CS/HB 971 2013

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to the Florida Fire Prevention Code; amending s. 633.0215, F.S.; providing that certain authorities in rural areas or small communities may decrease fire flow requirements; providing that fire officials shall enforce Florida Building Code provisions for occupancy separation for certain structures with certain occupancies; exempting certain farming and ranching structures from the code; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Subsection (16) is added to section 633.0215, Florida Statutes, to read:

633.0215 Florida Fire Prevention Code.-

- (16) (a) Fire flow requirements may be decreased by the authority that has jurisdiction over isolated buildings or a group of buildings in rural areas or small communities, as defined in the Florida Fire Prevention Code, if that authority determines that the development of full fire flow requirements is impractical.
- (b) For one-story or two-story structures that are less than 10,000 square feet, whose occupancy is defined in the Florida Building Code and the Florida Fire Prevention Code as business or mercantile, a fire official shall enforce the wall fire-rating provisions for occupancy separation as defined in the Florida Building Code.

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(c) A farming or ranching structure, as part of an
operation that employs fewer than 25 full-time equivalent
workers, calculated as cumulative hours worked divided by 40
hours, which is not used by the public for direct sales or as an
educational outreach facility, is exempt from the Florida Fire
Prevention Code, including the national codes and Life Safety
Code incorporated by reference. This paragraph does not include
structures used for residential or assembly occupancies, as
defined in the Florida Fire Prevention Code.
Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2013.