

SB 954 Summary (2025 Legislative Session)

SB 954 is a bill relating to certified recovery residences. Below is a summary of the changes this bill covers:

Section 1:

- By January 1, 2026, the county shall adopt an ordinance establishing procedures for the review and approval of certified recovery residences within its jurisdiction. The ordinance must include a process for requesting reasonable accommodations from any local land use regulation that serves to prohibit the establishment of a certified recovery residence.
- The ordinance must, at a minimum:
 - be consistent with the Fair Housing Amendments Act of 1988;
 - establish a written application process for requesting a reasonable accommodation for the establishment of a certified recovery residence;
 - require the local government to date-stamp each application upon receipt;
 - require the local government to issue a final written determination on the application within 60 days after receipt of a completed application.
- This written determination must approve the request, in whole or in part, with or without conditions, or deny the request with specificity in the reason(s) for denial.
- If final written determination is not issued within 60 days after receipt of a completed application, the request is deemed approved unless the parties agree in writing to a reasonable extension of time.
- The ordinance for establishment of this process may establish additional requirements for the review or approval of requests to establish a certified recovery residence, provided such requirements are consistent with federal law and do not conflict with this subsection. Additionally, the ordinance may not require public hearings beyond the minimum required by law to grant the requested accommodation.
- The bill provides for revised definitions for personnel-to-patient ratios for various times of day and resident population sizes.

This act shall take effect July 1, 2025.

IMPACT OF BILL:

The Growth Management Department will need to create an application process for the review and approval of certified recovery residences in accordance with this bill. These changes shall be adopted via ordinance by the County. Currently, there is a process for applying for a reasonable accommodation request that is found in the Martin County Code of Ordinances Chapter 21,

Article 28, Reasonable Accommodation Procedures. Some change to this text and/or some amendment to the Land Development Regulations will be necessary. The process for reviewing and approving these recovery residence applications must comply with all aspects of the language outlined in SB 954. This process must be adopted by the Board and in place prior to January 1, 2026.