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OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

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Office

H.B. 65
135th General Assembly

Bill Analysis

Version: As Introduced

Primary Sponsors: Reps. Callender and Fowler Arthur

Carla Napolitano, Attorney

SUMMARY

- Requires the State Fire Marshal to establish that the occupant load for a building does not include an exterior patio that has a means of egress on at least three sides and in which each means of egress is compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act.
- Requires the Director of Commerce, in collaboration with the State Fire Marshal, the Board of Building Standards, and representative of local building departments to develop guidelines for the enforcement of the Ohio Building Code and Fire Code in a coordinated manner.

DETAILED ANALYSIS

The bill requires the State Fire Marshal to establish in the state Fire Code that the occupant load does not include an exterior patio that has a means of egress on at least three sides and in which each means of egress is compliant with standards established by the Americans with Disabilities Act.¹ Occupant load refers to the number of people permitted in a building at one time based on the building's floor space and function – the number of people for which the means of egress is designed. This standard established by the State Fire Marshal is not subject to the regulatory restriction requirements established in S.B. 9 of the 134th General Assembly.²

Additionally, the bill requires the Director of Commerce, in collaboration with the State Fire Marshal, the Board of Building Standards, and representatives of local building departments, to develop guidelines for the enforcement of the Ohio Building Code and state

¹ R.C. 3737.83(G)(1).

² R.C. 3737.83(G)(2); Ohio Administrative Code 1301:7-7-02, 1301:7-7-10, and 4101:1-2-01.

Fire Code in a coordinated manner, including the interaction of exemptions from one code with the requirements of the other code.³

HISTORY

Action	Date
Introduced	02-21-23

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³ R.C. 3781.062.