

BONNEVILLE CHAPTER ICC

BUILDING INSPECTOR LICENSE CHANGE PROPOSAL #A-2:

The Bonneville Chapter ICC respectfully requests the following changes to the current State Licensing Rule #R-156-56-302 for Licensure of Building Inspectors:

Any Building Inspector who has earned ICC certification as an ICC IBC Commercial Building Inspector, ICC IPC Commercial Plumbing Inspector, and ICC IMC Commercial Mechanical Inspector, and as an IAEI or ICC National Electrical Code Inspector should be recognized as, and State licensed as, an (unlimited) Combination Inspector with no license limitations for the following reasons:

1. The original ICBO Legacy examinations saw no reason to differentiate between residential and commercial inspectors due to the scope of those examinations, nor did IAEI.
2. The scope of the current ICC Commercial Building, Mechanical, and Plumbing examinations, as well as the scope of the IAEI or ICC Electrical Inspector examination should enable those inspectors to inspect any building discipline within a residential structure that fall within the guidelines of the IRC without any insurmountable conflict with the International Residential Code.
3. The original intent of the International Residential Code was to serve as an excerpt from the parent commercial building codes for those building inspectors and jurisdictions that primarily regulate only residential structures that fall within the guidelines of the IRC.
4. While there may be a few differences between the commercial building codes and the International Residential Code, the differences are minor and usually addressed in the State amendments.
5. The scope of knowledge required to pass the ICC and IAEI Commercial Inspector examinations dwarfs that body of knowledge required to pass the ICC IRC examination. (770 code pages v. 2100 code pages). The residential provisions within these commercial codes are 95 % (+) identical to those contained within the International Residential Code.
6. The scope of the International Residential Code examinations will continue to be a useful tool to those new building inspectors who prefer to learn the adopted building codes at a slower pace. The IRC will always be a viable option for those jurisdictions and their inspectors who only regulate residential construction.

In addition, following the same logic we would suggest:

- Any Building Inspector who has earned ICC certification as an ICC IBC Commercial Building Inspector should also be recognized as, and licensed as, a Residential Building Inspector;
- Any Plumbing Inspector who has earned ICC certification as an ICC IPC Commercial Plumbing Inspector should also be recognized as, and licensed as, a Residential Plumbing Inspector;
- Any Electrical Inspector who has earned IAEI certification as an ICC NEC Commercial Electrical Inspector should also be recognized as, and licensed as, a Residential Electrical Inspector;
- Any Mechanical Inspector who has earned ICC certification as an ICC IMC Commercial Mechanical Inspector should also be recognized as, and licensed as, a Residential Mechanical Inspector.

This change to State Licensing requirements would greatly help local jurisdictions find inspectors to hire who are not limited by their State (Limited) license. They could now inspect both commercial and residential phases of building construction with these ICC commercial certifications, rather than needing eight national certifications for that Unlimited Combination Inspector status. **Those who do not qualify for consideration as a Combination Inspector but have one or more commercial or residential certifications would still be licensed as a Limited Inspector.** This change would give the Limited Inspector a broader scope of Licensure making him or her more useful to local jurisdictions. The current lack of any hiring pool for jurisdictions as older inspectors retire is critical to the building industry as well. Understaffing equates to lengthy delays in the inspection schedule which costs contractors money in construction delays. It is extremely difficult to find fully certified (unlimited) Combination Inspectors to hire. Those who have achieved all eight certifications, or hope to achieve all 8 certifications, should or would be justly rewarded by their employers. That is not the responsibility of the State.

This is the official position of the Bonneville Chapter ICC as advertised and voted upon at their February 14, 2017 meeting in Farmington, Utah in accordance with our Chapter by-laws.