



Recent Green Schools State Legislative Action July 31, 2012

Since the beginning of 2012, the Center for Green Schools at the U.S. Green Building Council has followed more than 80 bills across 28 states that seek to advance healthy, high-performing schools. At the time of this report, as many as 28 of these bills have been enacted and signed into law, with many more carried over or still being debated this summer.

For additional ideas and resources about advancing effective green school policies, consult USGBC's *Green Schools Menu of Options for State Legislators*, available for download at www.centerforgreenschools.org/50for50.

Arizona [HB 2084](#), introduced by Representative Ableser on January 19, 2012, was read a second time in the House on January 23. This bill would have established a Green Public Schools task force to recommend a model green cleaning policy and help public schools achieve LEED certification, but died pursuant to the adjournment of the 2012 legislative session.

Arizona [HB 2083](#), introduced by Representative Ableser on January 23, 2012, would have established green cleaning standards as well as new standards for energy and water conservation. HB 2083 died after the end of the 2012 legislative session.

Arizona [HB 2578](#), introduced by Representative Goodale on January 17, 2012, passed the House on February 28. The Committee of the Whole retained the bill on April 4, 2012 and on May 7, 2012 was signed into law. This bill extends the requirements for schools in which an energy savings project or contract must pay for itself from 15 to 25 years.

Arizona [HB 2258](#), introduced by Representative Farley on January 19, 2012, was held in committee and then died pursuant to the adjournment of the legislature. This bill would have sought to establish a public school solar power energy program.

Arkansas [HB 1078](#), introduced by the Joint Budget Committee, was passed and given Act Number 242 to take effect on July 1, 2012. It would appropriate \$56.6 million from federal funds to the Department of Finance in the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013. The appropriation would provide, among other services, money for modernization, renovation or repair of public school facilities and institutions of higher education facilities, including those consistent with a recognized green building rating system.

California [AB 1186](#), introduced by Assembly Member Skinner on February 18, 2011, passed the Senate Environmental Quality Committee on July 2, 2012 and is now awaiting an August 6th hearing. It would use cap and trade revenue from the state's investor-owned utilities to redirect funds into classrooms instead of utility bills. Possible school energy improvements which include advanced lighting controls, upgrades to heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems, and installation of solar or other renewable energy generation. The latest amendments specify that at least 10 percent of the proceeds from cap and trade revenue be set aside for school energy efficiency grants.



Colorado [HB 1235](#), introduced by Representative Kerr on February 6, 2012, was assigned to the House Committee on State, Veterans, & Military Affairs. On February 29th, it was postponed indefinitely and died after the end of the 2012 legislative session. This bill sought to require that public school structures satisfy at least minimum energy efficiency design standards.

Colorado [HB 1315](#) was introduced by Representative Becker on February 22, 2012, and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Livestock, and Natural Resources. On March 28, an amended version was sent to the Appropriations Committee and on May 24, this bill was signed into law by the governor. The bill changes the name of the governor's energy office to the Colorado office of energy development. As part of the reorganization of the office, the bill changes the mission of the office to: "Promoting all Colorado energy, promoting economic development in Colorado through energy-market advances that create jobs, encouraging Colorado-based clean and innovative energy solutions that include traditional and renewable energy sources, increasing energy security, lowering long-term consumer costs, and protecting the environment." The Office of Energy Development shall also "manage a program to improve energy efficiency in public schools."

Georgia [HB 934](#), introduced by Representative Parsons was read a second time and favorably reported by the Senate on March 26, 2012. However, HB 934 died after the end of the GA 2012 legislative session. This bill would have required schools to perform energy audits for energy saving performance contracts.

Georgia [HR 692](#), was introduced by Representative Drenner on March 23, 2011, but died with the adjournment of the 2012 legislature. This bill would have sought to urge local school boards to implement renewable energy systems to provide educational and cost-saving opportunities.

Hawaii [HB 1675](#) was introduced by Representatives Takumi and Belatti on January 18, 2012. It was read for the first time and referred to the House Committees on Energy and Environmental Protection, Education, and Finance. It would create an energy efficient schools fund to provide grants to improve the efficiency of school facilities.

