



OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Sub. Bill Comparative Synopsis

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Sub. H.B. 127

132nd General Assembly

(H. Economic Development, Commerce & Labor)

This table summarizes how the latest substitute version of the bill differs from the immediately preceding version. It addresses only the topics on which the two versions differ substantively. It does not list topics on which the two bills are substantively the same.

Topic	Previous Version (As Introduced)	Sub. Version (L_132_0525-1)
Welding standards	<p>Requires the Board of Building Standards (BBS) when adopting Ohio's Residential and Nonresidential Building Codes to adopt rules mandating that each of the following requirements be met in all construction projects involving structural steel welding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All welders on a project have been tested by and hold a valid certification from a facility that has been accredited by the American Welding Society (AWS). • All structural steel welding performed for the project incorporates methods that ensure all structural steel and bridge welds satisfy codes and standards for such welds established in the AWS Structural Steel Welding Code D1.1, AWS Bridge Welding Code D1.5, and the Ohio Building Code. 	<p>Prohibits a contractor, subcontractor, or project manager who is responsible for structural steel welding on a construction project from recklessly failing to ensure that the proposed requirements are met. Excludes bridge welding from the bill's requirements. Does not include these requirements in the Residential and Nonresidential Building Codes. (<i>R.C. 3781.40, 3781.41, and 3781.44.</i>)</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All structural steel welding inspections listed in a project's job specifications are completed by an inspector who has been certified by AWS to inspect structural steel welding projects and conduct welder qualification tests (<i>R.C. 3781.21</i>). 	
Enforcement	Requires, in accordance with continuing law, the Superintendent of Industrial Compliance or a building official certified by BBS to enforce the welding standards to be adopted by BBS under the bill as part of enforcing the Residential and Nonresidential Building Codes (<i>R.C. 3781.03(B)</i> , not in the bill).	Requires the Superintendent or a building official certified by the Superintendent to enforce the proposed welding standards (<i>R.C. 3781.03(B)(2)</i>).
Inspections	<p>Requires, in accordance with continuing law, BBS to certify local building departments, department personnel, and private entities to perform inspections for the purpose of enforcing the Residential and Nonresidential Building Codes, including the welding standards to be adopted by BBS under the bill (<i>R.C. 3781.10(E)</i>, not in the bill).</p> <p>Allows, under continuing law, a locality that does not have a building department certified by BBS to have inspections performed by either of the following BBS certified entities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A private firm pursuant to a contract to furnish architectural, engineering, or other services to the locality; Another political subdivision pursuant to a contract to furnish architectural, engineering, or other services (<i>R.C. 3781.10(E)(7)</i>, not in the bill). 	<p>Authorizes the Superintendent to certify local building departments, department personnel, and private firms to conduct inspections of structural steel welding projects to determine compliance with the proposed welding standards (<i>R.C. 3781.10(E)(14)</i> and <i>3781.43(A)</i>, with conforming changes in <i>R.C. 3781.06</i> and <i>3781.061</i>).</p> <p>Allows a locality that does not have a building department certified by the Superintendent to adopt a resolution or ordinance authorizing another certified building department or a certified private firm to inspect structural steel welding projects within the locality's jurisdiction. Permits the owner of a project or the contractor, subcontractor, or project manager to request an inspection and obtain an approval from a designated certified building department or a designated certified private firm (<i>R.C. 3781.43(C)</i>).</p>



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Investigations	Allows, in accordance with continuing law, BBS, independently or on an affected person's petition, after holding a hearing, to revoke or suspend an entity's certification to enforce the Residential and Nonresidential Building Codes, including the welding standards to be adopted by BBS under the bill (<i>R.C. 3781.10(E)(12)</i> , not in the bill).	Allows the Superintendent, independently or on the petition of a person affected by an inspection, to investigate a certified entity and, on a finding of facts, to revoke or suspend the entity's certification (<i>R.C. 3781.43(B)</i>).
Administrative rules	No provision.	Requires the Superintendent to adopt rules to do all of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Govern the inspection of structural steel welding; • Require the Division of Industrial Compliance or a certified entity to conduct all inspections of structural steel welding to determine compliance with the welding standards; • Establish requirements and procedures an entity must follow to become certified to perform inspections; • Establish fees for conducting inspections, becoming certified to perform inspections, and renewing a certification; • Govern the investigation of complaints against contractors, subcontractors, and project managers who fail to comply with the welding standards; • Develop a policy regarding records maintenance for inspections authorized or conducted pursuant to the bill (<i>R.C. 3781.42</i>).