

Resolution No: 10

Date: May 9, 2003

City: Washington, DC

NAHB Resolution

Title: Wind-borne Debris Provisions in Model Codes and Standards
Original Sponsor: Construction, Codes & Standards Committee

WHEREAS, the model building codes and industry standards have adopted wind-borne debris provisions that would make high-cost, impact-resistant glazing or other forms of protection a requirement for window and door glazing in hurricane-prone regions;

WHEREAS, damage surveys performed after major hurricanes such as Hurricane Andrew have found that wind-borne debris breaches the building envelope, allowing water damage to the building interior and its contents, but does not cause the building to collapse;

WHEREAS, wind-borne debris protection is primarily for the protection of property and not for the safety of building occupants;

WHEREAS, the National Association of Home Builders has supported and continues to push for cost-effective requirements for wind-borne debris protection in the model building codes and industry standards;

WHEREAS, several states and localities are seeking moratoriums or currently have in place moratoriums or amendments to the wind-borne debris protection requirements of the model codes and industry standards;

WHEREAS, most deaths that occur during a hurricane are caused by flooding from storm surge and not from wind-related building failures;

WHEREAS, requiring costly protection from wind-borne debris could create a false sense of security among home owners who, believing that their homes are "hurricane proof," ignore evacuation orders;

WHEREAS, NAHB supports the efforts of emergency management personnel to evacuate residents from high-hazard areas in the event of severe storms such as hurricanes;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that The National Association of Home Builders continue to oppose requirements for wind-borne debris protection in model building codes and building industry standards that are not cost-effective and that can create a false sense of security among occupants that their homes are “hurricane proof,” and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that NAHB will continue to support efforts by NAHB members and affiliates to eliminate cost-prohibitive requirements for wind-borne debris protection when adopting model codes and industry standards in their state and local jurisdictions.

Board of Directors Action:	Approved
Joint Executive/Resolutions Committee Action:	Recommends Approval
Resolutions Committee Action:	Recommends Approval
Custom Home Builders:	Recommends Approval
Remodelors Council Action:	Recommends Approval
Single Family Production Builders Action:	Recommends Approval
Single Family Small Volume Builders Action:	Recommends Approval
Multifamily Council Board of Trustees Action:	Recommends Approval
State & Local Government Affairs Committee Action:	Recommends Approval
Construction, Codes & Standards Committee Action:	Recommends Approval