Hawaii [SR2012 13](#) was introduced by Senator Espero on February 7, 2012, and referred to the Education and Ways and Means Committees on February 15. This bill would create a Green Hawaii Program in the public school system that would aim to engage students in greening their schools and their greater communities. This bill would also require all Hawaii public schools to complete at least five "Green Hawaii" programs in any given year. Hawaii [SCR2012 33](#), also filed by Senator Espero, would specifically establish the Green Hawaii Program. On March 30, 2012, a favorable report of this bill was adopted by the Senate and on April 16, the bill was referred to the Committees on Education, Energy and Environmental Protection, and Finance.

Hawaii [SB 1197](#) was introduced by Senator Kidani on January 26, 2011. This bill would promote and facilitate the replacement of fossil fuel generated electricity and implementation of smart-grid management in state facilities including public schools.

Illinois Representative Biss introduced [HB 5195](#) on February 8, 2012. After unanimously passing the House on March 8, it was introduced in the Senate, sponsored by Senator Link. It was given Public Act 97-0760 after Governor Quinn signed the measure on July 6. This bill amends the Illinois Finance Authority Act to define an "energy conservation project" as any "Energy Efficiency Project in connection with any school district or community college district project." The Finance Authority would assist the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity to establish and



implement a program to assist units of local government to identify and arrange financing for energy conservation projects.

Illinois [HB 6127](#), introduced on February 28, 2012, by Representative Madigan, makes appropriations and re-appropriations for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2012. On March 6, 2012, the House Appropriations Committee held a hearing to discuss the bill and on July 27, HB 6127 was referred to the Rules Committee. HB 6127 appropriates funds to several schools in the state seeking LEED certification.

Illinois [HR 906](#), sponsored by Representative Mussman, was introduced and referred to the House Rules Committee on March 29, 2012. On May 15, this resolution was adopted. It encourages all schools within the state to support the Green Apple initiative and to take all possible steps to make the schools more environmentally friendly. The resolution also encourages participation in Green Apple Day of Service on September 29, 2012.

Illinois [SB 3872](#) was introduced by Senator Kotowski on February 24, 2012. On July 1, it was referred to the Assignments Committee. In this bill, money would be appropriated to assist new charter schools in obtaining a LEED silver certification, to alleviate school crowding, and to districts to fund energy efficiency projects. [SB 3902](#), also introduced by Senator Kotowski would appropriate funds to school districts for energy efficiency projects and has also been referred to Assignments.

Illinois [SB 2332](#) was introduced by Senator Sullivan on February 15, 2011. On March 1, the chief sponsor was changed to Senator Kotowski. After passing the Senate and House, the bill was line-item vetoed by the governor on June 30, 2012, leaving the majority of the bill intact. In this act, money is appropriated to assist charter schools and academies in obtaining LEED silver certification and to fund various capital and energy efficiency improvement projects.

Iowa [HF 2204](#) was introduced by Representative Byrnes on February 2, 2012, and referred to the Commerce Committee. On February 8, it was referred to the Subcommittee of Windschitl, Lykam, and Wagner, but died pursuant to the legislature's adjournment. This bill sought to authorize governmental units, including schools, to enter into performance-based energy contracts. The bill intended to detail the benefits of investment in energy conservation measures and identify a state policy of encouraging governmental units to implement energy conservation and facility improvement measures that reduce utility or operating costs, and to reinvest resulting savings and revenues into additional and continued energy conservation. Iowa Senator Cownie introduced [HSB 580](#) (study bill to HF 2204) on January 31, 2012. The bill was assigned to the Sub-Committee of Iverson, Isenhardt, and Rogers.

Iowa Representative Kelley introduced [HF 2191](#) on February 2, 2012. It was referred to the Education Committee and the Subcommittee of L. Miller, Forristall, and Mascher, but died at the end of the 2012 legislative session. This bill would require a school district commencing the design, construction or substantial renovation of an elementary or secondary public school building on or after July 1, 2012, to apply for LEED certification.

Iowa Representative Kelley introduced [HF 2190](#) on February 7, 2012. The bill was assigned to the Subcommittee of Iverson, Kajtazovic, and Watts but died with the end of the 2012 legislative session. This bill would have directed the Iowa utilities board, "to establish and coordinate an energy audit program pursuant to which energy audits shall be performed in connection with each elementary or secondary school building in the state" and also "provides that the board shall establish by rule criteria for the audits, which shall include, at a minimum, an inspection of



the school building, assessment of the building's current energy efficiency, and recommendations for energy-efficient upgrades or improvements.”

