

July 17, 2007

The Honorable Daniel K. Inouye
The Honorable Ted Stevens
Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Re: Support for Enactment of S. 1771

Dear Chairman Inouye and Vice Chairman Stevens:

The International Code Council supports enactment of S. 1771, legislation which calls for a U.S. Consumer Product Safety Rule and grant program to improve public safety in swimming pools and spas across the country.

As the legislation proposes, it is essential that covers for swimming pool and spa drain systems produced or sold in the U.S. meet the anti-entrapment standards established and maintained by the American Society of Mechanical Engineers. Anti-entrapment features for swimming pools and spas, including requirements for adherence to this new standard, ASME/ANSI A112.19.8, are incorporated in the 2006 editions of the International Building Code and the International Residential Code. It is ICC's model building codes - written and maintained by our nationwide membership of over 42,000 building and fire safety professionals - that are in use by most all local and state jurisdictions across the country. The grant program created by S. 1771 will further increase the effectiveness of state and local building code requirements for swimming pool and spa construction by supporting the hiring and training of state and local inspection and enforcement officials. Importantly, the legislation also supports the anti-entrapment education and training of who construct, own and/or operate pools.

We applaud the Committee's renewed action on this anti-entrapment legislation, and look forward to working with the Consumer Product Safety Commission in promoting state and local action to best protect the public safety in America's swimming pools and spas.

Sincerely,

Mark K. Dinneen
VP Congressional Relations

