

February 7, 2013

The Honorable Stephen D. Dargan, Co-Chair
The Honorable Joan Hartley, Co-Chair
Public Safety and Security Committee
Room 3600, Legislative Office Building
Hartford, CT 06106

The Energy Efficient Codes Coalition respectfully submits the following statement for the February 7 hearing record of the Public Safety and Security Committee in opposition to CT House Bill 5749:

Every three years – for over four decades – local and state officials from Connecticut have joined with their colleagues from other states to improve the 15 model codes (I-Codes) developed by the International Code Council to ensure that the people of Connecticut enjoy safe and energy efficient homes and commercial buildings.

They take this responsibility seriously. By the time these “I-Codes” are updated, Connecticut officials have devoted hundreds of hours examining, commenting, and eventually passing judgment on hundreds of code improvement proposals. If history is any measure, the codes they develop embrace sensible, readily available improvements to buildings that employ proven technologies.

Although Connecticut’s manufacturing base isn’t as large as it once was, a “report card” on manufacturing issued in the Winter 2013 issue of *The Connecticut Economy* “presents the sector as among the most dynamic in the state’s economy, transformed by advanced technologies linked to research and development that are providing a catalyst for economic growth.”

Some of the technologies developed in the Nutmeg State are building science technologies that would be adversely impacted by the enactment of House Bill 5749. Not only do building owners and occupants in the state benefit from codes that incorporate the latest in safety, quality, and efficiency innovations, but Connecticut manufacturing employees and building owners and occupants across the nation benefit as well.

Extending Connecticut’s commercial and residential building code adoption process to six years could delay vital innovations that reduce the cost of home and commercial building ownership, hold down building insurance premiums, and even prevent property damage, injuries, and deaths.

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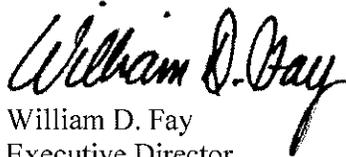
It will also cause Connecticut to lag behind other states and, during that lag time, result in the construction of homes and commercial buildings that aren't using the best, most up-to-date construction technologies. Because these buildings last for 60-, 70-, even 80 years, the adverse impact of outmoded construction will be equally long-lasting.

Most importantly, there are only benefits to adopting the most up-to-date codes. Take energy codes for example. By updating these codes every three years, the state will:

- Put millions of dollars in reduced utility payments in the wallets of home and commercial building owners and occupants (*a home that meets the 2012 IECC, which is 30% more efficient than the 2006 IECC, for example, may cost a little more to build, but will reduce energy bills by tens of thousands of dollars over its lifetime*).
- Improve the quality, comfort and quiet of Connecticut buildings (*improvements that improve energy efficiency also improve building quality*).
- Stabilize energy prices to homeowners and Main Street businesses by easing overall energy demand *The Alliance the Save Energy estimates that if states adopted the 2012 International Energy Conservation Code in 2012, reduced energy consumption in America's residential and commercial sectors the nation would total more than 3.5 quadrillion Btu of annual source energy savings by 2030 resulting in \$40 billion (real 2008 dollars) in annual energy cost savings for consumers and businesses by 2030.*
- Delay the need for new power plant construction and (*nationally, homes and commercial buildings use 42% of US energy, 54% of US natural gas and 71% of US electricity*).
- Reduc insurance bills in Connecticut (*insurers lower premiums in states that adopt the most recent safety codes*).

Connecticut officials will continue to participate in the ICC's model code development every three years whether you enact House Bill 5749. Doesn't make sense for the state and its residents to take advantage of the technological benefits in those new model codes by updating the state's codes to incorporate the safety and efficiency improvements they endorse?

Sincerely,



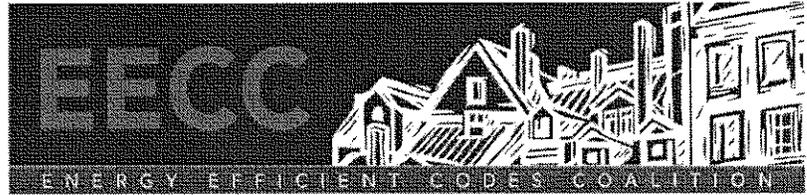
William D. Fay
Executive Director

The Energy Efficient Codes Coalition is a unique, broad-based alliance of longstanding energy efficiency advocates – from government, regional energy efficiency networks, manufacturers, environmental groups, utilities, insurance, energy consumers and businesses – formed to work for adoption of the most energy efficient residential model energy code that's achievable using current "state of the shelf" technology. EECC supports efficiency proposals focused on: 1) Simplicity, to facilitate energy code administration and enforcement, 2)

Lifetime and Ease of Replacement . . . Recognizing improvements that last for generations; and 3) A Complete Solution that integrates all elements of energy efficiency.

EECC Supporters

By Group/October, 2010



The Energy Efficient Codes Coalition (EECC) is a unique, broad-based alliance of longstanding energy efficiency advocates who support adoption of the best achievable efficiency practices into America's model building energy code for new construction (IECC). Supporters include:

Government

National Association of State Energy Officials
ICLEI

Broad Based Energy Efficiency Groups

The Alliance to Save Energy
American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy
(ACEEE)
United Nations Foundation

Regional Energy Alliances

Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance (MEEA)
Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnerships (NEEP)
Northwest Energy Codes Group
NW Energy Coalition
Southeast Energy Efficiency Alliance (SEEA)
Southwest Energy Efficiency Project (SWEEP)

Academia/Think Tanks

American College and University Presidents Climate
Commitment
Center for Resource Solutions
Institute for Market Transformation
New Building Institute

Affordable Housing Advocates

Enterprise Community Partners
Global Green USA
Housing Assistance Council
LISC – Local Initiatives Support Corporation
National Housing Institute
National Low Income Housing Coalition

Architecture

Ed Mazria, Architecture 2030

Energy Consumers

Consumers Federation of America
Energy Outreach Colorado
Public Citizen

Faith-Based Groups

American Values Network

Energy Efficient Construction Organizations

New Buildings Institute
RESNET

Business and Insurance

American Chemistry Council
Bayer
Business Council for Sustainable Energy
Cardinal Glass
Current Energy
Environmental Business Council – New England
Extruded Polystyrene Foam Association (XPSA)
Fireman's Fund
Green Chamber of Commerce
North American Insulation Manufacturers
Association (NAIMA)
Northwest Environmental Business Council
Polyisocyanurate Insulation Manufacturers
Association (PIMA)
Structural Insulated Panel Association (SIPA)

Environmental Groups

Center for Environment, Commerce & Energy
Climate Crisis Coalition
Community Environmental Council
Environment America
Environmental Law and Policy Center
National Wildlife Federation
Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC)
Sierra Club
2020 Vision

Labor

Apollo Alliance
Blue Green Alliance

Utilities

American Public Power Association
Edison Electric Institute
National Rural Electric Cooperative Association

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