## DIGEST

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Stuart Bishop HB No. 200

**Abstract:** Amends the universal design program whereby a certain percentage of the total cost of the construction or renovation of a state building can be used to purchase arm chairs to meet the requirements of the "Percent for Universal Design Program".

<u>Present law</u> provides for the establishment of the "Percent for Universal Design Program".

<u>Proposed law</u> retains <u>present law</u>.

<u>Present law</u> declares it to be the public policy of the state that a portion of money spent by the state and state agencies on the construction or renovation of state buildings should be spent on implementing principles of universal design. Further provides that in pursuit of the declared policy, the Percent for Universal Design Program is established.

<u>Proposed law</u> retains <u>present law</u> and further declares that a portion of money spent by the state and state agencies on the construction and renovation of state buildings should be spent on purchasing certain furniture to accommodate the seating needs of certain users with physical disabilities.

<u>Present law</u> defines "renovation" as not including a project the principal purpose of which is the rehabilitation of plumbing, heating, ventilating, air conditioning, or electrical systems for purposes of the "Percent for Universal Design Program".

<u>Proposed law</u> retains <u>present law</u> and adds that "renovation" does include the purchase of chairs with arms.

<u>Present law</u> provides for design disciplines and guidelines.

<u>Proposed law</u> retains <u>present law</u> and adds that in terms of the purchase of furniture, the guidelines include the purchase of chairs with arms so as to assist persons with physical disabilities from requiring physical hands-on assistance from others when sitting on or rising from a chair.

(Amends R.S. 38:2318.2(A), (B)(1) and (4), and (C)(6)(a))