



**Date:       Date of Consolidation**

**Subject:    Policy on Amendments to ICC Codes and Standards**

**Purpose:** The purpose of this policy is to outline the staff's position on governmental amendments to ICC's Codes or Standards.

**Policy:** It is the position of the ICC staff to advocate for adoption of the ICC Family of Codes and Standards. The I-Codes provide the basis for state and local building and safety regulations and laws. ICC recognizes the right of jurisdictional authorities (JAs) to amend the I-Codes. ICC respects the JAs desire to address specific regional or climatic needs, for example, and endeavors to provide technical support on proposed amendments to the I-Codes when requested by the JA. The ICC does not, as a matter of routine, take an active position on amendments to the I-Codes. During the adoption process, Code Council staff serves in a supporting role. Staff provides and assists JAs with rationale for existing code provisions, assists in identifying potential conflicts with correlation of regulations, assists with interpretations, code comparisons and supports technical committees chartered to review the I-Codes.

Staff, however, encourages JAs to work through the ICC code development process to effect changes to the I-Codes that address their needs. The goal is to advocate for the strong level of safety provided by the I-Codes and to encourage JAs to work within the ICC process to develop requirements that reflect our mission. There are numerous benefits to this approach, including what jurisdictions learn from each other through interaction in the code development process; savings to the jurisdictions in terms of time and money and finally keeping the I-Codes on the leading edge of building science which strengthens all communities.

**Rev.    3/6/2008, 1/10/2020**