CHAPTER 2011-79

House Bill No. 331

An act relating to firesafety; amending s. 633.01, F.S.; revising the rulemaking authority and responsibilities of the State Fire Marshal relating to educational and ancillary plants; amending s. 633.021, F.S.; revising the definition of the term "firesafety inspector"; amending s. 633.081, F.S.; revising requirements and procedures for inspections of buildings and equipment; abolishing special state firesafety inspector classifications and certifications; providing criteria, procedures, and requirements for special state firesafety inspectors to be certified as firesafety inspectors; amending s. 1013.12, F.S.; revising procedures and requirements for certain standards and inspection of educational property; providing procedures, criteria, and requirements for inspections of charter schools; providing reporting requirements; revising requirements for inspections of public postsecondary education facilities; deleting a provision requiring that the State Fire Marshal publish an annual report; amending s. 1013.371, F.S.; revising firesafety inspection requirements for educational institution boards to conform to certain codes: revising certain code enforcement authority of such boards; amending s. 1013.38, F.S.; requiring educational institution boards to submit certain facility site plans to certain local governmental entities for review; authorizing such entities to review site plans for compliance with certain provisions of the Florida Fire Prevention Code; specifying that site plans are not subject to local ordinances or local amendments to the Florida Fire Prevention Code: providing criteria for approving site plans and correcting firesafety compliance deficiencies; providing for referral of disputes to the State Fire Marshal: authorizing such boards to use certain firesafety inspectors for certain compliance reviews; imposing additional requirements for such boards relating to construction, renovation, or remodeling of educational facilities; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Subsection (7) of section 633.01, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

633.01 State Fire Marshal; powers and duties; rules.—

(7) The State Fire Marshal, in consultation with the Department of Education, shall adopt and administer rules prescribing standards for the safety and health of occupants of educational and ancillary facilities pursuant to ss. 633.022, 1013.12, 1013.37, and 1013.371. In addition, in any county that does not employ or appoint a firesafety inspector certified under s. 633.081 local fire official, the State Fire Marshal shall assume the duties of the local county, municipality, or independent special fire control district as defined in s. 191.003 fire official with respect to firesafety inspections of educational property required under s. 1013.12(3)(b), and

1

the State Fire Marshal may take necessary corrective action as authorized under s. 1013.12(7)(6).

Section 2. Subsection (11) of section 633.021, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

633.021 Definitions.—As used in this chapter:

(11) A "firesafety inspector" is an individual <u>certified by the State Fire</u> <u>Marshal under s. 633.081 who is</u> officially assigned the duties of conducting firesafety inspections of buildings and facilities on a recurring or regular basis on behalf of the state or any county, municipality, or special district with firesafety responsibilities.

Section 3. Section 633.081, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

633.081 Inspection of buildings and equipment; orders; firesafety inspection training requirements; certification; disciplinary action.—The State Fire Marshal and her or his agents shall, at any reasonable hour, when the State Fire Marshal has reasonable cause to believe that a violation of this chapter or s. 509.215, or a rule promulgated thereunder, or a minimum firesafety code adopted by <u>the State Fire Marshal or</u> a local authority, may exist, inspect any and all buildings and structures which are subject to the requirements of this chapter or s. 509.215 and rules promulgated thereunder. The authority to inspect shall extend to all equipment, vehicles, and chemicals which are located <u>on or</u> within the premises of any such building or structure.

(1) Each county, municipality, and special district that has firesafety enforcement responsibilities shall employ or contract with a firesafety inspector. Except as provided in s. 633.082(2), the firesafety inspector must conduct all firesafety inspections that are required by law. The governing body of a county, municipality, or special district that has firesafety enforcement responsibilities may provide a schedule of fees to pay only the costs of inspections conducted pursuant to this subsection and related administrative expenses. Two or more counties, municipalities, or special districts that have firesafety enforcement responsibilities may jointly employ or contract with a firesafety inspector.

