

# UP-TO-DATE CODES AND STANDARDS

## Supporting Safe, Sustainable, and Affordable Housing

### Background

The fire and emergency services strongly support the adoption, implementation, and enforcement of the most up-to-date codes and standards.

These codes and standards should be adopted without amendment to prioritize the safety of community members and first responders alike.

Efforts to modernize or rebuild infrastructure and communities must prioritize fire and life safety, ensuring that affordability and modernity do not come at the expense of human lives.

Policy, legislation, and regulation should work in harmony with national consensus codes and standards, not undermine them.

### Asks

- ▶ Cosponsor the Pro Codes Act (H.R.4072).
- ▶ Support established code and standard development processes so they can function as designed - don't legislate over the processes.
- ▶ Efforts to modernize or rebuild infrastructure and communities must prioritize up-to-date codes and standards.

### Talking Points



#### Codes & standards save money

Adopting the latest building code requirements is affordable and improves resiliency and risk mitigation - saving \$11 for every \$1 invested.



#### Codes & standards protect lives and property

Requirements in codes and standards help to create resilient buildings that give first responders and citizens the best chance of safety in an emergency.



#### Codes & standards are a floor, not a ceiling

Undermining them brings the level of safety below the minimum acceptable level.



#### Codes & standards are created by consensus

Established, national, non-partisan, consensus-based codes and standards development processes involve experts from all across the stakeholder spectrum, including industry, government, and the fire service.



#### Codes & standards are research-based

National codes and standards are based on research and testing.



#### Codes & standards are holistic

Codes and standards are designed to be comprehensive and holistic, ensuring a balanced approach to safety. If one piece is removed, safety can be placed at risk.