Iowa Representative Kelly introduced [HF 2405](#) on February 29, 2012. This bill was referred to the Commerce Committee, where it died with the end of the legislative session. HF 2405 would have sought to establish an energy efficiency training curriculum applicable to designated school district employees. It directed the department of education, in coordination with the economic development authority and the Iowa utilities board, to establish the curriculum with the objective of encouraging the development and application of technical expertise in maximizing the utilization of energy efficiency equipment and making structural upgrades to existing school buildings by school district maintenance and operations personnel. Additionally, the bill specified that the curriculum should educate school district maintenance personnel.

Iowa [HF 2365](#) was introduced by Representative Kajtazovic on February 23, 2012, but died pursuant to the legislature’s adjournment. HF 2365 would have sought to establish a school solar generation revolving loan and grant program within the Iowa energy center, create a corresponding fund, and make a \$5 million appropriation to that fund.

Kentucky Representative Rollins introduced [HB 146](#), an act relating to green cleaning products in schools, on January 3, 2012. The bill died when the legislature adjourned April 1. The act would have defined green cleaning products as those, “that have been certified by an independent third party evaluator as meeting preferable health and environmental standards.” Additionally, the act would have required schools to consult with the local Kentucky chapter of the U.S. Green Building Council about the implementation of green cleaning policies.

Kentucky [HB 255](#) was introduced by Representative Adkins on January 12, 2012. It was passed with only one dissenting vote and then signed by the Speaker of the House on March 30. On April 16, the bill was signed into law by the governor. The act aims to promote and appropriate money for increased energy efficiency in schools. As substituted, the bill would provide a sales tax refund for the purchase of building materials to replace a building damaged or destroyed during a disaster. The original bill would have established the Kentucky Green Schools Authority and would have required the Department for Energy Development and Independence to partner with the state chapter of the USGBC to initiate a pilot project to assist schools in achieving LEED for Existing Building certification.

Massachusetts [SB 1940](#) was introduced by the Joint Committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight on June 9, 2011. On July 12, 2012, a conference committee recommended submitting a revised draft of the bill which was submitted in the form of [SB 2342](#) sponsored by Senator Spilka. This version was signed into law by the governor. Among other functions, this bill stipulates that schools that exceed a demand of 1,000 gallons of hot water a day shall be fitted with solar panels whenever economically feasible.

Massachusetts [SB 1686](#) was introduced by Senator Pacheco on January 24, 2011. On June 27, 2012 the Senate committee on Bonding, Capital Expenditures and State Assets held a hearing to discuss the bill. This act would provide funding for clean energy and energy efficiency programs.

Maine Reg. 9818 was introduced by the Department of Education in 2011 and was adopted on May 2, 2012. This regulation governs the requirements for approval of loans from the School Revolving Renovation Fund. It includes removal or abatement of hazardous materials, repairs and improvements related to energy and water conservation and establishes criteria for rating energy and water conservation projects.



Maryland [SB 0151](#), introduced January 18, 2012, was reported favorably with amendments on March 28. On May 22, the bill was signed into law by Governor O'Malley. Among other purposes it would appropriate funds for energy efficiency improvements to public schools.

Maryland [SB 708](#), sponsored by Senator Montgomery, passed the Senate unanimously on March 26, 2012, and was approved by the Governor on May 22. It requires a county board of education to adopt certain written policies relating to the procurement of green product cleaning supplies by July 1, 2013. Cross-filed bill [HB 1019](#), sponsored by Delegate Murphy, was heard in a March 8 hearing in the House Ways and Means Committee and passed the committee on April 6, 2012. It was signed into law the same day.

Maryland Senator McFadden introduced [SB 197](#) on January 20, 2012. A hearing was held for the bill on February 8, but it died at the end of the 2012 legislative session. This bill would have appropriated money for a public schools construction fund. To meet the requirements of the fund, a construction project would have to reduce energy consumption or incorporate high performance "green" building practices.

Maryland Delegate Hubbard introduced [HB 867](#), a bill for "Public School Construction Funding and Children's Indoor Environmental Health," on February 9, 2012. This bill also died with the legislature's adjournment. The bill would have authorized a specified alternative financing method for construction of a public school or a capital improvement and require the Board of Public Works to adopt regulations concerning the health and safety of the occupants of a public school building during construction or capital improvement.

