



January 4, 2021

Diane Glenn, Chair
State Building Code Council
PO Box 41449
Olympia, WA 98504

Chair Glenn,

The Washington State Association of Fire Marshals (WSAFM) would request that the 2018 code adoption implementation date remains February 1, 2021.

This extension will hinder our membership's ability to regulate the code. Every jurisdiction in the State utilizes electronic permitting systems and documents for construction and operational permitting in accordance with WAC 51-54A. WSAFM member jurisdictions have updated and printed their documents awaiting the implementation. The problem that any further extension will have will be to the management of our electronic permitting systems. Since we are less than 30 days from the implementation date, most WSAFM member jurisdictions have already completed their system updates. A movement of the implementation date will require the jurisdictions to make numerous corrections or duplicate their work. This extension will impact both fire and information technology staff to correct. Approval of the Building Industry Association of Washington request would leave us less than three weeks to undo the changes. Our membership is prepared.

WSAFM has trained the fire service on the 2018 International Fire Code. WSAFM delivered seven on-line 2018 International Fire Code Update classes to our membership. These classes included the changes to the fire code and WAC 51-54A. We have one more scheduled at the end of the month to catch any members who still need the class. Our membership is trained.

WSAFM has also provided technical support for our members working collaboratively with our Washington Association of Building Officials counterparts in their local adoption of the Washington State Building Codes. To our knowledge, all jurisdictions have completed or are in the process of a February 1, 2021 implementation. Our membership is authorized.

WSAFM member jurisdictions are prepared, trained, and authorized to begin enforcement and regulation of the 2018 Washington State Building Codes at the local level. This late request to delay the implementation date will cause undue hardship to our member jurisdictions.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dave Kokot". The signature is written over a horizontal line.

Dave Kokot, P.E.
President
Washington State Association of Washington

CC: WSAFM Board of Directors