

From: Jill Lewis Smith <jill@jlsarch.com>
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To: Member Input <memberinput@iccsafe.org>
Subject: IECC

The move to alter the IECC, or essentially eliminate it, will erode the entire building code and lower the resiliency in construction in the USA. The lack of resiliency built into our infrastructure in the USA and Canada is our greatest weakness as a nation. We are the only developed nations with this severe lack of well developed infrastructure. The first construction costs, long term operations costs, and energy costs are all lower with concrete and steel. Of course the costs after a disaster are of issue as well. The building code and in particular the energy code has begun to recognize this and give Architects the opportunity to design without leaning to the ridiculously heavy influence from well funded inferior building materials.

Further this is the first of many moves to eliminate the building code, permit and inspection of buildings, all together. Or at least to weaken them to be superficial only. Does the ICC realize they are choosing to damage or destroy themselves?

The building code is for the protection of the health safety and welfare of citizens. People who buy a home, commercial building, condominium or rent an apartment shouldn't have to worry about the construction of their building. They shouldn't need to evaluate energy efficiency of the construction when calculating their mortgage. (Energy costs are the largest reason that people can't pay their mortgage and lose their homes.) It should go without saying that people shouldn't be terrified to live or take shelter in their home. This change is truly terrifying, just imagine Katrina in New Orleans, or Sandy in New York, only worse, **buildings built to lower standards.**

Please WAKE UP, we need the building code, we need the energy code, we need basic public protection.
Kindest Regards,
Jill Lewis Smith, AIA