Maryland [HB 1237](#) was introduced by Delegate Morhaim on February 10, 2012. On April 3, the Health and Government Operations Committee gave it a favorable report with amendments. It passed the House on April 5, with a vote of 136-2 and was referred in the Senate to the Budget and Taxation Committee. However, the bill died at the end of the 2012 legislative session. The bill would have established a study group on the use of solar panels on the roofs of public schools. The inclusion of members of the U.S. Green Building Council in the study group was specified in the bill.

Maryland [HB 86](#) was introduced by Speaker Busch on January 18, 2012, but died with the end of the legislative session. This bill would have appropriated some funding for school energy efficiency renovations.

Minnesota Representative Knuth introduced [HF 2317](#) on February 15, 2012. It was read and referred to the Committee on Environment, Energy and Natural Resources Policy and Finance where it died at the end of the legislative session. This bill would have incentivized the construction of solar photovoltaic devices in public buildings, including schools. Minnesota Senator Dibble introduced [SF 1853](#) (identical to HF 2317) on February 15. The bill was referred to the Committee on Energy, Utilities and Telecommunications where it also died with the adjournment of the legislature.

Minnesota Representative Hausman introduced [HF 3037](#) on April 30, 2012 and on May 3, Representatives Carlson, Mullery and Clark were also added as authors. This bill would create jobs through rehabilitation and construction of affordable housing, green energy investments in public buildings, and capital improvements at institutions of higher education. Identical Senate companion bill [SF 2619](#) was introduced by Senator Marty on April 26, 2012 and was referred to the Committee on Jobs and Economic Growth.



Minnesota [HF 400](#) was introduced by Representative Howes on February 7, 2011 but died at the end of the 2012 legislative session. In this bill, money is appropriated for energy and water conservation in schools as a well as for a junior naturalists program.

Missouri [HB 1879](#) was introduced by Representative McNeil on March 1, 2012, and referred to the special standing Committee on Renewable Energy. This bill died pursuant to the adjournment of the legislature. The bill would have required elementary and high schools to conduct energy audits and report the results of the audits to the Office of Administration.

Missouri [HB 1305](#), sponsored by the House Special Standing Committee on Renewable Energy Chair Holsman, passed that committee on March 26, 2012, as a substitute and is now in the House Rules Committee. On April 5, the Rules Committee held an executive session but decided to take no action. The bill as substituted would require all state-funded major facility construction greater than 5,000 square feet, state-funded renovations involving more than 50 percent of the square footage, or state-funded commercial interior fit-out projects larger than 7,000 square feet of leasable area, to be designed, constructed, and at least certified as receiving two Globes using Green Globes or LEED Silver. The bill would also require all public school districts to conduct a professional energy audit and report the results.

Missouri [HB 1602](#), sponsored by Representative Wyatt and co-sponsored by Representative McNeil was introduced to the House on February 1, 2012. On March 21, the Special Committee on Renewable Earth held a public hearing on the bill. It would establish a green cleaning policy in public schools by the 2013-2014 school year. Schools would be required to utilize environmentally sensitive products, but allowed to first deplete their current supply. Written notification must be given if such a policy would be economically unfeasible for the school.

Mississippi [HB 1056](#) was introduced by Representative Baria on February 20, 2012. This bill, which died in committee, would have required major public school construction projects to earn LEED Silver certification.

Nebraska [LB 522](#) was introduced by Senator Ken Haar on January 18, 2011, and carried over to the 2012 legislative session, but died after the legislature's adjournment. The bill would have established the High Performance Green Schools Transparency Act, which would require each school district to generate and maintain an up-to-date Energy Star efficiency rating on each of the district's school and administration buildings using the Environmental Protection Agency's free online tool, Portfolio Manager.

Nebraska [LB 1168](#) was introduced by Senator Lautenbaugh on January 19, 2012 but died with the end of the 2012 legislative session. This bill would have made energy efficiency a consideration for school purchases.

