

# HERS® Industry Advocacy Group

## Strengthening the Industry: The Power of an Industry Advocacy Group to Reach 1 Million HERS Ratings per year by 2028



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Speakers: Ryan Meres - RESNET Program Director

Paulette McGhie - RESNET Programs Manager

Michael Matthews – RESNET Programs Engagement Specialist



*“If you don’t like the road your walking, start paving another one.”*

Dolly Parton





## Why HERS Rater Advocacy?

### The RESNET HERS Advocacy Group seeks to ensure;

- *Our voice is heard on issues that are important to HERS Industry*
- *Protection and promotion of HERS Industry in all States*
- *Code adoption*
- *Support for HERS Rating views to be genuinely considered when decisions are being made*
- *Support for 45L Federal Tax Credits & and creating a WaterSense 45M Federal Tax Credit*

# RESNET Goals for Energy Code Adoption

- **Third-party energy code compliance verification, backed by quality assurance oversight**
- **Reduce the burden of energy code compliance verification on code officials**
  - Consistent compliance documentation
  - Give them access to data for ease of verification
- **Meet states/jurisdictions where they are and help them establish a path for improving energy efficiency**
- **An energy code that sets forward looking, performance-based efficiency target scores**
  - Set expectations for builders and give them plenty of time to prepare

**Key components  
of a successful  
HERS Rater  
Advocacy  
Campaign include  
the following:**

- **Understanding the issues and providing facts:**
- Get engaged in code adoption as a subject matter expert
- Get engaged in state/local policy initiatives
- Promote performance-based codes
- Promote HERS Industry priorities to grow your business



**What is the HERS® Index?**

The Home Energy Rating System (HERS®) Index is the industry standard by which a home's energy efficiency is measured

**HERSH20®**

RESNET's new water efficiency rating system



**Key  
components of  
a successful  
HERS Rater  
Advocacy  
Campaign  
include:**

- **For what issues are you advocating?**
  - Increasing the need for more HERS Rating Companies & Providers
  - Promoting & Supporting HERS Workforce Development
  - Growing the ICC IECC/HERS Code Compliance Specialist Designation
- **Who are the decision makers? What are the motivations?**
  - State Energy Development Offices
  - State Divisions of Water Resources
  - Water Districts
  - ICC Code Chapters
  - Utilities
  - Building Official Associations
  - Home Builder Associations
  - Leading Builders of America



# HERS Advocacy Call to Action

## Participate in the HBA's in your State:

- Join Education Committees, Government Affairs Committees and Code Adoption committees
- Offer CEU Credits thru HBA's to Educate Builders on
  - Benefits of ERI & HERS Index Pathways
  - HERS<sub>H2O</sub> & WaterSense Programs
  - Support the potential 45M Federal Tax Credit
  - Energy Star & Zero Energy Ready Homes
  - Utility Incentives



# HERS Advocacy Call to Action

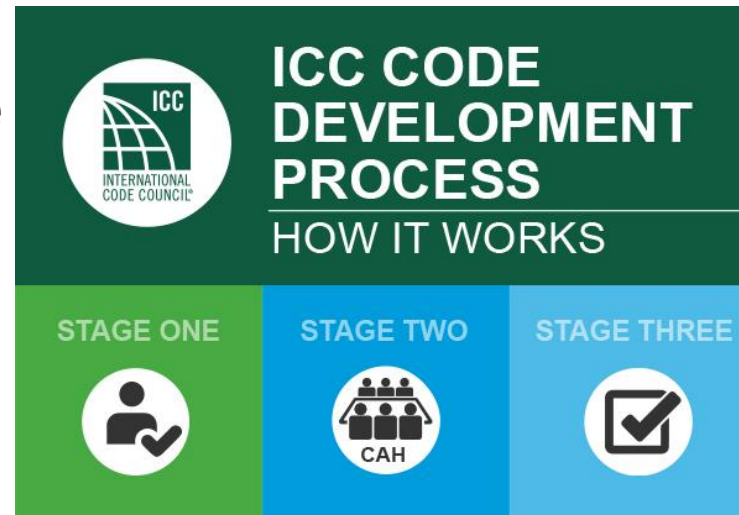
- Complete the ICC IECC/HERS Compliance Specialist Designation
- Promote HERS Index as Code Compliance Pathway or amend the ERI to be incorporated in the HERS Registry with QA requirements
- Participate in the IECC Code adoption process in every State!
- Provide ICC Code Chapters on understanding ERI & Performance Method reports



