

Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DOA 5/12/2023

LRB Number	23-0565/1	Introduction Number	AB-0197	Estimate Type	Original
Description procedures for reviewing commercial building plans					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

2023 Assembly Bill 197 (AB-197) relates to procedures for the required approval of commercial building plans and plumbing plans by the Department of Safety and Professional Services (DPS).

Section 1 of AB-197 deals with commercial building plans and would establish options by which building owners may schedule the date for the examination of essential drawings, calculations, and specifications, as well as provisions related to the cancellation of a scheduled examination. In the first option, the owner may choose to be scheduled for the next available appointment provided they have submitted complete essential drawings, calculations and specifications, and have paid the plan examination fee at the time of scheduling. Alternatively, the owner may choose to schedule the examination for a single date in the future provided they have paid all plan examination fees. In this second option, the owner must submit all required materials at least 3 business days before the scheduled date of examination. If an owner cancels the examination appointment at least 20 business days before the appointment, DPS would refund the plan examination fee to the owner. However, if an owner cancels the appointment within 20 days of the appointment, DPS would not refund the fee. If, however, the owner pays an amount greater than \$5,000 for an examination fee and cancels the appointment within 20 business days, they would be refunded the difference between the examination fee and \$5,000.

Section 1 of AB-197 also requires DPS to provide an opportunity to identify any previously approved essential drawings, calculations, and specifications that are "substantially similar to those submitted by the owner" on the submission form.

Section 2 of AB-197 deals with plumbing plans and would restrict DPS from requiring an examination of such plans and specifications in instances where the plans include 20 plumbing fixtures or less and were prepared by a licensed or registered professional as specified in the section. This restriction does not apply to plans and specifications that include various types of alternative or particular installations, additions, or alterations which are outlined specifically in the bill. Current DPS administrative rules generally do not require such examinations for plans including less than 16 plumbing fixtures, subject to certain conditions.

All provisions of the bill would be effective 6 months following the publication of the enacted legislation.

The Department of Administration does not anticipate any fiscal impact on its operations related to AB-197, nor is a fiscal impact anticipated for local units of government.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications