

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HOUSE BILL NO. 154

BY BUSINESS COMMITTEE

AN ACT

1 RELATING TO THE IDAHO BUILDING CODE ACT; AMENDING CHAPTER 41, TITLE 39, IDAHO  
2 CODE, BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW SECTION 39-4117, IDAHO CODE, TO PROVIDE  
3 FOR LIVE VIRTUAL INSPECTIONS; AMENDING CHAPTER 41, TITLE 39, IDAHO  
4 CODE, BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW SECTION 39-4118, IDAHO CODE, TO PROVIDE  
5 FOR CERTAIN INSPECTION REQUIREMENTS; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY AND  
6 PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.  
7

8 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

9 SECTION 1. That Chapter 41, Title 39, Idaho Code, be, and the same is  
10 hereby amended by the addition thereto of a NEW SECTION, to be known and des-  
11 ignated as Section 39-4117, Idaho Code, and to read as follows:

12 39-4117. LIVE VIRTUAL INSPECTIONS. (1) Except as otherwise provided  
13 for in this section, the division and local governments shall be authorized  
14 to perform live virtual inspections at their discretion.

15 (2) When conducting a live virtual inspection pursuant to this section,  
16 the division or a local government shall, with respect to each inspection,  
17 verify the address or physical location of such inspection. Such verifica-  
18 tion may be made by showing the physical address or other identifying fea-  
19 tures of the location within the live virtual inspection.

20 (3) Neither the division nor local governments shall use virtual in-  
21 spections for structural inspections on buildings that are three (3) stories  
22 or greater.

23 (4) For purposes of this section, "live virtual inspection" means a  
24 form of visual inspection that uses real time visual or electronic aids to  
25 allow an inspector who is enforcing a building code to perform an inspection  
26 without having to be physically present at the job site during the inspec-  
27 tion.

28 SECTION 2. That Chapter 41, Title 39, Idaho Code, be, and the same is  
29 hereby amended by the addition thereto of a NEW SECTION, to be known and des-  
30 ignated as Section 39-4118, Idaho Code, and to read as follows:

31 39-4118. INSPECTIONS -- TIMELINESS -- REFUNDS. (1) If an inspection  
32 requested by a permit holder is not performed within fifteen (15) business  
33 days, such permit holder shall be authorized to hire a third-party inspec-  
34 tor to perform such inspection. The costs associated with an inspection con-  
35 ducted by a third-party inspector pursuant to this subsection shall be re-  
36 imburged by the division or the local government responsible for conducting  
37 such inspection.

38 (2) The division or a local government shall refund ten percent (10%)  
39 of any permit and inspection fees paid by a permit holder if an inspector or  
40 building code administrator:

- 1 (a) Conducts an inspection on the work relating to the permit;
- 2 (b) Determines that the work has failed an inspection; and
- 3 (c) Fails to, within three (3) days, provide the permit holder or his
- 4 agent with a reason for the failure of such inspection pursuant to the
- 5 provisions of this chapter.
- 6 (3) A third-party inspector under this section shall be certified by
- 7 the international code council.

8 SECTION 3. An emergency existing therefor, which emergency is hereby  
9 declared to exist, this act shall be in full force and effect on and after  
10 July 1, 2025.