



A COALITION OF THE NATIONAL READY MIXED CONCRETE ASSOCIATION

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Mississippi Passes Law That Will Lead to More Resilient Construction

Bill provides insurance benefits to commercial owners who meet certain standards

Jackson, MS — Governor Reeves signed SB 2709 into law on Tuesday, June 23rd after a 116-3 vote in the House and a 51-0 vote in the Senate. The bill amends existing Mississippi code that requires insurance companies to offer a discount or rate reduction to residential building owners who build new construction to hurricane and windstorm-resistant standards. The same discounts and rebates will now be available for those that meet resiliency standards in commercial construction.

The bill will encourage the commercial construction industry to build properties that are more resilient to hurricanes, tornadoes and other natural disasters in order to mitigate loss.

Build with Strength, a coalition of the National Ready Mixed Concrete Association consisting of community organizations, fire safety professionals, engineers, architects and industry experts is proud to stand with lawmakers and communities across the country who are currently seeking code changes to encourage more resilient construction practices. Build with Strength works with communities, lawmakers, and industry employees to advocate for safer, sustainable building materials. Strengthening local and national building codes is among the organization's top priorities.

"This is a significant piece of legislation for the people of Mississippi, especially given the growing prevalence of natural disasters in our state," said Joel Waters, Executive Director of the Mississippi Concrete Association. "The damage inflicted by tornadoes, hurricanes, flooding, etc. cannot be prevented entirely, but we should be doing everything in our power to lessen the blow. Building more resilient structures plays a significant role in mitigation efforts and the hope is that this will lead to safer communities across the state."

The bill is the first of its kind in the United States' in its application to commercial structures. The increase and severity of natural disasters is requiring states and localities to examine existing law relative to construction practices in order to minimize damage in local communities.

Learn more at www.buildwithstrength.com

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