

# Indiana 2026 Legislative Briefing

## HB 1001 and HB 1003 — The Assault on Public Safety Continues

In the 2026 regular session, the Indiana General Assembly passed two bills that remove enforceable protections from first responders and the people they protect — and eliminate the independent technical body that has governed Indiana’s fire and building safety codes for nearly 40 years.

**Indiana HB 1003-2026** abolishes the Fire Prevention and Building Safety Commission — Indiana’s independent, bipartisan code body. All I-Codes, NFPA Codes and Standards (including the National Electrical Code, Fire Alarm, and Sprinkler Codes) are frozen at editions that are more than a decade old. Any code change now requires action by politicians in the state legislature.

**Indiana HB 1001-2026** prohibits code officials from requiring the installation of an **ERCES** (Emergency Responder Communication Enhancement Systems — technology that improves public safety radio coverage inside buildings) in Class 1 structures — any building used by the public, with three or more tenants, or with more than one employee. **AFCI** (Arc Fault Circuit Interrupters) requirements are banned in R-2 occupancies. 48 states require them. For both provisions, existing local ordinances are voided and no local opt-out is permitted. Neither provision received a public hearing. Both were inserted as a Senate floor amendment after testimony closed on an unrelated housing bill.

*Both bills were authored or amended by Indiana legislators who simultaneously serve as leaders of the Indiana Builders Association and the National Association of Home Builders.*

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**After June 30, 2026, Indiana firefighters enter Class 1 structures with no enforceable in-building radio coverage requirement. Politicians — not fire professionals — now control the Indiana fire code. Future editions of nationally recognized standards cannot be adopted without a legislative vote.**

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**What you can do to help at FDIC:** The national fire service is meeting in Indianapolis the same year Indiana politicians gutted fire safety protections. **Ask questions** during panel discussions and workshops. **Raise this issue** in expo hall conversations and in the hallways. **When presenting**, include this issue where it connects with your topic. **The fire service’s response starts here.**



**Get the Full Story:** Scan for the complete SBC briefing at [saferbuildings.org](https://saferbuildings.org) — including full legislative text, the conflict of interest record, and an analysis of the tactics building associations are using in legislatures across the country.

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