

Reported Recommending .....  
Ind. Postponed .....  
Passed Senate .....  
Failed to Pass Senate .....  
Passed House .....  
Failed to Pass House .....

**S. J. R. 3**

January 30, 1947

By LUCAS, ZASTROW, KNUDSON  
BYERS, HULTMAN, MAYTAG,  
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## **SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION**

Providing for the appointment of a State Building Code Council by the Governor to prepare a modern and uniform State Building Code establishing minimum standards for buildings to be used by the public together with a proposed revision and codification of the laws of Iowa relating to building construction, providing for the scope of the work of the Council, providing for a report of the Council to the Governor, and making an appropriation to carry out the provisions of the resolution.

*WHEREAS*, the life, health, safety and economy of the citizens of the State of Iowa are affected by and depend upon safe and sound construction; and

*WHEREAS*, the State of Iowa through acts of the legislature and municipalities through city ordinances, have endeavored to protect citizens through the adoption of laws, regulations and codes; and

*WHEREAS*, the present statutes concerning building construction and building codes of most cities contain numerous conflicts, uncertainties and omissions which are detrimental to and interfere with safe, sound, healthful, efficient and economic construction; and

*WHEREAS*, greater economy and safety can be effected by the availability of a modern and uniform code for the entire State of Iowa; and

*WHEREAS*, there is urgent need for minimum standards of practice and construction for public buildings to alleviate particularly fire hazards and losses; and

*WHEREAS*, all new developments in the methods, materials and technical knowledge related to building construction should be utilized to full advantage in the expenditure of public

funds; and

*WHEREAS*, there will be a large amount of building construction for public and private use in the postwar period; now therefore,

*Be It Resolved by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:*

1 Section 1. The Governor of the state of Iowa shall  
2 appoint, within sixty (60) days after the passage of this act,  
3 a Building Code Council of ten (10) members. The membership  
4 of this Council shall include two (2) Engineers, two (2)  
5 Architects and four (4) Laymen at least two (2) of whom shall  
6 be members of the General Assembly. The Council shall have  
7 the power to make final decisions in all matters pertaining  
8 to the preparation of a proposed uniform State Building Code  
9 of Iowa; they shall elect one of their members to act as  
10 chairman. The Council shall employ a Technical Secretary and  
11 clerical assistants and prescribe their duties. The Council  
12 shall be assisted by an ex-officio Advisory Committee including  
13 a representative of the State Architect, the State Fire Marshal,  
14 the Director of Public Health Engineering of the Department of  
15 Health, the State Board of Education, the Superintendent of  
16 Public Instruction, the Attorney General, the Commissioner of  
17 Labor, and the State Building Code Central Committee which  
18 consists of members officially designated by established  
19 organizations in Iowa interested in buildings to be used by the  
20 public.

1 Sec. 2. The Council shall prepare, or cause to be prepared  
2 with the aid of a Technical Secretary and the Advisory Committee,

3 a proposed modern and uniform State Building Code with a  
4 declaration of principles regarding minimum standards for the  
5 State of Iowa; this Code shall include the revision and  
6 codification of the present laws of Iowa in all matters  
7 relating to building construction; this Code shall in no way  
8 restrict or be applicable to private farm buildings and to one  
9 or two family dwellings. The Council shall be empowered to  
10 conduct fact-finding surveys and necessary investigations. The  
11 Council shall be empowered to call for consultation qualified  
12 persons in the field of building construction and such matters  
13 as relate thereto; and to pay such persons their expenses and  
14 such compensation as may be determined by the Council. The  
15 Council shall adopt such rules and regulations as it may deem  
16 necessary to govern its own procedure. The Council may call upon  
17 state, county and municipal agencies for information and  
18 assistance. The Council shall enter upon their duties within  
19 thirty (30) days after their appointment by the Governor and  
20 their duties shall terminate upon the completion of their  
21 report to the Governor; but, they shall be available to the  
22 General Assembly for consultation during the consideration of  
23 the proposed uniform State Building Code. The Council shall  
24 complete and file with the Governor a report upon a uniform  
25 State Building Code not later than sixty (60) days preceding  
26 the convening of the Fifty-Third (53d) General Assembly; and,  
27 thereupon, the Governor shall cause one-thousand copies of the  
28 same to be printed and have copies placed in the hands of the

29 members of the Fifty-Third (53d) General Assembly, as early as  
30 possible prior to the convening of the said Fifty-Third (53d)  
31 General Assembly and in addition have copies available for  
32 municipalities and other interested groups. During and after  
33 the preparation of the report of the Council to be submitted to  
34 the Governor, state agencies, school districts and municipalities  
35 choosing by ordinance may utilize standards of practice as such  
36 become available from the work and said report or in portions  
37 of sections thereof not in conflict with the laws of Iowa.

1     Sec. 3. The members of the Council shall receive no  
2 compensation but shall receive their actual and necessary  
3 expenses including travel incurred in the performance of their  
4 duties. The Council shall be empowered to choose and shall  
5 fix the salary of the Technical Secretary, who shall not be a  
6 member of the Council. The Technical Secretary shall attend  
7 the meetings of the Council and serve as its secretary, and  
8 shall have general charge of the work of the Council, subject  
9 to its orders and direction, and shall serve at the pleasure of  
10 the Council. The Council shall also fix and pay the salaries  
11 of such clerical assistants as may be necessary. All salaries  
12 of said employees and expenses incurred by the Council shall  
13 be verified and approved by the chairman thereof and referred  
14 to the State Comptroller who shall issue warrants for the same  
15 from funds hereinafter appropriated to the Council.

1     Sec. 4. There is hereby appropriated from the General  
2 Fund of the State the sum of twenty-five thousand (\$25,000)

3 dollars or so much thereof as may be necessary for the purpose  
4 of carrying out the provisions of this Joint Resolution. At the  
5 termination of the duties of said Council any unexpended funds  
6 are to revert to the General Fund of the State of Iowa.

1 Sec. 5. This Joint Resolution being deemed of immediate  
2 importance shall be in full force and effect from and after  
3 its passage and publication in the .....,  
4 a newspaper published at ....., Iowa, and .....,  
5 a newspaper published at ....., Iowa.