New Hampshire [SB 0383](#) was introduced by Senator Stiles on February 18, 2012. On March 29, it was introduced in the House and referred to the Finance Committee. On April 25, the House ruled it inexpedient to legislate. This bill amends the procedure for the approval of school building aid projects and the distribution of school building aid grants including provisions for energy efficiency reimbursements. Companion bill, [HB 604](#), sponsored by Representative Ladd, would require the commissioner of the Department of Education to prioritize school building proposals according to the type of construction or renovation proposed. It was also marked inexpedient to legislate on March 28.



New Jersey [AB 2267](#) was introduced by Assemblyman Gusciroea on February 2, 2012, and referred to the Assembly Education Committee. The bill would require designs of new public schools to incorporate LEED “or similar green building practices that achieve maximum energy efficiency and environmental sustainability in the design of schools.” [SB 78](#) (identical to AB 2267) was introduced by Senator Bateman on January 10, 2012 and referred to the Senate Environment and Energy Committee.

New Jersey [SB 1272](#), introduced by Senator Turner on January 30, 2012, was referred to the Senate Education Committee. This bill would require that all new designs for public school construction include the use of solar panels.

New Jersey [AB 2564](#) was introduced by Assemblyman Singleton on February 21, 2012. On June 21, it was combined with [AB 2313](#), sponsored by Assemblyman Upendra. On June 28, AB 2313 passed both Houses. The combined bill would concern energy savings improvement programs, amending various parts of the statutory law.

New York Senator Alesi introduced [SB 6821](#) on January 19, 2012. On June 13, it was amended and recommitted to the Education Committee with the number 6281A. This bill requires the commissioner of education and the commissioner of general services to promulgate standards for the procurement and use of environmentally sensitive commodities and services for schools and boards of cooperative educational services. [AB 4144](#), companion bill to SB 6821, was introduced by Assemblyman Englebright on February 1, 2011. On June 12, 2012, it was read a third time and amended.

New York [AB 9859](#) was introduced by Assemblyman Blackenbush on April 18, 2012 and referred to Real Property Taxation. On June 5, it was held for consideration in this committee. This bill establishes an energy system tax stabilization reserve fund in Lowville Central School District.

New York [SB 6921](#) was introduced on April 11, 2012, by Senator Ranzenhofer. On June 19, SB 6921 passed the Senate and the Assembly. This act provides for the creation of a temporary state commission on alternative energy for schools in New York State to help offset energy costs. The Commission would “examine, evaluate, make recommendations and collect data concerning the cost savings of school districts if each school utilized alternative energy technologies,” taking into account job creation numbers in their recommendations. On June 19, companion bill [AB 8527](#), sponsored by Assemblyman Rivera, was returned to the Senate.

Oklahoma [HB 2851](#) was introduced by Representative Jackson on February 6, 2012, and referred to the Rules committee the following day. HB 2851 died with the end of the 2012 legislative session. This bill would have provided incentives to construct public schools that meet high-performance certification programs, including LEED or Green Globes.

Oklahoma [SB 504](#) was introduced by Senator McIntyre on January 19, 2011 but died at the end of the 2012 legislative session. Utilizing high performance certification programs, including LEED, this bill intended to promote effective energy and environmental standards for the construction, renovation, and maintenance of public buildings in the state. The bill specifically includes public school districts and institutions within The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education.

Rhode Island [SB 2632](#) was introduced by Senator Shibley on March 1, 2012, and referred to the Senate Finance Committee. On June 20, this act was signed into law by the governor along with



companion bill [HB 7914](#), sponsored by Representative Tomasso. This act allows the town of Coventry to finance air quality and energy efficiency improvements to school buildings.

South Carolina [Senate Resolution 1402](#) was adopted on March 11, 2012. The resolution congratulates "South Carolina Honors College at the University of South Carolina on being named the top honors program in America in *A Review of Fifty Public University Honors Programs*." The resolution also recognizes the college's LEED Gold honors residence hall.

Tennessee [HJR 525](#) was introduced by Representative Hardaway on January 9, 2012, but died at the end of the 2012 legislative session. The bill would have encouraged the inclusion of energy conservation curricula in public schools.

Tennessee [SB 3768](#) was introduced by Senator Norris on February 6, 2012 and on May 18, it became Public Act 1029. The act appropriates money to school energy efficiency funds.

