



11

Gary N. Amato
President Hubbell Electrical Systems

Hubbell Incorporated (Delaware)
40 Waterview Drive
Shelton, CT 06484

Public Safety and Security Committee

March 14, 2012

Room 3600, Legislative Office Building
Hartford, CT 06106

Re: Proposed Bill HB 6524

As a Connecticut-based manufacturer of high quality electrical products Hubbell Incorporated would like to take this opportunity to present our perspective in opposition to Proposed Bill HB 6524 and request your support. Hubbell is involved with the development of codes and standards for the electrical industry and supports the position that building, fire, and electrical codes should be adopted every three years due to the positive impacts on the life safety of Connecticut citizens and on Connecticut employment levels supported by this cycle.

Hubbell was originally founded in Bridgeport, Connecticut and is presently headquartered in Shelton, Connecticut with over 725 employees in facilities across the state; Shelton, Newtown, Bethel and Mystic. Hubbell manufactures a wide range of electrical and datacom devices, offering solutions that enhance safety and energy efficiency.

Hubbell respectfully requests the members of the Public Safety and Security Committee carefully consider the impacts of Proposed Bill HB 6524 and remove the provision to extend code adoption to every six years. There are a number of benefits to Connecticut by maintaining the current legislation for a three year adoption cycle, including:

- The National Electrical Code (NEC), which governs electrical systems in the built environment, is updated every three years to ensure inclusion of the latest innovations in electrical safety and technology. Timely safety enhancements come when a healthy progression of changes is maintained at a pace with technology innovations and new product introductions. Recent code enhancements that are rapidly evolving include photovoltaic and other alternate energy sources, arc fault protection, electric vehicle charge stations and micro-grids.
- Progressive code adoption serves to build economies-of-scale for new products. Design innovation, product introduction and training translate into jobs for the state.
- The current code cycle provides an impetus to maintain professional development and certifications within the industry by regularly introducing new safety requirements and improvements in the installation of building products.
- Synchronizing adoption with the release of code documentation provides the ability to apply interim amendments when emergency conditions arise. This is not always the case when updates are skipped.

Delaying the adoption of new codes developed by industry experts will adversely impact the use of new technologies vital to personal safety, such as the expanded use of potential life saving ground-fault circuit interrupters and tamper-resistant receptacles.

We strongly encourage the committee to keep the existing adoption cycle for the safety of the citizens of Connecticut and the strength it adds to our economy.

Sincerely,

Gary N. Amato
President Hubbell Electrical Systems