

**ICC REPORT- February 2009**  
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**Code Development Process-** I am pleased to report that the ICC Board approved a revised code development process on February 2, 2009. The proposed revisions were the result of over three years work by ICC members and the Board on developing solutions to the increasing length of our code development hearings. Due to the contractual arrangements for the Baltimore Code Development Hearings and ABM, there will be a transition during this three-year code cycle. The website ([www.iccsafe.org](http://www.iccsafe.org)) has more detailed information on the new code development process. Please contact me if you have questions or suggestions.

The guiding principles that were generated from member feedback by the Task Force on Hearings and me are:

1. Reduce the length of the Code Development Hearings (CDH) and Final Action Hearings (FAH), both number of days and hours
2. Allow all governmental members and honorary members to determine the final content of the ICC Codes
3. Reduce costs, both to the organization and the members
4. Increase electronic processing
5. Schedule all FAH at the Annual Business Meeting, which rotates location
6. Schedule CDH at one central reoccurring location
7. Increase participation
8. Maintain the importance of in-person attendance at the CDH and FAH
9. Increase importance of successful Assembly Action
10. Maintain (or increase) education offerings
11. Maintain the 3-year publication cycle
12. Schedule CDH and FAH at reoccurring date ranges

The Board will gather additional feedback from the members on a “ratification vote” proposal I put forward as part of this package. The proposed ratification vote is patterned after the current ICC bylaws amendment process and addresses guiding principle item 2. Chapter resolutions and requests from members have demanded that governmental members who can not attend the code hearings be allowed to participate in determining the final content of the ICC Codes. We have studied real-time off-site electronic voting for the hearings, but this is not feasible with the current technology. Under the current bylaws, governmental and honorary members are entitled to vote at the Final Action Hearings (FAH). The proposal is to subject all code proposals approved at the FAH to an electronic ballot. ICC will index and post the webcast of the FAH testimony for each

code proposal approved at the FAH and conduct an electronic ballot within 14-30 days after the conclusion of the FAH. The code proposals approved by more than 50% of the returned electronic ballots will be included in the next code edition.

The questions for the membership:

1. If you do not support the proposed ratification vote, what other process do you propose to allow all governmental members to determine the final content of the ICC Codes, even if they can not attend the code hearings?
2. How long should the electronic ballot process be open? 14, 21, or 30 days?
3. Who should vote at the electronic ballot stage? Primary Governmental Member Representatives (one per governmental member), Governmental Member Voting Representatives (4, 8, or 12 per governmental member), one vote per jurisdiction, or Honorary Members?
4. Should the approval be 50% or 66.7% plus one?

My recommendation, based on feedback I have gathered so far, is the electronic ballot should be conducted for a maximum of 30 days and Honorary Members (the current bylaws allow this) and Primary Governmental Member Representatives are eligible to vote. The threshold for approval should be 50% plus one of the returned ballots.

The deadline for submitting code proposals to the 2012 edition of the ICC Codes is **April 24, 2009**.

**President's Advisory Committee**- On February 6, 2009, the Board approved posting three new ICC Council Policies on the website. The Board is discussing possible bylaws amendments. We are requesting feedback from the members on these issues. There will be future forums and opportunities for comment. There is a forum on Sunday March 22, 4-6pm, in New Orleans in conjunction with the ICC Board Meeting and Codes Forum.

**2009 ICC Codes**- All 2009 ICC codes should be ready for shipping by March 2009; several codes are already in print.

**IECC Included in Stimulus Package**- The International Energy Conservation Code is specifically mentioned in HR-1, the version of the stimulus package approved by the United States House of Representatives. This legislation would require states to adopt and enforce the IECC, or equivalent, in order to receive \$3.4 billion in energy assistance grants.