



POSITION PAPER

BUILDING CODES FOR THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

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BOMA'S POSITION

BOMA Florida opposes SB 7000 and HB 901, which will render codes in Florida to a hodge-podge when compared to otherwise consistent national codes; and remove crucial commercial real estate representatives from the Commission.

OPPOSITION TO THIS BILL

With this bill, Florida could face the likelihood of a “hodge-podge” of codes adopted at the state and local levels, different from that all other states in the nation, thus reducing the level of consistency Florida builders can expect. Further:

- Insurance rates and coverage could be negatively impacted for all property owners
- FEMA coverage could be damagingly reduced impacting property owners

Further, it is imperative that a commercial real estate representative remain on the Florida Building Commission (“Commission”). Florida Statutes 553.74 encourages the Building Owners and Managers Association (“BOMA”) to recommend a candidate for consideration to the Commission to represent commercial building owners and managers. Commercial real estate properties are the third largest tax contributor to the state’s revenue, and are correspondingly heavily impacted by this proposed review of all code matters. BOMA’s recommended representative has for many years proven himself a key member to the Commission, and Chairman of the Accessibility TAC.



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BACKGROUND

In December 1994, the International Code Council (ICC) was formed with an admirable 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 ICC closely tracks industry trends and adopts updates on a staggered basis depending on code topic, which are then reviewed and adopted at the state level on a 3 year cycle. *Acceptance and adoption of the International Codes by the state and local jurisdictions is almost universal.*

ACTION REQUESTED

BOMA Florida members should aggressively oppose these bills.

About BOMA Florida

The Building Owners and Managers Association of Florida (BOMA Florida) consists of over 1,500 members representing most 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