

**A Resolution by the Maine Building Officials and Inspectors Association
In support of the
Community Building Code Administration Grant Act of 2009
S.970/H.R.2246**

As Citizens of the State of Maine, we recognize that people and property in our communities are at risk from a variety of hazards including floods, hurricanes and nor'easters and

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

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

Whereas, recent weather related disasters have clearly demonstrated our nation's vulnerability to these 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 disasters 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 State of Maine has recently embarked on adoption of a mandatory uniform state-wide building, energy and radon mitigation code that will require training and recruitment of local code enforcement officers; and

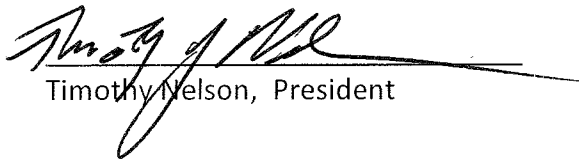
Whereas, the national benefit providing support for local building code enforcement is clearly evidenced by a recent report of the National Institute for Building Safety that demonstrated that for each federal dollar spent on mitigation, the federal government saves nearly \$4 in future disaster recovery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

Whereas, the Community Building Code Administration Grant Act of 2009, 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.

Now therefore, be it resolved that:

The Maine Building Officials and Inspectors Association, a membership organization of 176 professionals in building safety and fire prevention do request our members of Congress to support the passage and funding of S.907/H.R.2246, the Community Building Code Administration Grant Act of 2009.

Signed this 17th day of September, 2009 by:


Timothy Nelson, President