The HERS® Index is the national standard by which a home's energy efficiency is inspected and rated.

**30** percent of all single-family homes being built each year are already getting a HERS Rating by more than 2,500 certified professionals available across the U.S.

The Benefits of Using the HERS Index as



A flyer for the ICC IECC/HERS Compliance Specialist Designation. It features the ICC logo and the text "INTERNATIONAL CODE COUNCIL". The main heading is "ICC IECC/HERS Compliance Specialist Designation" with the subtitle "YOUR TRUSTED SOURCE TO ADVANCE ENERGY CODE COMPLIANCE". It lists two benefits: 1. "Can feel secure in IECC Code compliance" and 2. "Able to access untapped resources for energy code compliance inspections". It also includes a testimonial from a recent US Department of Energy commissioned study and a "How I can learn more?" section with a link to the ICC website.





**When did this change take effect?**

This change took effect for all homes permitted after September 1, 2021.

**What was changed?**

Texas House Bill 3215 updated the state's universal energy code compliance pathway to allow builders to use the HERS Index (in addition to 2018 IECC backstops) for energy code compliance across the state, in lieu of the state energy code or any stretch code adopted by municipalities.

**What does a HERS Rating include?**

- Energy Modeling
- Pre-drywall inspection
- Final inspection and testing, including duct and envelope leakage and ventilation testing.

**Other Benefits of Using the HERS Index?**

- ✓ Potential to reduce construction costs compared to prescriptive energy code compliance.
- ✓ Third-party verification of the energy performance of your homes which often reduces call backs.
- ✓ Homes are listed in the RESNET/Appraisal Institute Appraiser Portal and have the potential to receive a higher appraised value.
- ✓ Potential to be eligible for the ENERGY STAR for Homes label.
- ✓ Ability to market the environmental impact of your homes to consumers.
- ✓ Access to all your HERS Rating data through the RESNET National Registry.

**What HERS score is needed to achieve compliance?**

Each home needs to score at or below the following target HERS Index score, based on climate zone:

**HERS Index Target Score**

Climate Zone	9/1/22–8/31/25	9/1/25–8/31/28	On or After 9/1/28	Through 8/31/22
2	59	57	55	63
3	59	57	55	63
4	63	61	59	67

**How can builders take advantage of this new compliance option?**

Builders should contact their local RESNET HERS Rating Company to get started. Contact [info@resnet.us](mailto:info@resnet.us) if you need help locating a local Rating Company.

**Take advantage of this opportunity today:**  
[resnet.us/builders/hb3215](https://resnet.us/builders/hb3215)



**Facts About the HERS Industry in Texas**

<b>50%</b> of all new homes received a HERS Rating in 2022	<b>59</b> The average HERS Index Score in 2022*
<b>494k+</b> homes have been HERS Rated since 2013	<b>674+</b> Texas Certified RESNET HERS Raters and Rating Field Inspectors

\*Current average Texas HERS Score includes many above energy code program certified homes such as ENERGY STAR, NGBS, Green Built Texas, etc.

