

HB 2398 ("Reach codes"), would allow local jurisdictions to go above and beyond the statewide building code, and instead adopt the state Reach Code as the mandatory base code for buildings in their jurisdiction. This would mean that all new buildings would be built to reduce energy waste, maximize energy use and reduce emissions. Allowing cities and counties to adopt the state Reach Code would ensure that all new buildings in their jurisdiction are being built to more energy efficient standards. We are at a point in time when we must act to do all we can to stop carbon emissions from continuing to destroy our once stable climate. If some of these measures appear to cost more now, they are stop gap measures for the costs that will come without our current efforts to slow climate change. I strongly support this measure.