



**International Code Council**  
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February 8, 2016

Honorable Members, Joint Committee on Public Safety and Security  
State of Connecticut General Assembly  
Legislative Office Bldg. #3600; Room 2B  
Hartford, CT 06106

Re: Raised Bill 388; February Session, 2016; LCO No. 2626

Dear Chairman Dargan, Chairman Larson, and Members of the Public Safety and Security Committee

My name is William Nash and I am the Governmental Relations Manager—New England for the International Code Council (ICC). Please accept this letter as testimony in support of the above noted raised bill and relative to the Department of Administrative Services' recommendations regarding the adoption of the State Building and Fire Codes. I respectfully offer the following comments on behalf of the ICC regarding the raised bill:

I would first like to commend the State of Connecticut for its outstanding work to ensure the safety, health and well-being of their citizens. Any action that results in timely and regular updates or adoptions of the most current building, fire, and life safety codes will ensure the safety of residents, visitors, and emergency responders while embracing new technology and building construction best practices.

The ICC is a member-focused, not-for-profit association, dedicated to helping jurisdictions within the building safety community and the construction industry provide safe and sustainable construction through the development of codes and standards used in the design, build, and compliance process. The International Codes (I-Codes) are updated and revised every three years through a national consensus process that strikes a balance between the latest technology, new building products, installation techniques, economics and cost, while incorporating the most recent advances in public and first responder safety.

Most U.S. states and communities, and many global markets choose the I-Codes in three year cycles to set the standards for regulating construction, fire prevention, and energy conservation in the built environment. Jurisdictions that utilize the most current edition of the I-Codes thereby ensure the highest standards for safety, energy efficiency, sustainability, economic incentive and long-term resiliency of their built environment.

The ICC works closely with the Connecticut Codes and Standards Committee, the staff at the Office of the State Building Inspector (OSBI), the Connecticut Building Officials Association, the Connecticut Association of Housing Code Enforcement Officials, the Connecticut Fire Sprinkler Coalition, CT Architects, CT Homebuilders, and other interested parties by assisting with the review of the model I-Codes for adoption in the State of Connecticut. The ICC has regularly provided these stakeholders with resource material relative to the adoption of the model I-Codes and more recently information regarding the need and benefits of regular code adoption cycles. Follow this link for further information on the Coalition for Current Safety Codes: <http://www.coalition4safety.org/>, a joint effort between ICC and the National Fire Protection Association advocating for regular life safety code adoptions among other common ground issues. The ICC respectfully submits that the current and unnecessary delay to regular adoption of the model codes in Connecticut is due to the requirement of legislative review rather than regulatory review.

The ICC is honored to partner with Connecticut in support of the regular adoption/update and administration of the Connecticut State Building Codes that are based on the following ICC model codes: International Building Code, International Existing Building Code, International Plumbing Code, International Mechanical Code, International Residential Code, International Fire Code, and International Energy Conservation Code. We look forward to continuing to serve your



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building safety needs with ICC training programs, Evaluation Reports and other services to ensure a safe, sustainable, affordable and resilient built environment for the State of Connecticut.

Finally, the ICC respectfully suggests that the Legislature in the State of CT allows the experts in the industry to continue their very important work; and that by their existing rigorous review process and ultimate approval, the codes become adopted and effective without the requirement of a full legislative procedure. The ICC supports approval of this bill as proposed and appreciates the opportunity to present this testimony for the record.

Sincerely,

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