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MEMO TO:

Dan E. Sweat

FROM:

W. R. Woffordsky

The attached are some recommendations made by a Committee of questionable Congressional authority concerning building codes. The U. S. Conference of Mayors in the June meeting in Dallas adopted the report by a margin of two votes (something like 38 for, and 36 against, were cast). It is questionable and highly controversial in building code fields. It is a product of some federal people who want a federal building code and are making every effort to get one, but the model code groups, building industry and others are opposing this move.

I am acquainted with the Assistant Director, Norman Beckman, who presented the matter before the Mayors' Conference in Dallas and has been plugging the report all over the nation. The purpose of promoting the report is purely for the perpetuation of a few high federal government officials.

Incidentally, the Department of Housing and Urban Development is taking a more realistic approach by asking the Building Officials Conference of America and other code groups what they think about building codes. These groups have been employed to make reports to HUD concerning building codes throughout the nation. (I attended a meeting last week in Washington where this was discussed with Federal Code officials.)

I think some of the high officials prodded Mayor Dailey and others to press for adoption at the Dallas meeting. Since the Dallas meeting, the Advisory Commission is circulating the report, the contents of which are in direct opposition to the view of the model code groups.

I am enclosing a copy of my monthly message to the membership of the Building Officials Conference of America.

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