February 19, 2019

Support of House Bill Number 6955; An Act Adopting the International Property Maintenance Code

Dear Committee Co-Chairpersons, Ranking Members and members of the Joint Committees on Public Safety and Security:

My name is Brian Falkner, I am the Committee Chair for the Lead and Housing Division for the Connecticut Environmental Health Association “CEHA”. We indorse the property maintenance code as written based on the International Code Councils Property Maintenance Code.

The lack of a standardized code prevents Housing Inspectors from providing a consistent service for residential properties across the state, as inspectors are forced to rely on local housing codes, if they exist. Throughout the State, our members report that local housing codes in many towns and municipalities are outdated, and are thus unable to aid inspectors in providing the expected results for the communities they serve.

I ask the committee to vote yes on House Bill 6955, which will provide a standardized framework for a uniform property maintenance code, thereby increasing the effectiveness of code enforcement officials, and ultimately ensuring that residents are protected by a Statewide housing standard.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

Brian Falkner RS.