

1 SB326  
2 150093-2  
3 By Senators Keahey and Whatley  
4 RFD: Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry  
5 First Read: 12-MAR-13

2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8 SYNOPSIS: This bill would specify that any green  
9 building standard used for construction or major  
10 renovation of public buildings by state and local  
11 governments would be required to use certain forest  
12 certification standards for wood consistent with  
13 standards used in the forest industry in this  
14 state.

15  
16 A BILL  
17 TO BE ENTITLED  
18 AN ACT

19  
20 Relating to public buildings constructed or  
21 renovated by state and local governments in this state; and to  
22 provide for certain standards relating to the use of wood as a  
23 part of a green building standard.

24 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

25 Section 1. The Legislature finds and declares that:

26 (1) The state should undertake initiatives that  
27 foster cost-efficient and ecologically responsible buildings.

1           (2) Reducing long-term operations and maintenance  
2 costs is essential to the economic health of our state,  
3 ensuring that taxpayer dollars are spent on delivery of  
4 critical services.

5           (3) Green building standards have the potential to  
6 increase the energy efficiency of buildings and, therefore,  
7 minimize operational costs.

8           Section 2. As used in this act, the following words  
9 shall have the following meanings:

10           (1) FOREST CERTIFICATION STANDARD. Any third-party  
11 verified standard dedicated to responsible forest management  
12 including the American Tree Farm System, the Sustainable  
13 Forestry Initiative, and the Forest Stewardship Council.

14           (2) GREEN BUILDING STANDARD. Any system or rating  
15 tool created to rate the environmental efficiency of the  
16 design and operation of a building including the United States  
17 Green Building Council (USGBC) Leadership in Energy and  
18 Environmental Design (LEED) rating system, the International  
19 Green Construction Code (IGCC), the Green Building  
20 Initiative's Green Globes rating system, or any other  
21 nationally recognized, high-performance green building rating  
22 system.

23           (3) MAJOR RENOVATION. Any project with a  
24 construction budget that equals 50 percent or more of the  
25 current replacement costs of a building.

26           (4) PUBLIC AGENCY. The State of Alabama including  
27 any department, office, board, commission, or agency thereof,

1 state supported institutions of higher learning, and any  
2 county, municipal, or other political subdivision.

3 Section 3. When state funding is used in whole or in  
4 part for the construction or major renovation of any public  
5 building, a green building standard shall not be used by any  
6 public agency for any construction or major renovation project  
7 that does not give certification credits equally to forest  
8 products grown, manufactured, and certified under all forest  
9 certification standards recognized including the Sustainable  
10 Forestry Initiative, the American Tree Farm System, and the  
11 Forest Stewardship Council.

12 Section 4. This act shall become effective on the  
13 first day of the third month following its passage and  
14 approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.