(2) Except as provided in s. 633.082(2), every firesafety inspection conducted pursuant to state or local firesafety requirements shall be by a person certified as having met the inspection training requirements set by the State Fire Marshal. Such person shall:

(a) Be a high school graduate or the equivalent as determined by the department;

(b) Not have been found guilty of, or having pleaded guilty or nolo contendere to, a felony or a crime punishable by imprisonment of 1 year or more under the law of the United States, or of any state thereof, which

 $\mathbf{2}$

involves moral turpitude, without regard to whether a judgment of conviction has been entered by the court having jurisdiction of such cases;

(c) Have her or his fingerprints on file with the department or with an agency designated by the department;

(d) Have good moral character as determined by the department;

(e) Be at least 18 years of age;

(f) Have satisfactorily completed the firesafety inspector certification examination as prescribed by the department; and

(g)1. Have satisfactorily completed, as determined by the department, a firesafety inspector training program of not less than 200 hours established by the department and administered by agencies and institutions approved by the department for the purpose of providing basic certification training for firesafety inspectors; or

2. Have received in another state training which is determined by the department to be at least equivalent to that required by the department for approved firesafety inspector education and training programs in this state.

(3)(a)1. Effective July 1, 2013, the classification of special state firesafety inspector is abolished and all special state firesafety inspector certifications shall expire at midnight June 30, 2013.

2. Any person who is a special state firesafety inspector on June 30, 2013, and who has failed to comply with paragraph (b) or paragraph (c) may not perform any firesafety inspection required by law.

3. A special state firesafety inspector certificate may not be issued after June 30, 2011.

(b)1. Any person who is a special state firesafety inspector on July 1, 2011, and who has at least 5 years of experience as a special state firesafety inspector as of July 1, 2011, may take the firesafety inspection examination as provided in paragraph (2)(f) for firesafety inspectors before July 1, 2013, to be certified as a firesafety inspector under this section.

2. Upon passing the examination, the person shall be certified as a firesafety inspector as provided in this section.

3. A person who fails to become certified must comply with paragraph (c) to be certified as a firesafety inspector under this section.

(c)1. To be certified as a firesafety inspector under this section, any person who:

a. Is a special state firesafety inspector on July 1, 2011, and who does not have 5 years of experience as a special state firesafety inspector as of July 1, 2011; or

3

b. Has 5 years of experience as a special state firesafety inspector but has failed the examination taken as provided in paragraph (2)(f),

must take an additional 80 hours of the courses described in paragraph (2)(g).

2. After successfully completing the courses described in this paragraph, such person may take the firesafety inspection examination as provided in paragraph (2)(f), if such examination is taken before July 1, 2013.

3. Upon passing the examination, the person shall be certified as a firesafety inspector as provided in this section.

4. A person who fails the course of study or the examination described in this paragraph may not perform any firesafety inspection required by law on or after July 1, 2013. Each special state firesafety inspection which is required by law and is conducted by or on behalf of an agency of the state must be performed by an individual who has met the provision of subsection (2), except that the duration of the training program shall not exceed 120 hours of specific training for the type of property that such special state firesafety inspectors are assigned to inspect.

(4) A firefighter certified pursuant to s. 633.35 may conduct firesafety inspections, under the supervision of a certified firesafety inspector, while on duty as a member of a fire department company conducting inservice firesafety inspections without being certified as a firesafety inspector, if such firefighter has satisfactorily completed an inservice fire department company inspector training program of at least 24 hours' duration as provided by rule of the department.

(5) Every firesafety inspector or special state firesafety inspector certificate is valid for a period of 3 years from the date of issuance. Renewal of certification <u>is shall be</u> subject to the affected person's completing proper application for renewal and meeting all of the requirements for renewal as established under this chapter or by rule <u>adopted under this chapter</u> promulgated thereunder, which shall include completion of at least 40 hours during the preceding 3-year period of continuing education as required by the rule of the department or, in lieu thereof, successful passage of an examination as established by the department.

(6) The State Fire Marshal may deny, refuse to renew, suspend, or revoke the certificate of a firesafety inspector or special state firesafety inspector if <u>the State Fire Marshal</u> it finds that any of the following grounds exist:

(a) Any cause for which issuance of a certificate could have been refused had it then existed and been known to the State Fire Marshal.

(b) Violation of this chapter or any rule or order of the State Fire Marshal.

(c) Falsification of records relating to the certificate.

4

(d) Having been found guilty of or having pleaded guilty or nolo contendere to a felony, whether or not a judgment of conviction has been entered.

(e) Failure to meet any of the renewal requirements.

(f) Having been convicted of a crime in any jurisdiction which directly relates to the practice of fire code inspection, plan review, or administration.

(g) Making or filing a report or record that the certificateholder knows to be false, or knowingly inducing another to file a false report or record, or knowingly failing to file a report or record required by state or local law, or knowingly impeding or obstructing such filing, or knowingly inducing another person to impede or obstruct such filing.

