

HOUSE BILL 926

E4

4r2164
CF SB 1033

By: **Delegate Griffith**

Introduced and read first time: February 2, 2024

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

Committee Report: Favorable

House action: Adopted

Read second time: February 26, 2024

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Maryland Building Performance Standards – Local Requests for Guidance –**
3 **Religious Considerations**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the Maryland Department of Labor, on request of a local
5 jurisdiction and in consultation with the Office of the Attorney General, to provide
6 guidance for the implementation and enforcement of the Maryland Building
7 Performance Standards in relation to any religious observance, practice, or belief;
8 and generally relating to the Maryland Building Performance Standards.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
10 Article – Public Safety
11 Section 12–507
12 Annotated Code of Maryland
13 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

14 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
15 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

16 **Article – Public Safety**

17 12–507.

18 (a) The Department may:

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 (1) develop a voluntary forum that may be used, on request of a local
2 jurisdiction, to resolve conflicts that involve the Standards; and

3 (2) adopt regulations to carry out this subtitle.

4 (b) The Department:

5 (1) shall notify each local jurisdiction of each change to the International
6 Building Code and the impact the change will have on the local amendments in that local
7 jurisdiction;

8 (2) in conjunction with the Maryland Building Officials Association and
9 other interested organizations, shall provide training for local building officials on the
10 Standards and certify the participation of local building officials in the training; [and]

11 (3) on request, shall provide a local jurisdiction with technical assistance
12 to implement and enforce the Standards; AND

13 (4) ON REQUEST BY A LOCAL JURISDICTION AND IN CONSULTATION
14 WITH THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, SHALL PROVIDE GUIDANCE FOR
15 THE IMPLEMENTATION AND ENFORCEMENT OF THE STANDARDS IN RELATION TO
16 ANY RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCE, PRACTICE, OR BELIEF.

17 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
18 October 1, 2024.

Approved:

Governor.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.

President of the Senate.