



ABC SUPPORTS SENATE BILL 663

Bill Summary

Senate Bill 663 amends the Pennsylvania Construction Code Act (Act 45 of 1999) to require municipalities that self-enforce the Uniform Construction Code through contractual agreements with third-party agencies to make available three or more of those agencies to applicants. The current requirement is one or more agencies.

ABC Position

ABC supports Senate Bill 663 for the reasons listed below. We ask that you vote in support of the legislation.

- **Increases efficiency in the inspection process.** While municipalities maintain the right to initially approve all third-party inspection agencies, thereby ensuring that each agency meets the municipality's standards, an applicant would have the ability to work more efficiently with an experienced professional who is potentially more familiar with the applicant's type of work, can meet unique scheduling demands, and can develop working relationships with the applicant and municipality. These factors would not only decrease construction schedules, but save taxpayer dollars by improving the inspection process.
- **Adds accountability to the expenditure of taxpayer dollars.** SB 663 would require annual reports by municipalities utilizing third-party agencies that detail the actual cost of code inspection. If the amount of fees collected from applicants exceeds the actual cost of code inspection by more than 10%, the Department of Labor & Industry can readjust the fee schedules of that municipality, thereby ensuring a fair system for applicants.