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BY:

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October 17, 2008

Ms. Sara C. Yerkes
Senior Vice President of Government Relations
International Code Council
500 New Jersey Avenue, NW, Sixth Floor
Washington, DC 20001

Re: Adoption of Resolution in support of the Community Building Code Administration Grant Act

Dear Ms. Yerkes:

I am pleased to forward for your attention and action a Resolution recently adopted by the Building Officials of Louisiana in support of the enactment and funding of the Community Building Code Administration Grant Act (CBCAG).

As discussed in the Resolution, the membership of our Chapter, as professionals serving the public's interest in building safety and fire prevention, clearly recognize both the need for and the benefits of the support the CBCAG will provide. Our success in development and maintenance of national model building and fire safety codes must be matched with local resources and qualifications to ensure capable and thorough adherence to those codes. The CBCAG will provide support to jurisdictions short on resources but committed to improvement of the quality of the built-environment through effective on-going local code administration. Residents of and visitors to our communities will be served every day by higher quality building and, in turn, the nation will be served by improving the resilience of buildings to natural and man-made disasters.

We thank you for your efforts to bring our Resolution to the attention of Congress and to work actively with our Congressional Delegation to gain enactment and funding of the CBCAG.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Larry J. Manuel". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "L" and "M".

Larry J. Manuel, Secretary/Treasurer
Building Officials of Louisiana
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Lafayette, Louisiana 70501
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**A Resolution by the Building Officials of Louisiana
to
Encourage Congressional Support
for the
Community Building Code Administration Grant Act of 2007**

As, citizens of the State of Louisiana, we recognize that people and property in our communities are at risk from a variety of hazards including floods, hurricanes, and tornadoes and

Whereas these disasters have the potential for causing widespread injury, loss of lives, and damage to property, community infrastructure, and the environment; and

Whereas we recognize that effective pre-disaster mitigation, thorough preparedness, timely warning, and well-trained and equipped response forces can reduce injuries and deaths caused by a hazard; and

Whereas the hurricane seasons of 2004 and 2005, the flooding in 2006, and the tornado and wildfire seasons of 2006 and 2007 clearly demonstrate our nations' on-going vulnerability to natural hazards; and

Whereas the devastating impact of recent natural events is evidence of the need for heightened local, state and federal attention to coordinated measures to mitigate the impact of natural hazards on our communities, and has demonstrated a significant need to support the effective work of building code authorities; and

Whereas the adoption of modern codes is a first step in responsible local governance of the built-environment that must then be coupled with effective local capabilities and programs in code administration. Thorough and effective administration of codes allows the maximum benefit of those regulations to be realized in local building safety, enhanced property value, energy efficiency, hazard mitigation and the availability and affordability of personal and commercial property insurance; and

Whereas effective enforcement of building and fire codes is one of the best means of protecting the welfare of those in our communities, including residents, visitors and emergency responders, from natural disasters that impact our homes, businesses, schools, places of worship, and all other types of construction in the built-environment; and

Whereas, the national benefit providing support for local building code enforcement is clearly evidenced by a recent report of the National Institute for Building Safety that demonstrated that for each federal dollar spent on mitigation the federal government saves nearly \$4 in future disaster recovery expenses; and

Whereas, the Community Building Code Administration Grant Act of 2007, when enacted and funded, will provide competitively evaluated federal grants, locally matched, to local governments who seek to build-up or improve their local code administration and enforcement capabilities.

Therefore, it is resolved that:

The Building Officials of Louisiana, as a membership organization of professionals in building safety and fire prevention, do request our Members of Congress to support the passage and funding of H.R. 4461/S. 2458, the Community Building Code Administration Grant Act of 2007. We further request the International Code Council to deliver this Resolution to Congress and to continue its work on our behalf in the enactment and funding of the Community Building Code Administration Grant Act of 2007.