

State of Texas
House of Representatives



Charlie Geren

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To Whom It May Concern:

Re: Author's Legislative Intent: House Bill 3215

Chapter 388 of the Texas Health and Safety Code provides several compliance pathways to meet the Texas's Building Energy Performance Standards. In the 87th legislative session, I passed House bill 3215, which is intended to do as follows:

1) provide a separate universal performance-based compliance pathway based on the "home energy rating system index" commonly referred to - as of January 1, 2021 - as ANSI/RESNET/ICC 301-2019 or a HERS® Index, that shall be considered in compliance with the state's Building Energy Performance Standards and that shall be accepted by Texas municipalities and,

2) to extend the sunset date for this and other currently accepted energy rating index pathways, setting more stringent scores during that extension. HB 3215 also requires builders and homeowners who elect to use this new home energy rating system index pathway to also meet the 2018 thermal envelope and other requirements.

Specifically, these prerequisites include the mandatory requirements of Section R406.2 of the 2018 International Energy Conservation Code and envelope performance equal to or greater than the levels of efficiency and solar heat gain coefficient in Table R402.1.2 or Table R402.1.4. The prescriptive building envelope references in Table R402.1.2 or Table R402.1.4 override any conflicting provisions in Section R406.2. Furthermore, homes that meet the calculation criteria of R402.1.5 (Total UA Alternative) of the 2018 International Energy Conservation Code shall meet the intent of the prerequisite prescriptive envelope references in this bill.

HB 3215 is not intended to modify or restrict any other compliance pathways or overlay energy code enumerated in Chapter 388. This includes a municipality's ability to amend them to the extent authorized by law.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Charlie Geren".

Charlie Geren