



March 20, 2024

The Honorable Jim Jordan
Chair
House Judiciary Committee
2056 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Jerold Nadler
Ranking Member
House Judiciary Committee
2132 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Jordan and Ranking Member Nadler:

The Copyright Alliance writes to voice our support for the Protecting and Enhancing Public Access to Codes Act (Pro Codes Act), H.R. 1631, important bi-partisan legislation that ensures that codes and standards continue to be protected by copyright and do not lose copyright protection when they are incorporated into law as long as they are accessible without charge on a publicly available website.

The Copyright Alliance is a non-profit, non-partisan organization whose mission is to foster policies that promote and preserve the value of copyright, and to protect the rights of creators and innovators. We are the unified voice of the copyright community, representing the copyright interests of over 2 million individual creators and over 15,000 organizations across the spectrum of copyright disciplines in the United States.¹ The foundation of copyright is built on the creativity and ingenuity of these creators and organizations that rely on copyright, such as authors, photographers, songwriters, musicians, filmmakers, performers, coders, architects, and graphic designers as well as motion picture studios, record labels, book publishers, software and video game companies and numerous others.

Codes and standards have long been protected by copyright. What the Pro Codes Act does is quite simple—it ensures that the codes and standards created by standards development organizations continue to be protected against infringement while concurrently guaranteeing that the public has access to these codes and standards when they are incorporated by reference into law.

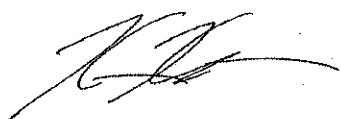
The Pro Codes Act will help to preserve the current system that has worked effectively for more than 125 years, which incentivizes standards development organizations to continue creating codes and standards that benefit society, the economy, and public safety. Without effective copyright protections, there is a risk that these organizations will no longer be able to

¹ A list of Copyright Alliance members can be found [here](#).

produce the high-quality codes and standards that the public and lawmakers have come to rely on. At the same time, the Pro Codes Act also ensures that these codes and standards are only protected if they are made available to the public once they are incorporated by reference into the law.

By taking this balanced approach, which takes into account concerns that have been voiced with prior versions of the bill, the Pro Codes Act is a clear win for standards development organizations, lawmakers, scholars, and the public. We thank you for taking up the bill and urge members of the Committee to support and swiftly pass H.R. 1631.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kupferschmid', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Keith Kupferschmid
CEO

cc: Members of the House Judiciary Committee