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**ASTM International Statement for the Record on the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual Property, Artificial Intelligence, and the Internet Hearing on “Protecting U.S. Leadership in Codes Development and Enhancing Public Access”**

During the 118th Congress, ASTM International expressed concerns with the scope, burden, and potential unintended consequences of H.R. 1631, the Protecting and Enhancing Public Access to Codes (Pro Codes) Act. At the start of the 119th Congress, Pro Codes Act sponsors asked ASTM International to suggest revisions that support the bill's intent while preserving the voluntary consensus standards development process that has served society for over a century.

Although H.R. 4072, as introduced in the 119th Congress, does not yet reflect our suggested changes, ASTM International appreciates the sponsors' receptiveness to our feedback to date. We appreciate the House Judiciary Committee's constructive efforts to advance the legislation, and we look forward to joining other not-for-profit standards and code organizations in supporting the bill, provided important revisions are made to address our concerns.

ASTM International has a history of providing the public with free access to our 1,500 standards that are incorporated by reference in Federal laws through the ASTM Reading Room, a platform on our public website ([www.astm.org](http://www.astm.org)). In recent years, we have implemented new user features to address search, ease of use, and usability. The ASTM Reading Room approach meets the public's need for access while preserving copyright so that we retain the ability to distribute them to those who need access for commercial purposes.

**About ASTM International**

Founded 127 years ago, ASTM International is a not-for-profit standards development organization (SDO) that helps our world work better through the development of voluntary consensus standards to address a wide range of health, safety, and environmental protection needs, while also supporting a rapidly evolving and innovative economy. Accredited by the American National Standards Institute, ASTM's volunteer members collaborate to reach consensus through a balanced, open, and democratic process, bringing together experts from companies, research institutes, government agencies, testing laboratories, consumer safety groups, and other interested stakeholders. ASTM International does not lobby for its standards to be incorporated into laws. For more information, contact Jeff Grove at [jgrove@astm.org](mailto:jgrove@astm.org).