BOMA’S POSITION

Florida property owners will bear the brunt of excessive costs resulting from the Senate Bill 7000 Codes. This bill proposes the uses of the 6th Edition of the Florida Building Code as the future base code instead of the coordinated and integrated International Code Council (ICC) model I-Codes for the built environment.

Therefore, BOMA Florida takes a stance of opposition to the adoption and implementation of the Senate Bill 7000 Codes. The State of Florida is encouraged to continue to support adoption of the ICC’s International Codes as the base Codes for and continue the present process for updating the Florida Building Code.

Our Advocacy

- Acceptance and adoption of the International Codes by state and local jurisdictions is almost universal. BOMA members are best served by a proven set of codes that are ready for adoption across the country- the International Codes.
- Future lifesaving requirements, which may appear in future I-Codes, would not automatically appear and may not be included in future Florida Building Codes. The regulatory authorities, contractors, sub-contractors, architects, engineers, designers and end users, will require constant schooling to understand current code requirements.
- The National Flood Insurance Program, under which many Floridians have policies covering their buildings, requires that the version of the I-Code be no more than six years old for achieve premium discounts. These discounts could be lost with the elimination of the I-Code as the base code.
BACKGROUND

In 1994 the International Code Council (ICC) was formed from 3 regional code developers with a goal of developing a single set of coordinated codes for the built environment. Utilizing more than 190 years of collective experience, the ICC completed the International Codes series in 2000, replacing the National Codes, Uniform Codes, and Standard Codes previously published by the respective organizations that now constitute the ICC.

The Florida Building Commission adopted the I-Codes as the base of the 2004 edition of the Florida Building Code and all Codes thereafter.

The merits and disadvantages of having the Standard Building Code, NFPA 5000, the South Florida Building Code or the I-Codes as the base for the Florida Building Code, was reviewed, debated and after a consensus vote of the Commission, the I-Codes were adopted as the future base code. The Florida Building Code currently houses many Fire standards that would have to be individually adopted and integrated into each update under this proposed bill. New technology, which may appear in future I-Codes, may not be acceptable per the current Florida code.

BOMA is Leading the Industry

- In educating our membership on the Amendments, so that support can be unified in an effort to give owners a choice in energy provider.
- In monitoring and advocating in the legislative, regulatory and codes arena for the ability of BOMA members to continue to make the choices that work best for their buildings and tenants.
- In promoting environmental stewardship and recognizing excellence.

About BOMA Florida

The Building Owners and Managers Association of Florida (BOMA Florida) consists of over 1,500 members representing the majority of office space and buildings in the State of Florida. This organization not only includes Owners/ Property Managers, but, various types of associate members servicing the commercial industry such as HVAC, engineers, carpet suppliers, roofing contractors, appraisers, painters, lawyers, and more.

Members of BOMA Florida represent the third largest sales tax-paying base in the State of Florida.