



CHESTER J. CULVER
GOVERNOR

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

PATTY JUDGE
LT. GOVERNOR

May 22, 2009

The Honorable Michael Mauro
Secretary of State
State Capitol Building
LOCAL

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I hereby transmit:

House File 705, an Act concerning safe rooms and storm shelters in newly constructed buildings.

The above House File is hereby approved this date.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chester J. Culver", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Chester J. Culver
Governor

CJC:bdj

cc: Secretary of the Senate
Chief Clerk of the House





HOUSE FILE 705

AN ACT

CONCERNING SAFE ROOMS AND STORM SHELTERS IN NEWLY CONSTRUCTED BUILDINGS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

Section 1. Section 103A.7, subsection 2, Code 2009, is amended by adding the following new paragraph:

NEW PARAGRAPH. h. Standards for safe rooms and storm shelters.

Sec. 2. NEW SECTION. 103A.8C STANDARDS FOR SAFE ROOMS AND STORM SHELTERS.

The commissioner, after consulting with and receiving recommendations from the department of public defense, the

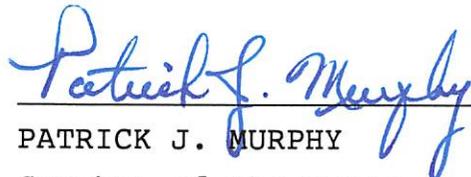
department of natural resources, and the rebuild Iowa office, shall adopt rules pursuant to chapter 17A specifying standards and requirements for design and construction of safe rooms and storm shelters. In developing these standards, the commissioner shall consider nationally recognized standards. The standards and requirements shall be incorporated into the state building code established in section 103A.7, but shall not be interpreted to require the inclusion of a safe room or storm shelter in a building construction project unless such inclusion is expressly required by another statute or by a federal statute or regulation. However, if a safe room or storm shelter is included in any building construction project which reaches the design development phase on or after January 1, 2011, compliance with the standards developed pursuant to this section shall be required.

The commissioner may provide education and training to promote the use of best practices in the design, construction, and maintenance of buildings, safe rooms, and shelters to reduce the risk of personal injury from tornadoes or other severe weather.

Sec. 3. STATE BUILDING CODE -- SAFE ROOMS AND STORM SHELTERS -- RULEMAKING. The initial administrative rules required to be adopted pursuant to section 103A.8C, as enacted by this Act, shall be adopted by the state building code commissioner on or after February 1, 2010, but no later than April 1, 2010, and shall not become effective prior to July 1, 2010.

Sec. 4. SAFE ROOMS AND STORM SHELTERS -- BEST PRACTICES REVIEW -- REPORT. The state building code commissioner, in cooperation with the department of public defense, the department of natural resources, and the rebuild Iowa office, shall review and assess best practices in the design, construction, and maintenance of buildings, safe rooms, and storm shelters to reduce the risk of personal injury from tornadoes and other severe weather. The commissioner shall report the findings of the review and assessment to the governor and the general assembly by December 15, 2009. The review and assessment shall be conducted as part of the rulemaking process for the initial rulemaking required pursuant to this Act and section 103A.8C, as enacted by this

Act, and shall include public comment received during that process.


PATRICK J. MURPHY
Speaker of the House


JOHN P. KIBBIE
President of the Senate

I hereby certify that this bill originated in the House and is known as House File 705, Eighty-third General Assembly.

Approved May 22nd, 2009


MARK BRANDSGARD
Chief Clerk of the House


CHESTER J. CULVER
Governor