

Connecticut Building Officials Association

Randy Heckman, President

Rich McKinnon, Vice President

Joseph Cassidy, Second Vice President

Rich McKinnon, Treasurer

Lou Coppola, Secretary



March 5, 2026

Public Safety and Security Committee
Legislative Office Building, Room 2600
Hartford, CT 06106

RE: HB 5401 - AN ACT CONCERNING THE PROCEDURE FOR ADOPTING, REVISING AND AMENDING THE STATE BUILDING CODE AND REQUIRING RELATED TRAINING.

Chairman Gaston, Chairman Boyd and Members of the Committee,

My name is Randy Heckman, I am the Building Official for the Town of Coventry and the president of the Connecticut Building Officials' Association. The CBOA is a statewide organization of building officials and other associated professionals from across the state. There are currently about 160 members in the organization. **The Connecticut Building Officials Association does not support this proposed legislation as written.**

This bill proposes to change the adoption cycle of the state building code from the current 3-year cycle to 6-years, changes the criteria for amendments to model codes and imposes a moratorium on the adoption of a new code until October 2032.

While we understand the intent of the proposal, we feel that much of the proposal as drafted is not workable.

To highlight some of the more significant issues we see with the proposal as currently written:

- It does not address the adoption cycles of the fire prevention or fire safety codes. All of these codes work together and need to be adopted on the same schedule.
- The proposal would not allow the state building inspector to consider a new state building code until October of 2032. This would mean the next building code would be not be adopted until 2034 at the earliest. This would mean that the current code would be eight years old at that point which brings us back to the days of the 2005 state building code that was eleven years before it was replaced.

CBOA would be happy to participate in discussions with the proponents and the agency to further refine this concept.

Thank you for taking the time to consider our comments on these important issues.

Sincerely,

Randy S Heckman

Randy Heckman, President
Connecticut Building Officials Association