Tennessee [HB 3550](#), sponsored by Representative Cobb, passed the House 70-22 on March 26, 2012, and on April 16, became Public Chapter 744rl. It would review the Energy Efficient Schools Council, and consider extending the sunset on the council to June 30, 2013. The measure would also direct that council members may be appointed from lists of qualified persons submitted by interested contractor, architectural and engineering groups including, but not limited to, the board for licensing contractors and the board of examiners for architects and engineers. Identical bill [SB 3392](#), sponsored by Senator Bell, became Public Chapter on the same day.

Tennessee [HB 2416](#) was filed for introduction on January 11, 2012, by Representative Gilmore, and referred to the Education Committee. This bill would establish a green cleaning policy that would require the use of environmentally sensitive products and an annual review of the policy. Written notification must be given if such requirements would be economically unfeasible. After being deferred several times, it was taken off notice for the committee's calendar on April 3, 2012. Companion bill [SB 2521](#), filed for introduction by Senator Berke on January 18, is currently in the Senate Education Committee.

Tennessee House Joint Resolutions [770](#), [771](#) and [772](#), introduced on April 11, 2012, applaud the efforts of White House Heritage High School, Greenbrier Middle School and Jo Byrns Elementary School, respectively, for their participation in the Tennessee Valley Authority Green Schools Program. All three schools have achieved significant energy and financial savings through occupant behavioral modifications, engaging students in hands-on learning in the process.

Tennessee [HJR 808](#) was introduced by Representative Gilmore on March 22, 2012, and adopted by the House on April 12. This resolution urges the Tennessee Department of Education to establish a green cleaning policy for adoption by schools.

Utah [HJR1](#) was introduced by Representative Wheatley on January 5, 2012, and passed the House on February 15. The Senate then passed it on March 8. This bill was enacted and, "encourages the Utah State Board of Education to consider the broader application of the design and construction practices for healthy, energy-efficient schools, both for new construction and major renovation projects undertaken with school district funds; and encourages school districts to consider sustainable practices that can be incorporated effectively into school construction and operation."



Vermont [S. 92](#) was sponsored by the Senate Committee on Education in January of 2011 and carried over to the 2012 legislative session. On January 24, 2012, the bill was signed into law by Governor Shumlin. This act requires Vermont schools to utilize safe and green cleaning products.

Washington [SB 5191](#) was introduced by Senator Hobbs on January 18, 2011, and reintroduced on January 9, 2012, but died at the end of the legislative session. This bill would have required major facility projects of public school districts receiving state funds to be designed and constructed to LEED Silver or the Washington Sustainable School Design Protocol.

Washington [HB 2792](#) was introduced by Representative Dunshee on February 22, 2012. On February 27, it was referred to the Rules Committee, where it died in committee pursuant to the adjournment of the legislature. The bill aimed to fund education construction projects, including energy efficiency improvements, with lottery revenues.

Washington [HB 5127](#) was introduced by Representative Kilmer on January 14, 2011 and was signed into law by Governor Greigore on April 23, 2012. This bill establishes that certain state-funded projects may be required to comply with the state's high-performance building standards. It also appropriates \$40 million for energy efficiency grants for K-12 schools and establishes \$18 million in energy efficiency grants for local governments that would be awarded in competitive rounds where the higher the energy savings of the project, the higher priority it would be for receipt of a grant. Projects that do not use energy savings performance contracting will have to verify the energy and operational cost savings for ten years or until the energy and operational costs savings pay for the project. The new law also appropriates \$20 million for an energy efficiency grant program for higher education that will be administered in a similar fashion to the local government efficiency grants.

Wisconsin [AB 737](#), sponsored by Representative Molepske Jr., died pursuant to [Senate Joint Resolution 1](#), which states that the last general-business floor period commences on March 6 and ends on March 15. This bill would have required each new major state construction project or major renovation of a building, any building leased or purchased by the state, and any building of a political subdivision, containing at least 10,000 square feet to conform at a minimum to LEED Silver, or an equivalent performance level under an equivalent rating system, as prescribed by the Department of Safety and Professional Services (DSPS).

West Virginia [SB 76](#) was introduced by Senator Unger on January 11, 2012, and passed the Senate on February 27. On March 10, the House passed the bill. Governor Tomblin signed SB 76 on April 2, and it takes effect on June 8. The bill creates the Green Buildings Act, which requires any construction project of a public agency, including school construction, to comply with the 2009 version of the International Energy Conservation Code or ASHRAE Standard 90.1-2007.