



HOUSE BILL 141: Promote North Carolina Sawmills.

2021-2022 General Assembly

Committee: Senate Rules and Operations of the Senate	Date: June 22, 2022
Introduced by: Reps. Hanig, Sasser, Brody, Greene	Prepared by: Kyle Evans
Analysis of: Third Edition	Staff Attorney

OVERVIEW: *House Bill 141 would direct the Building Code Council to amend the North Carolina Residential Code for One- and Two-Family Dwellings to allow dimension lumber that has not been grade-stamped to be used in the construction of one- and two-family dwellings when certain conditions are met.*

CURRENT LAW: The North Carolina Residential Code for One- and Two-Family Dwellings currently requires that all sawn lumber and end-jointed lumber used for load-supporting purposes be identified by a grade mark or certification of inspection issued by a lumber grading or inspection agency.

BILL ANALYSIS:

Section 1.(a) of House Bill 141 would define "dimension lumber" for purposes of the bill.

Section 1.(b) would direct the Building Code Council to amend the North Carolina Residential Code for One- and Two-Family Dwellings to allow dimension lumber that has not been grade-stamped to be used in the construction of one- and two-family dwellings, if all of the following apply:

- The lumber is sold directly from the sawmill that milled the lumber to the owner of the dwelling to be constructed, or that person's authorized representative.
- The dimension lumber meets or exceeds the requirements of the Residential Code for One- and Two-Family Dwellings other than the requirements that only grade-stamped lumber be used in residential construction.
- An inspector who is certified by an accredited independent third-party entity of the American Lumber Standard Committee certifies that the lumber conforms with product and inspection standards under [American Softwood Lumber Standard PS 20](#) and marks the lumber with (i) the mill number, name, or abbreviation, (ii) the accrediting agency symbol, (iii) the species or combination of species of the lumber, (iv) whether the lumber was dry or green when manufactured as required by American Softwood Lumber Standard PS20, and (v) whether the lumber conforms with PS20 standards.
- The appropriate code enforcement official reviews the framing of the dwelling to ensure that it meets the requirements of the North Carolina Residential Code for One- and Two-Family Dwellings in all respects other than the requirements that only grade-stamped lumber be used in residential construction. The code enforcement official would not be liable for any structural failure that occurs because of the use of dimension lumber rather than grade-stamped lumber.

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House Bill 141

Page 2

Section 1.(c) would direct the Building Code Council to adopt temporary rules to implement the act.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This act would be effective when it becomes law and would expire when the Building Code Council has issued permanent rules substantially similar to Section 1.(b) of this act.

Jennifer McGinnis and Chris Saunders, Staff Attorneys with the Legislative Analysis Division, substantially contributed to this summary.