a
1-53 certification fee sufficient to cover the cost of administering the
1-54 program and pay for any education efforts conducted under this
1-55 chapter.

1-56 SECTION 2. Section 388.009, Health and Safety Code, is
1-57 repealed.

1-58 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2007.

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