



NEWS **RELEASE**

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For immediate release:
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NEW RULES COULD EXPEDITE NEW HOME CONSTRUCTION FOR THE STATE

(Salem) The implementation of Senate Bill 587, which passed on the final day of the 1999 legislative session, will expedite building and plan reviews, ensure that qualified individuals are licensed as private plan reviewers and inspectors, increase consistency in statewide code compliance and interpretation, and provide for quicker appeals with its creation of "chief inspector" positions for all specialty codes.

The bill, which allows builders the option of third-party plan review if timelines are not met by local building departments and requires licensing of third-party providers, will become effective July 1.

A public informational workshop will be held in Eugene in the city council chambers, 777 Pearl Street, at 10:00 a.m. Tuesday, June 6. This is the third of four meetings planned across the state. The fourth meeting is scheduled for June 13 in Portland.

SB 587, benefiting builders and their customers, was drafted in response to building-industry concerns. Under this bill, simple one- and two-family-dwelling plans must be approved or disapproved within 10 or 15 days, depending on the population of the jurisdiction.

The bill also requires permit fees to be dedicated to building department activity and provides a licensing and oversight system of private third-party inspectors and plan reviewers.

Questions regarding licensing, timetables, and the public meetings may be directed to Nanci Johnston, BCD, (503) 378-5838; Mark Long, BCD, (503) 373-1227; or Bill Cross, Oregon Building Officials Association, (503) 873-1157. For copies of the materials to be presented at the work shops, call Louann Rahmig, BCD, (503) 373-7438 or send e-mail to louann.p.rahmig@state.or.us.

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