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March 10, 2021

Howard Wiig, Chair
Hawaii State Building Code Council

Aloha Chair Wiig and members of the State Building Code Council,

I am writing this letter to strongly support and encourage the State Building Code Council (SBCC) **to adopt the 2018 International Building Code (IBC) as amended**. The adoption of the 2018 IBC will allow counties to conduct their review and amendment, engage their respective communities, and further refine the code to be applicable and appropriate to support safe construction in the local jurisdiction. This is critical, as the local adoption of current codes and standards are given consideration in the determination of eligibility for federal funding.

I also encourage the SBCC to abstain from further amendment of the 2018 IBC as it pertains to any perceived or inferred reference to modular building construction or factory built housing until such time that the proposed SBCC Investigative Committee completes its review and due diligence investigation of those concepts.

All safe and code compliant housing solutions, including modular construction and factory built housing, should be evaluated and considered to reduce the current housing crisis that impacts every county in the state.

Finally, I want to thank you and members of the SBCC for your dedication and service. **I strongly encourage your adoption of the 2018 IBC as amended.** I also strongly encourage the formation of the proposed Investigative Committee on Modular Construction and Factory Built Housing and the postponement of any further code revision or amendment on these concepts until such time that the committee completes its due diligence and the SBCC has the opportunity to review its findings.

Sincerely,

Patrick F. Hurney
Executive Director
Habitat for Humanity Hawaii Island