



Washington State Building Code Council  
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June 13, 2019

Chairman Orth & SBCC Members:

Thank you for your consideration of the Energy Code TAG's recommended residential energy code changes this week. AIA Washington Council supports the TAG's full slate of recommended code changes.

**The American Institute of Architects**

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In particular, R31, the additional efficiency credits proposal, is the most critical to meet the state's and AIA's carbon reduction goals. Many Washington architects are already designing houses that meet or exceed the efficiency levels envisaged in proposal R31, demonstrating that these technologies are readily available and desired by homebuyers.

Energy codes have proven to be the most effective means of improving energy efficiency at widespread scale. Washington has become a national leader in energy efficiency policies, as evidenced by the legislation passed in this year's legislative session, and energy codes are at the forefront of this effort.

AIA Washington Council strongly believes that it is better for the state's economy to spend money on higher-quality construction than to continue sending money out of state to purchase fuel. As higher-performing homes become business-as-usual over the next few years, the incremental cost will decrease, making these already cost-effective upgrades even more economical.

Thank you for your ongoing work and for your consideration in this matter.

Respectfully,

Corey Zachow  
President, AIA Washington Council