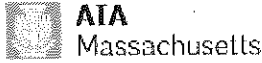




ACEC Massachusetts
American Council of Engineering Companies of Massachusetts

AGC MA
Associated General Contractors of Massachusetts



NAIOP
COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE
DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION
MASSACHUSETTS

February 24, 2017

The Honorable Peter V. Kocot, House Chairman
The Honorable Walter F. Timilty, Senate Chairman
Joint Committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight
State House, Room 22
Boston, MA 02133

RE: HB 68 - An Act to reorganize the Department of Public Safety

Dear Chairman Kocot and Timilty:

On behalf of the seven design and construction industry organizations signatory to this letter we wish to offer our support for HB 68 - An Act to Reorganize the Department of Public Safety, and ask that the committee give the bill a favorable report as soon as possible.

For over 20 years the design and construction industry has sought consolidation of the agencies, departments and boards that impact the built environment. Under the current executive branch structure 12 separate boards promulgate 14 distinct construction codes and report up through four different secretariats. This has led to inconsistent, redundant, and conflicting construction codes; jurisdictional conflicts between the various authorities having jurisdiction (AHJ's); and licensing disputes related to determining which trades should perform the required work. While the members of our organizations have managed to adapt to this structure, those unfamiliar with it find it inefficient, inconsistent, and confusing to navigate.

HB 68 looks to resolve this by creating efficiencies, eliminating redundancies, and reducing costs. It is the first step in achieving a longer term vision that includes consolidating construction code promulgating agencies under one executive office so that codes may finally be coordinated and enforced equitably; the creation of a one-stop shop for the permitting and inspections of all state building projects; and consolidation of design and construction related licensing boards under a singular agency to allow for a more uniform and consistent administration of the boards.

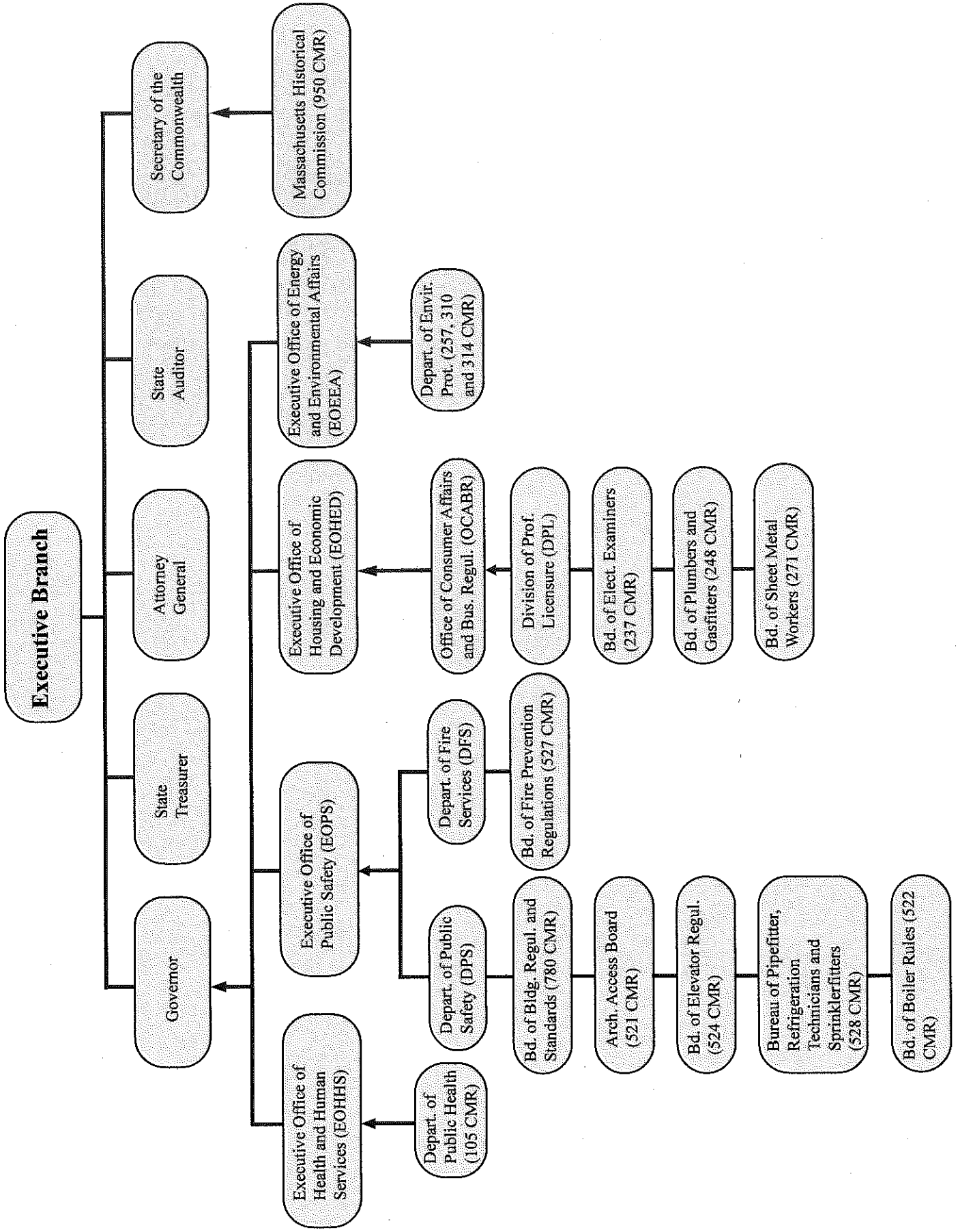
For all of these reasons we submit our support and respectfully request the committee give the bill a favorable report as soon as possible.

Thank you for your time and consideration with this matter. Should you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Associated Builders and Contractors of Massachusetts
American Council of Engineering Companies of Massachusetts
Associated General Contractors of Massachusetts
American Institute of Architects - Massachusetts Chapter
Greater Boston Real Estate Board
Home Builders and Remodelers Assoc. of Massachusetts
NAIOP Massachusetts

Current Regulatory Framework For Construction Codes in Massachusetts



Regulatory Framework Proposed via Article 87

