



September 21, 2007

Lawrence City Commission  
Sue Hack, Mayor  
P.O. Box 608  
Lawrence, KS 66044

Dear Mayor Hack,

The Lawrence Home Builders Association supports the adoption of the International Codes (I-Codes), a single set of coordinated building codes. The I-Codes are the predominant family of codes in the region and the country. Further, the required continuing education for licensed contractors will be more applicable because the approved curriculum is based on the I-Codes.

Among the I-Codes is the International Residential Code (IRC), a user-friendly stand-alone residential building code. This brings a tremendous advantage to builders on the job site. The IRC is the only code the builder needs in order to construct a home. It has requirements for plumbing, mechanical, electrical, and energy, as well as building, structural and code administration. Another advantage of the IRC is the format follows the building process sequentially (building planning, then foundations, then floors, etc.), making it easy to locate code requirements. However, the IRC is most valuable if adopted in conjunction with other disciplines in the Code family.

The LHBA does not support the amendment to the IRC forwarded by the Mechanical Board, Section M1401.3. This amendment relates to the submission of HVAC calculations based on many variables at the time of building permit application. Duct design is proposed to be submitted prior to the rough-in inspection. Staff has indicated that they do not have any documentation to warrant this amendment. Further, neither staff nor the LHBA/NAHB is aware of a similar amendment in any other jurisdiction. This amendment is anticipated to *unnecessarily* increase the cost of housing approximately \$250 - \$500 per single-family home and will result in no measurable gain to the health, safety, and welfare of our community.

We request that you adopt the International Codes as recommended by the various trade boards with the exception of amended Section M1401.3.

Sincerely,

Bobbie Flory  
Executive Director

P.O. Box 3490 • Lawrence, Kansas 66046 • (785) 748-0612 • fax (785) 748-0622 • [www.lhba.net](http://www.lhba.net)

