

MODEL RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION

Recognizing the Importance of Adopting and Implementing the Most Up-to-Date Building Codes and Standards to Promote Public Safety, Economic Productivity, and Long-Term Reliability in the Built Environment.

WHEREAS, modern building codes and infrastructure standards are essential tools for safeguarding public health, safety, and welfare by establishing minimum requirements for structural integrity, fire protection, environmental performance, and community resilience; and

WHEREAS, nationally recognized organizations—including the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), the International Code Council (ICC), the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), and others—regularly update technical standards and model codes to incorporate the latest engineering research, hazard data, construction practices, and materials technology; and

WHEREAS, up-to-date codes have been shown to significantly reduce loss of life, property damage, and economic disruption from natural disasters such as hurricanes, floods, earthquakes, and wildfires, while improving the long-term performance and reliability of infrastructure systems; and

WHEREAS, independent studies have demonstrated that every dollar invested in modern codes and resilience-based design yields multiple dollars in avoided disaster losses, business interruption, and recovery costs, thereby promoting economic productivity and community stability; and

WHEREAS, outdated codes expose communities to unnecessary risks, increase the cost of rebuilding after disasters, and may hinder economic competitiveness, while modern codes support efficient project delivery, innovation in construction methods, and sustainable growth; and

WHEREAS, strong, current codes enhance the reliability and performance of critical infrastructure—such as transportation networks, water systems, energy assets, public buildings, and communications facilities—ensuring that essential services remain operational during and after hazardous events; and

WHEREAS, the State of [State Name] recognizes the importance of equipping engineers, architects, building officials, and construction professionals with the most current standards to ensure the built environment meets today’s performance expectations while preparing for tomorrow’s challenges;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF [STATE NAME]:

1. **Recognition:** The Legislature recognizes the vital role of up-to-date building codes, design standards, and engineering practices in ensuring public safety, economic resilience, and reliability in the built environment.
2. **Commitment to Modernization:** The Legislature encourages state and local agencies to review and adopt the most recent editions of nationally recognized model building codes and engineering standards, as appropriate for state and community needs.

3. **Support for Professional Training:** The Legislature supports initiatives to expand training, certification, and continuing education for building officials, code enforcement personnel, design professionals, and contractors to ensure effective implementation of modern codes.
4. **Resilience and Preparedness:** The Legislature reaffirms its commitment to building a safer and more resilient state by promoting evidence-based design practices, hazard-informed planning, and long-term investment in durable infrastructure.
5. **Distribution:** Copies of this resolution shall be transmitted to the Governor, relevant state agencies, professional engineering and architecture organizations, and statewide code enforcement associations.