

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2021**

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**HOUSE BILL 141  
Committee Substitute Favorable 3/25/21**

Short Title: Promote North Carolina Sawmills.

(Public)

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Sponsors:

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Referred to:

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February 24, 2021

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

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

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

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

- (1) The lumber is sold directly by the owner or employee of the sawmill that milled the lumber to the owner of the dwelling to be constructed or that person's authorized representative.
- (2) The dimension lumber meets or exceeds the requirements of the North Carolina Residential Code for One- and Two-Family Dwellings other than the requirements that only grade-stamped lumber be used in residential construction.
- (3) The lumber conforms with product and inspection standards under American Softwood Lumber Standard PS 20.
- (4) The lumber is certified by an inspector who is certified by an accredited independent third-party agency of the American Lumber Standard Committee.
- (5) The appropriate code enforcement official reviews the framing of the dwelling to ensure that it meets the requirements of the North Carolina Residential Code for One- and Two-Family Dwellings in all respects other than the requirements that only grade-stamped lumber be used in residential construction. The code enforcement official shall not be liable or subject to disciplinary action for willful misconduct, gross negligence, or gross incompetence under Article 9C of Chapter 143 of the General Statutes for any structural failure that occurs as a result of the use of dimension lumber rather than grade-stamped lumber.

**SECTION 1.(c)** The Building Code Council may issue temporary rules to 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.