# Massachusetts Stretch Code Using HERS Index

- 98% of new homes in MA received a HERS Rating in 2023
- HERS target scores based on fuel types
- New construction and substantial renovations

**TABLE R406.5 MAXIMUM ENERGY RATING INDEX**

<b>Clean Energy Application</b>	<b>Maximum HERS Index score<sup>a, b</sup></b>		
	<b>New construction until June 30, 2024</b>	<b>New construction permits after July 1, 2024</b>	<b>Major alterations, additions, or Change of use<sup>c</sup></b>
<i>Mixed-Fuel Building</i>	52	42	52
Solar Electric Generation	55	42	55
<i>All-Electric Building</i>	55	45	55
Solar Electric & <i>All-Electric Building</i>	58	45	58

<sup>a</sup> Maximum HERS rating prior to onsite renewable electric generation in accordance with Section R406.5

<sup>b</sup> The building shall meet the mandatory requirements of Section R406.2, and the building thermal envelope shall be greater than or equal to the levels of efficiency and SHGC in Table R402.1.2 or Table R402.1.4 of the 2015 International Energy Conservation Code.

<sup>c</sup> Alterations, Additions or Change of use covered by Section R502.1.1 or R503.1.5 are subject to this maximum HERS rating.

# Southern Nevada Amended ERI Proposal

## Highlights

- Amendment to the 2024 IECC, section R406
- References current version of ANSI/RESNET/ICC 301
- 2024 IECC envelope backstop
- Quality Assurance oversight required
- Submit to RESNET Registry
- HERS Target scores based on prescriptive path
  - Climate Zone 3 = HERS 56
  - Climate Zone 5 = HERS 58
- Target scores are reduced by 4 points every 3 years through 2033
- Working with SNHBA, SNBO & HERS Rating Industry

### Home Energy Rating Certificate

Projected Report  
Based on Plans

Rating Date:  
Registry ID:  
Ekotrope ID: 26r0bYV2

#### HERS® Index Score:

**56** Your home's HERS score is a relative performance score. The lower the number, the more energy efficient the home. To learn more, visit [www.hersindex.com](http://www.hersindex.com)

#### Annual Savings

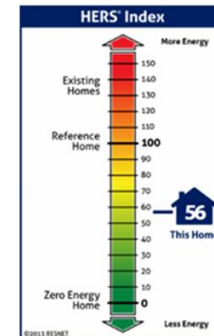
**\$1,779**  
\*Relative to an average U.S. home

**Home:**  
1234 Testing Way  
Las Vegas, NV 89104  
**Builder:**  
Bob the Builder

#### Your Home's Estimated Energy Use:

	Use [MBtu]	Annual Cost
Heating	9.3	\$314
Cooling	13.0	\$437
Hot Water	2.2	\$72
Lights/Appliances	17.5	\$589
Service Charges		\$0
Generation (e.g. Solar)	0.0	\$0
<b>Total:</b>	<b>41.9</b>	<b>\$1,413</b>

This home meets or exceeds the criteria of the following:



#### Home Feature Summary:

Home Type: Single family detached  
Model: 2150 sf  
Community: N/A  
Conditioned Floor Area: 2,150 ft<sup>2</sup>  
Number of Bedrooms: 3  
Primary Heating System: Air Source Heat Pump • Electric • 7.5 HSPF2  
Primary Cooling System: Air Conditioner • Electric • 14.3 SEER2  
Primary Water Heating: Residential Water Heater • Electric • 3.3 UEF  
House Tightness: 4.5 ACH50  
Ventilation: 100 CFM • 35 Watts (Default) • Exhaust Only  
Duct Leakage to Outside: 86 CFM @ 25Pa (4 / 100 ft<sup>2</sup>)  
Above Grade Walls: R-20  
Ceiling: Attic, R-38  
Window Type: U-Value: 0.3, SHGC: 0.25  
Foundation Walls: N/A  
Framed Floor: N/A