(h) Failing to properly enforce applicable fire codes or permit requirements within this state which the certificateholder knows are applicable by committing willful misconduct, gross negligence, gross misconduct, repeated negligence, or negligence resulting in a significant danger to life or property.

(i) Accepting labor, services, or materials at no charge or at a noncompetitive rate from any person who performs work that is under the enforcement authority of the certificateholder and who is not an immediate family member of the certificateholder. For the purpose of this paragraph, the term "immediate family member" means a spouse, child, parent, sibling, grandparent, aunt, uncle, or first cousin of the person or the person's spouse or any person who resides in the primary residence of the certificateholder.

(7) The Division of State Fire Marshal and the Florida Building Code Administrators and Inspectors Board, established pursuant to s. 468.605, shall enter into a reciprocity agreement to facilitate joint recognition of continuing education recertification hours for certificateholders licensed under s. 468.609 and firesafety inspectors certified under subsection (2).

(8) The State Fire Marshal shall develop by rule an advanced training and certification program for firesafety inspectors having fire code management responsibilities. The program must be consistent with the appropriate provisions of NFPA 1037, or similar standards adopted by the division, and establish minimum training, education, and experience levels for firesafety inspectors having fire code management responsibilities.

(9) The department shall provide by rule for the certification of firesafety inspectors.

Section 4. Section 1013.12, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1013.12 Casualty, safety, sanitation, and firesafety standards and inspection of property.—

(1) FIRESAFETY.—The State Board of Education shall adopt and administer rules prescribing standards for the safety and health of occupants

 $\mathbf{5}$

of educational and ancillary plants as a part of State Requirements for Educational Facilities or the Florida Building Code for educational facilities construction as provided in s. 1013.37, except that the State Fire Marshal in consultation with the Department of Education shall adopt uniform firesafety standards for educational and ancillary plants and educational facilities, as provided in s. 633.022(1)(b), and a firesafety evaluation system to be used as an alternate firesafety inspection standard for existing educational and ancillary plants and educational facilities. The uniform firesafety standards and the alternate firesafety evaluation system shall be administered and enforced by local fire officials certified by the State Fire Marshal under s. 633.081. These standards must be used by all public agencies when inspecting public educational and ancillary plants, and the firesafety standards must be used by county, municipal, or independent special local fire control district inspectors officials when performing firesafety inspections of public educational and ancillary plants and educational facilities. In accordance with such standards, each board shall prescribe policies and procedures establishing a comprehensive program of safety and sanitation for the protection of occupants of public educational and ancillary plants. Such policies must contain procedures for periodic inspections as prescribed in this section or chapter 633 and for withdrawal of any educational and ancillary plant, or portion thereof, from use until unsafe or unsanitary conditions are corrected or removed.

(2) PERIODIC INSPECTION OF PROPERTY BY DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARDS.—

(a) Each board shall provide for periodic inspection, other than firesafety inspection, of each educational and ancillary plant at least once during each fiscal year to determine compliance with standards of sanitation and casualty safety prescribed in the rules of the State Board of Education.

(b) Each school cafeteria must post in a visible location and on the school website the school's semiannual sanitation certificate and a copy of its most recent sanitation inspection report.

(c) Under the direction of the fire official appointed by the board under s. 1013.371(2), firesafety inspections of each educational and ancillary plant located on property owned or leased by the board, or other educational facilities operated by the board, must be made no sooner than 1 year after issuance of a certificate of occupancy and annually thereafter. Such inspections shall be made by persons certified by the Division of State Fire Marshal <u>under s. 633.081</u> to be eligible to conduct firesafety inspections in public educational and ancillary plants. The board shall submit a copy of the firesafety inspection report to the <u>county</u>, <u>municipality</u>, or <u>independent special fire control district providing fire protection services to the school facility within 10 business days after the date of the inspection. Alternate schedules for delivery of reports may be agreed upon between the school district providing fire protection services to the school district providing fire protection services to the school district providing fire protection services in which delivery is impossible due to hurricanes or other natural disasters. Regardless, if</u>

6

immediate life-threatening deficiencies are noted in the report, the report shall be delivered immediately State Fire Marshal and, if there is a local fire official who conducts firesafety inspections, to the local fire official. In addition, the board and any other authority conducting the fire safety inspection shall certify to the State Fire Marshal that the annual inspection has been completed. The certification shall be made electronically or by such other means as directed by the State Fire Marshal.

