

Resolution No. 1

Date: 6/8/2013

City: Washington, DC

NAHB Resolution

Title: International Code Council - cdp ACCESS/Remote Voting Program
Sponsor: Construction, Codes & Standards Committee
Submitted by: Donald Pratt

WHEREAS, the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) is a founding strategic partner with the International Code Council (ICC), has developed a strong working relationship with the ICC, and has voting members on many of the ICC's code development committees and councils;

WHEREAS, NAHB has long been a supporter of the ICC's code development process and the establishment of a single set of building codes that is reasonable, practical and cost-effective to provide for the health and safety of the occupants of homes;

WHEREAS, in late 2012, recognizing that many of its members could no longer afford the costs or time away from the office needed to attend the code development hearings, the ICC's Board of Directors approved a new remote voting and virtual online hearing process called cdp ACCESS;

WHEREAS, unlike the current code development process, which allows only those governmental voting members (code officials) who attend the final action hearings to vote, the cdp ACCESS / Remote Voting Program provides opportunities for members and/or building officials to vote on proposed changes from remote locations;

WHEREAS, the ICC cdp ACCESS / Remote Voting Program is expected to help facilitate improved communication, collaboration and coordination amongst building industry professionals and trades involved in building construction and increase the transparency of the ICC code development process; and

WHEREAS, the ICC cdp ACCESS / Remote Voting Program will have a significant impact on how NAHB advocates in the codes arena and will require the grassroots efforts of the state and local HBAs to reach these remote participants and governmental member voting representatives,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) support the concept of the International Code Council (ICC) cdp ACCESS / Remote Voting Program and support its inclusion as a part of the ICC code development process provided:

1. Appropriate safeguards are established to ensure remote voting will be conducted in a manner that will prevent and prohibit the stacking of votes by individuals or groups;
2. ICC publishes and makes public a current list of the names of all eligible ICC governmental member voting representatives, including primary governmental member voting representatives, prior to any Public Comment Hearing(s);
3. ICC takes appropriate steps to ensure every registered governmental member and his/her voting representative meets the requirements for eligibility to vote as outlined in ICC council policy;
4. The information and testimony provided to all remote voting members by ICC is limited to that which was presented during the on-site Public Comment Hearing(s);
5. The technology used to expand participation to remote locations is secure, validated and will prevent fraud and manipulation of the code development process;
6. The final vote count for each proposal is published within 14 days of the vote and results are sub-categorized by jurisdiction;
7. ICC specifically prohibits any discussion on the ICC website and the remote participant platform regarding any proposed code changes during the remote voting period and proactively monitors and polices these outlets;
8. ICC systematically reviews its existing policies to determine if and how the cdp ACCESS / Remote Voting Program may impact or be impacted by these policies and make any appropriate revisions to address inconsistencies or issues; and
9. The remote voting process does not limit the ability of organizations to file appeals based on actions that are thought to violate the processes or procedures established under the ICC Council Policies associated with code development.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that NAHB continue to support the ICC code development process provided the inclusion of remote voting preserves the integrity and transparency of the current code development process and does not diminish the governmental consensus process that purposely leaves the final determination in the hands of public safety officials who have no vested financial or personal interest in the outcome of proposed code changes.

Board of Directors Action:	Approved
Executive Board Action:	Recommends Approval
Resolutions Committee Action:	Recommends Approval
Construction, Codes & Standards Committee Action:	Recommends Approval
State and Local Government Affairs Committee Action:	Recommends Approval
Multifamily Council Board of Trustees Action:	Recommends Approval
State Representatives Action:	Recommends Approval
Building Codes & Standards Subcommittee of the Construction, Codes & Standards Committee Action:	Recommends Approval