#### Rating Completed by:

**Energy Rater:** Ryan Meres  
RESNET ID:

**Rating Company:** RESNET

#### Rating Provider:

Ryan Meres, Certified Energy Rater  
Date: 8/15/24 at 11:22 AM



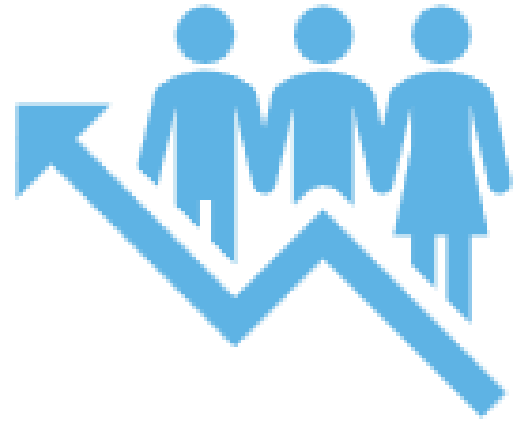
Ekotrope RATER - Version:4.2.2.3460  
The Energy Rating Disclosure for this home is available from the Approved Rating Provider.

# Overview of Advocacy Activities Include:

1. Participate in Code Adoption Committees in your State
2. Participate in HBA & ICC Chapters to provide Education & CEU's for Energy Codes, HERS Index, HERS H20, & WaterSense, Energy Star, Net Zero Ready Homes, Utility Incentives & 45 L Opportunities
3. Outreach to State SEP Offices providing Energy Code Education that supports HERS Industry Programs
4. Participate in Stretch Code Advocacy in your State (Green Programs or Carbon Index)
5. Participate in adopting the HERS Index as Code Compliance Option
6. Create Workforce Development Opportunities
7. Creating an Outreach, Education & Advocacy HERS Group in your State
8. Become an active member of the *HERS RESNET Advocacy Group* (Strength in numbers)

\* Resnet to hold Bi-Monthly meetings to hear about your State Activities & accomplishments

Together we  
are a powerful  
voice for the  
HERS  
Industry.



# Call to Action!!



**NEEDS YOU!**

**Help Defend the Federal 45L  
Energy Efficient Homes Tax Credit**

*SCAN THE QR CODE  
TO ADD YOUR NAME  
TO RESNET'S  
LETTER OF SUPPORT  
FOR CONGRESS*



# What you can do!

With the recent election, all the clean energy tax provisions of the IRA are at risk. As the new Congress convenes in 2025 by being part of the IRA the 45L tax credit will be scrutinized for possible reductions or even elimination.

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## Here's what you do:

**Find your Representative.** Find your Congressional Representative. Provide your full address for your specific rep. using: <https://www.house.gov/representatives/find-your-representative>

**Make the call:** Dial 202-224-3121 to be connected with the office of your Congressional Representative.

**Voice your support:** Urge them to protect and maintain the updated 45L Credit New Home Tax Credit.

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## Important Points to Raise:

I own a business in your District. I support the 45L New Home Tax Credit I DO NOT want Congress to weaken or eliminate it in the tax bill being considered by Congress.

I work as a HERS Rater / New Home Builder, creating High Performing Energy Efficient Homes.

The credit helps homeowners reduce the cost utilities. Our industry sees it as an important incentive for promoting HVAC and insulation upgrades in new homes.

I hope the Congressman/Congresswoman will oppose eliminating or weakening the 45L Tax Credit. It is helping homeowners and businesses in his/her district.

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# Moving Forward with HERS® Industry Advocacy

**Take the survey:** <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/VLB22PJ>

(Survey closes on March 26th)

**Sign-up to join the RESNET® HERS® Industry Advocacy Group**

(Add your email to the survey or email Michael Matthews or Paulette McGhie)

**Reach out to RESNET for energy code adoption or energy/water policy assistance at the state/local level**

- **RESNET can assist with:**
  - HERS, Carbon and H2O Rating data
  - Numbers of RESNET certified professionals
  - Policy and code analysis and development
  - Collaboration with key industry allies





# RESNET

Ryan Meres - Program Director  
Paulette McGhie – Program Manager  
Michael Matthews – Programs Engagement Specialist



# THANK YOU!



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Paulette 760-214-6637  
Michael 760-390-4400



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