(d) In each firesafety inspection report, the board shall include a plan of action and a schedule for the correction of each deficiency which have been formulated in consultation with the local fire control authority. If immediate life-threatening deficiencies are noted in any inspection, the board shall either take action to promptly correct the deficiencies or withdraw the educational or ancillary plant from use until such time as the deficiencies are corrected.

(3) INSPECTION OF EDUCATIONAL PROPERTY BY OTHER PUBLIC AGENCIES.—

(a) A safety or sanitation inspection of any educational or ancillary plant may be made at any time by the Department of Education or any other state or local agency authorized or required to conduct such inspections by either general or special law. Each agency conducting inspections shall use the standards adopted by the Commissioner of Education in lieu of, and to the exclusion of, any other inspection standards prescribed either by statute or administrative rule. The agency shall submit a copy of the inspection report to the board.

(b) One firesafety inspection of each educational or ancillary plant located on the property owned or leased by the board, or other educational or ancillary plants operated by the school board, and each public college may must be conducted <u>no sooner than 1 year after the issuance of the certificate</u> of occupancy and annually thereafter each fiscal year by the county, municipality, or <u>independent</u> special fire control district in which the plant is located using the standards adopted by the State Fire Marshal. The board <u>or public college</u> shall cooperate with the inspecting authority when a firesafety inspection is made by a governmental authority under this paragraph.

(c) In each firesafety inspection report <u>prepared pursuant to this</u> <u>subsection</u>, the <u>county</u>, <u>municipality</u>, <u>or independent special local</u> fire <u>control</u> <u>district</u>, <u>official</u> in conjunction with the board, shall include a plan of action and a schedule for the correction of each deficiency. If immediate lifethreatening deficiencies are noted in any inspection, the local <u>county</u>, <u>municipality</u>, <u>or independent special fire control district</u>, <u>in conjunction</u> <u>with the</u> fire official <u>appointed by the board</u>, shall <u>either</u> take action to require the board to promptly correct the deficiencies or withdraw the educational <u>or ancillary plant</u> facility from use until the deficiencies are corrected, subject to review by the State Fire Marshal who shall act within 10

7

days to ensure that the deficiencies are corrected or withdraw the <u>plant</u> facility from use.

(4) CORRECTIVE ACTION; DEFICIENCIES OTHER THAN FIRE-SAFETY DEFICIENCIES.—Upon failure of the board to take corrective action within a reasonable time, the agency making the inspection, other than a local fire official, may request the commissioner to:

(a) Order that appropriate action be taken to correct all deficiencies in accordance with a schedule determined jointly by the inspecting authority and the board; in developing the schedule, consideration must be given to the seriousness of the deficiencies and the ability of the board to obtain the necessary funds; or

(b) After 30 calendar days' notice to the board, order all or a portion of the educational or ancillary plant withdrawn from use until the deficiencies are corrected.

(5) INSPECTIONS OF CHARTER SCHOOLS NOT LOCATED ON BOARD-OWNED OR LEASED PROPERTY OR OTHERWISE OPERATED BY A SCHOOL BOARD.—

(a) A safety or sanitation inspection of any educational or ancillary plant may be made at any time by a state or local agency authorized or required to conduct such inspections by general or special law. The agency shall submit a copy of the inspection report to the charter school sponsor.

(b) One firesafety inspection of each charter school that is not located in facilities owned or leased by the board or a public college must be conducted each fiscal year by the county, municipality, or independent special fire control district in which the charter school is located using the standards adopted by the State Fire Marshal. Upon request, the inspecting authority shall provide a copy of each firesafety report to the board in the district in which the facility is located.

(c) In each firesafety inspection report and formulated in consultation with the charter school, the inspecting authority shall include a plan of action and a schedule for the correction of each deficiency. If any immediate lifethreatening deficiency is noted in any inspection, the inspecting authority shall take action to require the charter school to promptly correct each deficiency or withdraw the educational or ancillary plant from use until such time as all deficiencies are corrected.

(d) If the charter school fails to take corrective action within the period designated in the plan of action to correct any firesafety deficiency noted under paragraph (c), the county, municipality, or independent special fire control district shall immediately report the deficiency to the State Fire Marshal and the charter school sponsor. The State Fire Marshal has enforcement authority with respect to charter school educational and

8

ancillary plants and educational facilities as provided in chapter 633 for any building or structure.

