

March 24, 2025

United States House of Representatives  
Committee on Appropriations  
Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies  
The Honorable Chuck Fleischmann, Chair  
The Honorable Marcy Kaptur, Ranking Member

United States Senate  
Committee on Appropriations  
Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development  
The Honorable John Kennedy, Chair  
The Honorable Patty Murray, Ranking Member

**RE: FY2026 Appropriations Request; Department of Energy; Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy; Building Energy Codes Program**

Dear Chairs Fleischmann and Kennedy and Ranking Members Kaptur and Murray:

The undersigned organizations represent construction industry stakeholders that support the efficient use of our Nation's energy resources in buildings. The signatories represent professionals engaged in the planning and construction of buildings as well as companies that domestically manufacture and install building materials used to cut energy waste, save owners money on utility bills, and reduce stress on the energy grid. We support technology-neutral, performance-based policies that help buildings achieve efficiency gains without limiting energy choices or imposing rigid electrification requirements that may not align with regional infrastructure or market conditions. We write to express our support for continued federal investments in model building energy codes through the world class technical experts at the Department of Energy (DOE) and Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL).

Building energy codes are developed as model policies and then adopted on a voluntary basis by states or localities. Model building energy codes provide state and local leaders with actionable policy tools that are adaptable to the unique needs of individual jurisdictions. The technical analysis performed by DOE and PNNL supports the construction industry's efforts to develop model building energy codes that balance energy savings with considerations of constructability and affordability. Furthermore, DOE and PNNL have the unique ability to convene relevant stakeholders and provide objective unbiased analysis that is essential to the building energy code development and adoption processes.

**FY2026 Appropriations Request:** \$15,000,000 to Department of Energy, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Building Technologies, Building Energy Codes Program.

To fund this important work and to ensure that DOE can meet its statutory obligations with respect to evaluating the effectiveness of model building energy codes, we respectfully request that Congress appropriate \$15,000,000 for the FY2026 budget of the Building Energy Codes Program administered by the DOE Building Technologies Office. This funding request is consistent with historical levels that have received bipartisan support in Congress.

**FY2026 Report Language Request:**

To effectively guide the federal government’s role in model building energy codes, we request the following language be included in the FY2026 Budget Report:

*Building Technologies* – The Committee recommends not less than \$15,000,000 for the Building Energy Codes Program. The Committee finds that building energy codes are an effective policy to improve our utilization of American energy resources and to reduce energy waste in our new and existing building stock, and that improved building energy efficiency contributes towards our national competitiveness and independence. Building energy codes strengthen grid reliability, allow for more effective utilization of existing energy sources to meet the growing demand from domestic manufacturing and data centers, increase home affordability and boost our economy through reduced utility bills, protect consumer choice for products and energy sources, and improve the resiliency of homes and structures that protect families, businesses and communities during extreme weather events. In consultation with the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory and other national laboratories, the Department is directed to analyze how the deployment of model building energy codes can boost our Nation’s ability to meet these policy objectives and to provide unbiased technical assistance to states and local jurisdictions that have the authority to adopt and enforce building energy codes.

The undersigned energy efficiency stakeholders appreciate the Committees’ attention to this request and their continued support for the federal government’s role in the development and deployment of domestic energy policies such as model building energy codes.

Sincerely,

The American Institute of Architects  
American Chemistry Council  
Cellulose Insulation Manufacturers  
Association  
Coalition for Sustainable Roofing  
Energy Efficient Codes Coalition  
EPDM Roofing Association  
EPS Industry Alliance  
Extruded Polystyrene Foam Association  
Insulation Contractors Association of  
America

International Institute of Building Enclosure  
Consultants  
National Insulation Association  
North American Insulation Manufacturers  
Association  
Polyisocyanurate Insulation Manufacturers  
Association  
Spray Foam Coalition  
Spray Polyurethane Foam Alliance  
Structural Insulated Panel Association