

6.i. Support Letters – Members/State Electeds

No relevant documents found

6.ii. Support Letters – Organizations/Local Gov't



September 10, 2008

Honorable Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor, State of California
State Capitol
Sacramento, Ca. 95814

RE: SB 1473 (Calderon) – SIGNATURE REQUEST

Dear Governor Schwarzenegger:

The California Building Industry Association (CBIA) and the California Business Properties Association (CBPA), co-sponsors of SB 1473 (Calderon), respectfully request you sign the measure. This bill will help implement your 2007 directive to several state agencies to develop, adopt and publish green building standards for the State of California, by clarifying the regulatory process and by providing a dedicated funding source for training and educating of statewide and local building officials.

In responding to your directive, the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) and the Building Standards Commission (BSC) recently adopted the first set of green building standards for the State of California – the first, actually, in the nation. Upon publication of the California Green Building Standards Code, these state agencies will commence work on the second iteration of these standards. In addition, these agencies must now prepare training and education material for thousands of local building officials, inspectors, architects, builders and subcontractors.

SB 1473 Clarifies BSC Authority relative to green building standards

What the bill does: This measure makes it clear that the Building Standards Commission does indeed have the authority to develop and adopt green building standards for commercial occupancies not already under the authority of another state agency.

What it does not do: In order to directly address potential confusion brought about very late in the process, we'd like to clarify this bill will not, in any way, create a conflict between the Building Standards Commission and the California Energy Commission with regards to the development and adoption of energy efficiency building standards. For over thirty years, Public Resources Code 25402 (*et al*) has given the CEC complete authority to develop and adopt energy efficiency standards for all residential and commercial buildings. SB 1473 only impacts the development and adoption of green building standards for those commercial buildings not already under the authority of another state agency. Accordingly, when it comes to the energy efficiency component of green building standards for commercial buildings, the CEC retains total authority.

SB 1473 Creates Revenue Source for Building Code Development and Training

This bill directs the BSC and other agencies to prepare educational and training material to assist local building departments, design professionals and industry with the effective field application of these measures. In order to generate the necessary resources to perform these tasks, a special fund is created

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for use by the BSC with the revenue being generated via an industry-imposed permit fee of \$4 for every \$100,000 dollars of valuation for residential and commercial construction permits.

The training and education provided by the SB 1473 funding will serve to reduce costly delays during plan check and inspection that result from a lack of familiarity with the new codes. It is anticipated that California's Green Building Standards Code will undergo numerous updates over the next ten years

Clarifies which national codes will be used as the basis for California's building codes

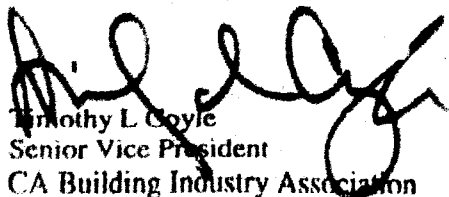
The state building code adoption process recently emerged from a very contentious administrative process wherein the issue of which national codes would serve as the basis for the state codes was debated for some five years and involved over 500 local entities and trade associations. In 2005, the Building Standards Commission resolved this longstanding dispute.

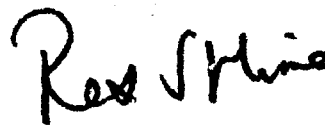
All of the major parties involved in that process are very pleased with the outcome and do not wish for this to become a matter of intense technical debate any time soon. SB 1473 stipulates that, for the national model building codes currently referenced in statute but are no longer published, the most recent editions of the national standards recently approved by the Building Standards Commission as the basis for the 2007 editions of the State Building Standards Code will serve as the basis for the future editions of these state codes.

Together CBIA and CBPA represent over 11,000 members that are developing projects and building in the State of California. Our members are amongst the most progressive and environmentally friendly builders of residential, commercial, retail, and industrial buildings in the nation. We believe SB 1473 will help us continue on this positive trajectory started when the state implemented Title 24 more than thirty years ago.

Again, we respectfully request that you SIGN SB 1473. Thank you for taking our views into consideration.

Very sincerely yours,


Timothy L. Coyle
Senior Vice President
CA Building Industry Association



Rex S. Hime
President & CEO
CA Business Properties Association

cc: Senator Ron Calderon
Rosario Marin, Secretary, State Consumer Services Agency
Chris Kahn, Office of the Governor
Curt Augustine, Office of the Governor
Dave Walls, Executive Director, BSC

6.iii. Support Letters – Individuals

No relevant documents found