 $\underline{(6)}(5)$ INSPECTIONS OF PUBLIC POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION FACILITIES.—

(a) Firesafety inspections of <u>public community</u> college facilities, <u>including</u> charter schools located on board-owned or board-leased facilities or otherwise operated by <u>public college boards</u>, shall <u>be made in accordance comply</u> with the Florida Fire Prevention Code, as adopted by the State Fire Marshal. Notwithstanding s. 633.0215, provisions of the code relating to inspections of such facilities are not subject to any local amendments as provided by s. 1013.371. Each public college facility shall be inspected annually by persons certified under s. 633.081 Board of Education rules.

(b) After each required firesafety inspection, the inspecting authority shall develop a plan of action to correct each deficiency identified. The public college shall provide a copy of each firesafety inspection report to the county, municipality, or independent special fire control district in which the facility is located.

(c)(b) Firesafety inspections of state universities shall comply with <u>the</u> <u>Florida Fire Prevention Code</u>, as adopted by the State Fire Marshal under s. <u>633.0215</u> regulations of the Board of Governors.

(7)(6) CORRECTIVE ACTION; FIRESAFETY DEFICIENCIES.—If a school Upon failure of the board, public college board, or charter school fails to correct any firesafety deficiency noted under this section take corrective action within the time designated in the plan of action to correct any firesafety deficiency noted under paragraph (2)(d) or paragraph (3)(c), the inspecting authority local fire official shall immediately report the deficiency to the State Fire Marshal, who has shall have enforcement authority with respect to educational and ancillary plants and educational facilities as provided in chapter 633 for any other building or structure.

(8)(7) ADDITIONAL STANDARDS.—In addition to any other rules adopted under this section or s. 633.022, the State Fire Marshal in consultation with the Department of Education shall adopt and administer rules prescribing the following standards for the safety and health of occupants of educational and ancillary plants:

(a) The designation of serious life-safety hazards, including, but not limited to, nonfunctional fire alarm systems, nonfunctional fire sprinkler systems, doors with padlocks or other locks or devices that preclude egress at any time, inadequate exits, hazardous electrical system conditions, potential structural failure, and storage conditions that create a fire hazard.

(b) The proper placement of functional smoke and heat detectors and accessible, unexpired fire extinguishers.

9

(c) The maintenance of fire doors without doorstops or wedges improperly holding them open.

(8) ANNUAL REPORT.—The State Fire Marshal shall publish an annual report to be filed with the substantive committees of the state House of Representatives and Senate having jurisdiction over education, the Commissioner of Education or his or her successor, the State Board of Education, the Board of Governors, and the Governor documenting the status of each board's firesafety program, including the improvement or lack thereof.

Section 5. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) and subsection (2) of section 1013.371, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1013.371 Conformity to codes.—

(1) CONFORMITY TO FLORIDA BUILDING CODE AND FLORIDA FIRE PREVENTION CODE REQUIRED FOR APPROVAL.—

(a) Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (b), all public educational and ancillary plants constructed by a board must conform to the Florida Building Code and the Florida Fire Prevention Code, and the plants are exempt from all other state building codes; county, municipal, or other local amendments to the Florida Building Code and local amendments to the Florida Fire Prevention Code; building permits, and assessments of fees for building permits, except as provided in s. 553.80; ordinances; road closures; and impact fees or service availability fees. Any inspection by local or state government must be based on the Florida Building Code and the Florida Fire Prevention Code. Each board shall provide for periodic inspection of the proposed educational plant during each phase of construction to determine compliance with the <u>Florida Building Code</u>, the Florida Fire Prevention <u>Code</u>, and the State Requirements for Educational Facilities.

