

## ICC Cycle A Code Action Hearings Voting Guide

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### Get Out the Vote

The development of the 2018 ICC codes is underway. The Code Action Hearings (CAH) for the 2018 Cycle A codes, such as IBC, IPC, IEBC and IRC Plumbing, is completed, but there are many more steps to complete. The CAH is the first engagement of proposals to make amendments to the 2018 codes. ICC, like NFPA, has spent the last few years restructuring the code hearing process to benefit the membership and streamline the process by involving online and electronic aspects. One of the chief reasons for a new format is to encompass more of the governmental membership in collaboration and ratification.

The next step in the 2018 code development process is the online committee hearing membership vote on assembly motions. All ICC members are invited, starting May 14, to view and vote the assembly motions that occurred a few weeks ago at the Memphis hearings. The fire sprinkler industry has a significant stake in the ICC code development process. NFSA members with ICC memberships are encouraged to logon to [www.cdpaccess.com](http://www.cdpaccess.com), read the proposals and watch the testimony then cast votes for the assembly motions. At this stage, there is only voting on proposals with an assembly motion as requested at the hearings in Memphis. The votes for the successful assembly motions will generate a public comment that shows the ICC governmental voting membership the importance of the subject to all ICC members. Following this vote, the process will then consider the submitted public comments at the ICC Public Comment Hearing, September 30 - October 7 at Long Beach, CA.

Starting on May 14 (for approximately two weeks), NFSA members who are ICC members need to login to [www.cdpACCESS.com](http://www.cdpACCESS.com), and we encourage voting in support with the following motions:

- **FS 2-15:** Vote for AS SUBMITTED - A vote for AS SUBMITTED will remove IBC Section 703.4. This section specifically prohibits fire sprinklers to be used as part of a listed assembly for fire rated products. This section is poorly written and is negative for sprinklers that protect glazing assemblies. Code officials need a code that is clear and the previous Section 703.3 provides clear guidance to the code user for alternative protection methods.
- **G 33-15:** Vote for DISAPPROVAL - A vote for DISAPPROVAL will agree with the committee that this proposed language is detrimental to residential sprinklers in the IRC.

This proposal removes the residential sprinkler requirement for medical and custodial care facilities when in a residential structure constructed according to the IRC. A state that prohibits sprinklers in the IRC will have these IBC facilities unsprinklered.

- **G 42-15:** Vote for DISAPPROVAL - A vote for DISAPPROVAL retains the current language that requires sprinklers for R-4 occupancies (assisted living facilities, group homes, residential board and care, etc) regardless of being built under the IBC or IRC.

There are many assembly motions that do not affect fire sprinklers and NFSA encourages all members to look thoroughly through the proposals in cdpACCESS and get more involved in the code development process. Stay tuned for upcoming information and important dates for 2018 code cycle.

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