



Pennsylvania Builders Association
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TO: Members of the House Labor and Industry Committee

SUBJECT: Position Paper – House Bill 2079, P.N. 3118 (Rep. S.H. Smith)

DATE:

PBA SUPPORTS HOUSE BILL 2079

Bill Summary

House Bill 2079 amends the Pennsylvania Construction Code Act (Act 45 of 1999) to allow code administrators in an “opt in” municipality to issue certificates of occupancy to uncertified buildings by using technical standards created by the Department of Labor and Industry without requiring an ordinance. Currently, municipalities are required to adopt a local ordinance permitting code administrators to use the technical standards for issuance of occupancy permits for uncertified buildings.

PBA Position

PBA supports House Bill 2079 for the reasons listed below. We ask that you vote in support of the legislation.

- **Addresses aging infrastructure and revitalization.** As many communities face the rising cost of downtown revitalization in an effort to prevent sprawl, the onerous ordinance process is an unnecessary hurdle that often prevents redevelopment. HB 2079 would allow municipalities the flexibility to address specific structures or aging portions of downtowns without creating a “one size fits all” ordinance.
- **Allows code administrators and owners of “uncertified buildings” to work cooperatively.** By allowing code administrators to use the Department of Labor and Industry’s fire safety and egress technical standards without the required adoption of a local ordinance, code administrators and building owners will be able work together to certify occupancy changes for currently uncertified buildings.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 717-386-9941 or bsailhamer@pabuilders.org