

EXPLANATORY NOTES
B I L L
No. 21

An Act to amend *The Construction Codes Act*

**Clause
of Bill**

1 *The Construction Codes (Derelict Buildings) Amendment Act, 2025*

2 *The Construction Codes Act*

3 **Existing Provision**

Interpretation

2 In this Act:

...

“demolition” means the intentional destruction or removal of all or part of a building;

“design” means a plan or technical specification for the construction of a building or part of a building that satisfies the minimum requirements of the applicable Construction Code

...

Explanation

This amendment will add a definition of derelict buildings between the definitions of “demolition” and “design”. This is intended to indicate that the term “derelict building” is a defined term and has a specific meaning.

4 **Existing Provision**

Purpose of the Act

...

(2) Having regard to the purpose mentioned in subsection (1), this Act recognizes that:

- (a) it is the duty of every local authority to, at all times, be responsible for the administration and enforcement of this Act, the regulations and any associated codes, standards, interpretations and orders within the local authority unless otherwise is provided for by this Act;
- (b) it is the duty of every owner of a building in Saskatchewan to ensure that the building is in accordance with the construction standards set out in this Act, the regulations, any associated codes, standards, interpretations and orders and any bylaws adopted by the local authority with which the building is associated; and

- (c) the Government of Saskatchewan retains authority over the management of this Act, and the delegation of powers granted and the duties imposed pursuant to this Act to ensure it fulfils its purpose.

Explanation

This amendment will add an additional purpose to the Act, where the minister has more authority to develop and advance programs, services, policies and guidelines which help to advance the purposes of the Act, namely safe buildings.

5 Existing Provision

Application of construction standards

...

6(2) The construction standards do not apply to:

- (a) a building on which construction was commenced or completed before June 6, 1988, but the construction standards do apply to an alteration, addition, repair, renovation, demolition, relocation, removal or change of use or occupancy of that building;
- (b) a building on which construction was not commenced but for which a building permit was issued before June 6, 1988 pursuant to a bylaw of the appropriate local authority, but the construction standards do apply to an alteration, addition, repair, renovation, demolition, relocation, removal or change of use or occupancy of that building;
- (c) a farm building;
- (d) any building or class of buildings or to any materials, equipment, protection devices or appliances or class of materials, equipment, protection devices or appliances that are exempted in the regulations from the application of this Part or all or part of any construction standard.

...

Explanation

Currently, section 6 provides exemptions from the construction standards in limited circumstances, namely buildings which were constructed before provincial construction standards were enacted, farm buildings and buildings or classes of buildings which are specifically exempted in regulations. The amendment adds, subject to the regulations, buildings which being burnt as a derelict building as being exempted from construction standards.

6 **Existing Provision**

Regulations

45 For the purpose of carrying out this Act according to its intent, the Lieutenant Governor in Council may make regulations:

...

(y) exempting, on any terms or conditions that the Lieutenant Governor in Council considers appropriate, any land, premises, person or thing or any class of land, premises, person or things from all or any part of this Act or the regulations;

(z) prescribing any matter or thing that is required or authorized by this Act to be prescribed in the regulations;

...

Explanation

This amendment will add regulatory making power between (y) and (z) to allow for regulations to be prescribed regarding pilot projects for derelict buildings.

7 **Coming into force**

Explanation

Amendments to the Act will come into force upon an Order in Council.

Prepared by the Ministry of Government Relations