

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2021**

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**HOUSE BILL 141**

Short Title: Promote North Carolina Sawmills. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Hanig, Sasser, Brody, and Greene (Primary Sponsors).  
*For a complete list of sponsors, refer to the North Carolina General Assembly web site.*

Referred to: Regulatory Reform, if favorable, Judiciary 1, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and  
Operations of the House

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 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.

**SECTION 2.** This act is effective when it becomes law and expires when the  
Building Code Council has issued permanent rules substantially similar to subsection 1(b) of this  
act and notifies the Codifier of Statutes that it has done so.

