



International Code Council
500 New Jersey Avenue, NW
Sixth Floor
Washington, DC 20001
t: 888.ICC.SAFE (422.7233)
t: 202.370.1800
f: 202.783.2348
www.iccsafe.org

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Pennsylvania Uniform Construction Code Review & Advisory Council
Maureen Guttman, Chair
PA Department of Labor & Industry
651 Boas Street, Room 1613
Harrisburg, PA 17121

RE: Public Comment for the adoption of the 2018 International Codes

Dear Ms. Guttman,

The International Code Council is a member-focused association with over 64,000 members. The Code Council is dedicated to developing model codes and standards used in the design, build and compliance process to construct safe, sustainable, affordable and resilient structures. All 50 states, major jurisdictions, U.S. Territories, Federal agencies, the U.S. Capitol and many global markets choose the International Codes.

We would like to express ICC's strong support for the review and adoption of the 2018 International Codes as the basis of the Pennsylvania Uniform Construction Code.

Provisions found within the 2018 editions of the International Codes contain technical and material safety improvements in areas such as life safety, fire, accessibility for disabled persons, construction cost savings, better building technologies, energy conservation and efficiency, and efforts to mitigate the effects of flooding and storms that frequently threaten the Commonwealth. Resilience, in built structures and across the entirety of the community, starts with a strong, regularly updated, and properly administered set of codes.

Keeping current, updated, and uniform building and fire safety codes across Pennsylvania provides consistency for businesses, design professionals, contractors and also provides uniformity through one set of regulations and code provisions. A recent report released by the National Institute of Building Sciences found that adopting the 2018 International Codes generates a national benefit of \$11 for every \$1 invested. Current and uniform codes also eliminate duplicative requirements that would have significant impact statewide. This uniformity not only protects the lives of residents and first responders, but also appeals to private businesses, contractors, developers, and manufacturers that value regulatory predictability.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit these comments in support of the review and adoption of the 2018 International Codes. The ICC is honored to serve the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in support of the adoption and administration of building codes and standards that protect the citizens of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns relative to this public comment or anything else that the International Code Council can assist with in the building safety realm in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Sincerely,

Shawn Strausbaugh

Shawn Strausbaugh
Government Relations, International Code Council, Inc.
Pennsylvania Government Relations Representative
Office: 888-422-7233 ext. 6242
sstrausbaugh@iccsafe.org

