

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2007**

**SESSION LAW 2007-381  
SENATE BILL 581**

AN ACT TO ALLOW COUNTIES AND CITIES TO PROVIDE BUILDING PERMIT  
FEE REDUCTIONS OR PARTIAL REBATES TO ENCOURAGE  
CONSTRUCTION OF BUILDINGS USING SUSTAINABLE DESIGN  
PRINCIPLES TO ACHIEVE ENERGY EFFICIENCY.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

**SECTION 1.** G.S. 153A-340 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

"(i) In order to encourage construction that uses sustainable design principles and to improve energy efficiency in buildings, a county may charge reduced building permit fees or provide partial rebates of building permit fees for buildings that are constructed or renovated using design principles that conform to or exceed one or more of the following certifications or ratings:

- (1) Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification or higher rating under certification standards adopted by the U.S. Green Building Council.
- (2) A One Globe or higher rating under the Green Globes program standards adopted by the Green Building Initiative.
- (3) A certification or rating by another nationally recognized certification or rating system that is equivalent or greater than those listed in subdivisions (1) and (2) of this subsection."

**SECTION 2.** G.S. 160A-381 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

"(f) In order to encourage construction that uses sustainable design principles and to improve energy efficiency in buildings, a city may charge reduced building permit fees or provide partial rebates of building permit fees for buildings that are constructed or renovated using design principles that conform to or exceed one or more of the following certifications or ratings:

- (1) Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification or higher rating under certification standards adopted by the U.S. Green Building Council.
- (2) A One Globe or higher rating under the Green Globes program standards adopted by the Green Building Initiative.
- (3) A certification or rating by another nationally recognized certification or rating system that is equivalent or greater than those listed in subdivisions (1) and (2) of this subsection."

**SECTION 3.** This act is effective when it becomes law.  
In the General Assembly read three times and ratified this the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of August, 2007.

s/ Beverly E. Perdue  
President of the Senate

s/ Joe Hackney  
Speaker of the House of Representatives

s/ Michael F. Easley  
Governor

Approved 6:59 p.m. this 19<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2007