



## ICC Gulf Coast Region IX



August 11, 2025

The Honorable Mike Johnson (R-LA)  
Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries (D-NY)  
Minority Leader  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

### **Re: Support for H.R. 4072, the *Pro Codes Act***

Dear Speaker Johnson and Minority Leader Jeffries,

On behalf of the ICC Gulf Coast Region IX I write to request your co-sponsorship of and support for the [\*Pro Codes Act\*](#), H.R. 4072

ICC Gulf Coast Region IX is very concerned that the development of top-quality safety codes is being undermined. America's codes and standards are vital to ensuring public health and safety and are developed by and for building safety professionals. Their development is a resource-intensive, time-consuming process. Standards development organizations (SDOs), such as the International Code Council (ICC), reinvest the revenue generated by the codes they develop in technical staff, IT infrastructure, code development committees, and fund in-person hearings. Each element is essential to ensure top quality codes. That revenue also enables investment in the future of building safety by providing scholarships, chapter support, educational benefits, and career development opportunities.

In recent years, free rider companies that contribute nothing to the code development process have been profiting from the fruits of our labor. These companies have decided that they can take our work and sell it to others without having developed or paid for it themselves. To protect the code development process and prevent unauthorized and erroneous copies of codes from being published, we urge you to support The Pro Codes Act. The bill ensures that the public has free access to codes and standards while preserving the ownership rights of code and standard developers.

Rigorous national codes and standards are developed by non-profit SDOs through a consensus-based process at no cost to taxpayers. The current standards development system has been effective and efficient for 125 years. Officials at the federal, state, local, and municipal levels depend on the expertise of these SDOs by often incorporating codes and standards into the laws they enact. The result has saved lives, fostered economic growth, and generated billions of dollars in taxpayer savings. To keep pace with building science, advancements in technology, and lessons learned, these codes are developed and updated every three years by the Code Council. Without ICC's help, already resource-limited code departments would have to undertake the labor- and cost-intensive task of attempting to replicate the work that goes into development of thousands of codes and standards currently referenced in our laws.

Our current codes and standards development system operates with openness, transparency, and balance. It is highly effective and continues to serve ICC Gulf Coast Region IX well, and should be retained.

To protect the code development process and prevent unauthorized and erroneous copies of codes from being published, please consider cosponsoring and supporting the Pro Codes Act.

We would be happy to meet with you to discuss this matter further. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

*William R. McShan*

William McShan President Louisiana  
David Price Vice President Alabama  
Jonathan Bilby Treasurer Florida  
Andy Berryhill Secretary Mississippi  
Amy Heath Immediate Past President Mississippi

CC:

The Honorable Jim Jordan (R-OH), Chairman, House Judiciary Committee  
The Honorable Jamie Raskin (D-MD), Ranking Member, House Judiciary Committee