(2) ENFORCEMENT BY BOARD.—It is the responsibility of each board to ensure that all plans and educational and ancillary plants meet the standards of the Florida Building Code and the Florida Fire Prevention Code and to provide for the enforcement of these codes in the areas of its jurisdiction. Each board shall provide for the proper supervision and inspection of the work. Each board may employ a chief building official or inspector and such other inspectors, who have been certified pursuant to chapter 468, and a fire official and such other inspectors, who have been certified pursuant to chapter 633, and such personnel as are necessary to administer and enforce the provisions of such codes this code. Boards may also use local building department inspectors who are certified by the department to enforce the Florida Building Code and the State Requirements for Educational Facilities this code. Boards may also use local county, municipal, or independent special fire control district firesafety inspectors who are certified by the State Fire Marshal to conduct reviews of site plans and inspections and to enforce the Florida Fire Prevention Code. Plans or facilities that fail to meet the standards of the Florida Building Code or the

10

Florida Fire Prevention Code may not be approved. When planning for and constructing an educational, auxiliary, or ancillary facility, a board must use construction materials and systems that meet standards adopted pursuant to s. 1013.37(1)(e)3. and 4. If the planned or actual construction of a facility deviates from the adopted standards, the board must, at a public hearing, quantify and compare the costs of constructing the facility with the proposed deviations and in compliance with the adopted standards and the Florida Building Code. The board must explain the reason for the proposed deviations and compare how the total construction costs and projected lifecycle costs of the facility or component system of the facility would be affected by implementing the proposed deviations rather than using materials and systems that meet the adopted standards.

Section 6. Section 1013.38, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1013.38 Boards to ensure that facilities comply with building codes and life safety codes.—

(1) Boards shall ensure that all new construction, removation, remodeling, day labor, and maintenance projects conform to the appropriate sections of the Florida Building Code, Florida Fire Prevention Code, or, where applicable as authorized in other sections of law, other building codes, and life safety codes.

(a) For each proposed new facility and each proposed new facility addition exceeding 2,500 square feet, the board shall submit for review a minimum of one copy of the site plan to the local county, municipality, or independent special fire control district providing fire-protection services to the facility.

(b) The local county, municipality, or independent special fire control district may review each site plan for compliance with the applicable provisions of the Florida Fire Prevention Code relating to fire department access roads, fire-protection system connection locations, and fire hydrant spacing. Such site plans are not subject to local amendments to the Florida Fire Prevention Code or local ordinances as provided in s. 1013.371. Site plan reviews conducted pursuant to this section shall be performed at no charge to the school board or public college board.

(c) The site plan shall be deemed approved unless the local county, municipality, or independent special fire control district submits to the fire official appointed by the board, in writing, any deficiencies identified with reference to specific provisions of the Florida Fire Prevention Code within 15 days after receipt of the site plan. The fire official shall incorporate such comments into his or her review and subsequent inspections.

(d) If the local county, municipality, or independent special fire control district and the fire official appointed by the board do not agree on the requirements or application of the Florida Fire Prevention Code, either party

11

may refer the matter to the State Fire Marshal, who shall have final administrative authority in resolving the matter.

(2) <u>In addition to the submission of site plans</u>, boards may provide compliance as follows:

(a) Boards or consortia may individually or cooperatively provide review services under the insurance risk management oversight through the use of board employees or consortia employees, registered pursuant to chapter 471, chapter 481, or part XII of chapter 468 <u>and firesafety inspectors certified under s. 633.081</u>.

(b) Boards may elect to review construction documents using their own employees registered pursuant to chapter 471, chapter 481, or part XII of chapter 468 and firesafety inspectors certified under s. 633.081.

(c) Boards may submit phase III construction documents for review to the department.

(d) Boards or consortia may contract for plan review services directly with engineers and architects registered pursuant to chapter 471 or chapter 481 and firesafety inspectors certified under s. 633.081.

(3) The Department of Management Services may, upon request, provide facilities services for the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind, the Division of Blind Services, and public broadcasting. As used in this section, the term "facilities services" means project management, code and design plan review, and code compliance inspection for projects as defined in s. 287.017(5).

(4)(a) Before the commencement of any new construction, renovation, or remodeling, the board shall:

1. Approve or cause to be approved the construction documents and evaluate such documents for compliance with the Florida Building Code and the Florida Fire Prevention Code.

2. Ensure compliance with all applicable firesafety codes and standards by contracting with a firesafety inspector certified by the State Fire Marshal under s. 633.081.

(b) A certificate of occupancy may not be issued until the board, through its designated certified building official, has determined that the building or structure and its site conditions comply with all applicable statutes and rules.

(c) The method of compliance as chosen by the board pursuant to subsection (2) shall be documented and maintained as part of the construction record file.

12

(d) Upon request by the local county, municipality, or independent special fire control district, the board shall provide reasonable access to all construction documents.

Section 7. This act shall take effect July 1, 2011.

Approved by the Governor May 31, 2011.

Filed in Office Secretary of State May 31, 2011.