**Letter Concept for Group A: Alignment**

Subject: Support for Aligning and Clarifying Requirement of the *International Building Code* and ACI Documents

To Whom It May Concern:

[Opening Paragraph – Identify intent]

This letter is to recommend approval of revisions that align criteria, remove duplicate requirements, and clarify the language in the International Building Code as presented in the code change proposals submitted by the American Concrete Institute.

[Identify your firm or organization]

The XYX Association represents x number of individuals or entities involved in in concrete [design, construction, repair, etc.] or…

Our firm does [design, construction, etc.] for concrete buildings. The volume of work ranges between [dollars] or [square feet] annually and our work is being performed [nationally, list of states, etc.]

[State the problem and the need for change]

Currently there is similar but different and sometime conflicting language in the *International Building Code* (IBC) versus the requirements American Concrete Institute Building Code Requirement for Structural Concrete (ACI 318). We also find that the current language in the IBC which is shown as “modifications” to ACI 318 is a cumbersome and confusing way to address provisions in the IBC. Confusion and conflicts lead to the potential for errors and may not appropriate satisfy the intent of the code, especially where the IBC has fewer requirements or less stringent requirements that those of ACI 318. This is a particularly important issue since the IBC requirements supersede the requirements of ACI 318 which is a referenced document, while are not as complete or as extensive as those required for minimum design and construction in accordance with ACI 318. Also, the necessary repeated cross-referencing of requirements contained in the two separate, documents increases the potential for errors and omissions. The code changes also help to better align the requirements of the IBC with those of ACI 318.

[Add comments related to cost reductions]

We find that there are unnecessary costs associated with the confusion when errors or omissions occur due to similar but conflicting requirements in the IBC and ACI 318. [Elaborate and cite examples if possible.]

[Add comments related to public safety and welfare]

Most importantly, we find that the proposed code changes clarifying language in the IBC and improving the alignment the IBC with ACI 318 will help reduce errors and conflicts amongst all parties involved and improve the ability to satisfy the intent of the building code with regard to providing a reasonable level of safety, public health and general welfare through structural strength, stability, resistance to damage due to hazards. [elaborate and add specific examples if possible.]

We have reviewed the code change proposal being submitted by ACI and have requested that ACI include this letter as a portion of their reason statement to demonstrate support for the code change proposal and recommend approval as submitted during the ICC Committee Action Hearings being held April 28 – May 8, 2019 in Albuquerque, NM.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this recommendation.

Sincerely,