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ESFI Applauds Governor Beverly Perdue's Commitment to Electrical Fire Safety

ARLINGTON, Va., Sep 15, 2009 (BUSINESS WIRE) -- The Electrical Safety Foundation International (ESFI), along with national electrical and fire safety officials, applauded action taken by Governor Beverly Perdue to put the safety of North Carolina citizens before the whims of special interests.

On Monday, Governor Perdue asked members of the North Carolina Building Code Council (BCC) to keep fire safety protections in the state building code. State and national safety advocates remain concerned that the BCC could vote to overturn electrical code requirements designed to protect North Carolina families and their homes from electrical fires. The BCC meets on Tuesday, September 15 to reexamine the statewide adoption of the 2008 National Electric Code early last year, calling for increased use of arc fault circuit interrupters (AFCI) to prevent deadly electrical fires.

"Today's action is a great example of Governor Perdue's leadership and commitment to North Carolina citizens," said Brett Brenner, president of ESFI. "We applaud the governor's common-sense approach to providing North Carolina residents and their homes with the most advanced electrical fire protection available today."

AFCIs are one of the newest and most important advancements in electrical fire protection. These innovative devices protect against arc faults in a home's wiring that cannot be detected by standard breakers.