

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2023

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SENATE BILL DRS35027-NK-27

Short Title: Promote North Carolina Sawmills. (Public)

Sponsors: Senators Hanig, Jarvis, and Moffitt (Primary Sponsors).

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT TO PROMOTE LOCAL SAWMILLS BY ALLOWING THE USE OF UNGRADED  
3 LUMBER IN CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES.

4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

5 **SECTION 1.(a)** Definition. – For purposes of this act, "dimension lumber" means  
6 lumber that has not been grade-stamped under the authority of a lumber grading bureau.

7 **SECTION 1.(b)** The North Carolina Building Code Council shall amend the North  
8 Carolina Residential Code for One- and Two-Family Dwellings in order to permit dimension  
9 lumber that has not been grade-stamped under the authority of a lumber grading bureau to be  
10 used in the construction of one- and two-family dwellings, when that use meets all of the  
11 following requirements:

- 12 (1) The lumber is sold directly by the owner or employee of the sawmill that  
13 milled the lumber to the owner of the dwelling to be constructed or that  
14 person's authorized representative.
- 15 (2) The dimension lumber meets or exceeds the requirements of the North  
16 Carolina Residential Code for One- and Two-Family Dwellings other than the  
17 requirements that only grade-stamped lumber be used in residential  
18 construction.
- 19 (3) An inspector certified by an accredited independent third-party entity of the  
20 American Lumber Standard Committee certifies that the lumber conforms  
21 with product and inspection standards under American Softwood Lumber  
22 Standard PS20 and marks the lumber with (i) the mill number, name, or  
23 abbreviation, (ii) the accrediting agency symbol, (iii) the species or  
24 combination of species of the lumber, (iv) whether the lumber was dry or  
25 green when manufactured as required by American Softwood Lumber  
26 Standard PS20, and (v) whether the lumber conforms with PS20 standards.
- 27 (4) The appropriate code enforcement official reviews the framing of the dwelling  
28 to ensure that it meets the requirements of the North Carolina Residential  
29 Code for One- and Two-Family Dwellings in all respects other than the  
30 requirements that only grade-stamped lumber be used in residential  
31 construction. The code enforcement official shall not be liable for any  
32 structural failure that occurs as a result of the use of dimension lumber rather  
33 than grade-stamped lumber.

34 **SECTION 1.(c)** The Building Code Council shall issue temporary rules to  
35 implement the requirements of this act.



1           **SECTION 2.** This act is effective when it becomes law and expires when the  
2 Building Code Council has issued permanent rules substantially similar to Section 1(b) of this  
3 act and notifies the Codifier of Statutes that it has done so.