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Introduction of Copyright Protection Legislation Draws Continued Support from ASHRAE

ASHRAE, along with other nonprofit standards development organizations (SDOs), announced continued endorsement of bipartisan legislation introduced in the U.S. Senate to protect the copyrights of standards.

On March 16, Senators Chris Coons (D-Del.) and John Cornyn (R-Texas) introduced the Pro Codes Act (S.835) in the Senate, with Senators Thom Tillis (R-N.C.) and Sheldon Whitehouse (D-R.I.) joining as original co-sponsors. The bipartisan bill will preserve copyright protection of codes and standards when they are incorporated by reference into federal regulations, state laws or municipal regulations.

“The rigorous, consensus-based standards

developed by ASHRAE and other SDOs are essential to public health, sustainability, safety and security,” said 2022-23 ASHRAE President Farooq Mehboob, Fellow ASHRAE. “ASHRAE proudly supports this legislation and will continue our work to provide vital standards for adoption or incorporation by reference—another step towards realizing our vision of a healthy and sustainable built environment for all.”

The bill states that the U.S. benefits greatly from the work of private standards development organizations with expertise in highly specialized areas.

Read S.835 in its entirety at tinyurl.com/pro-codes-act ■

Learning the HVAC&R Ropes as an Engineer-in-Training

BY ETHAN PARKS, ASSOCIATE MEMBER ASHRAE

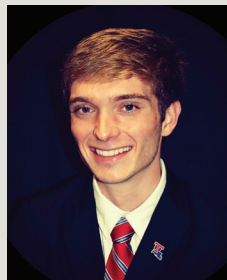
Born in Shreveport, La., where I was raised, my first exposure to the HVAC industry came from working for my dad within my grandfather’s mechanical contracting company at the age of 14. Throughout my teens, I worked at the office at first, then as a laborer, supporting my father and the other foremen on sites. This led me to pursue a mechanical engineering degree at Louisiana Tech University (graduating class of 2021). Since then, I’ve worked at two engineering/design firms (my first in Sarasota, Fla., renovating large hospitals) before I returned home to work at a Shreveport-based company earlier this year.

Every firm in the southern U.S. has the same goal when it comes to designing HVAC systems: provide an exceptional client experience and ensure that you never receive the “it’s hot” call in the summer. However, no two firms do everything the same

way, and I encourage any engineers-in-training (EITs) who are considering making a switch to another firm to do so if you would like to grow as an engineer quickly. Any EIT can succeed in the industry if they follow these tips:

1. Ask as many questions early on as needed (ignorance is not stupidity).
2. Take notes until your hands fall off.
3. Listen to the mechanical engineers any time they speak.
4. Pay attention to how the engineers carry themselves around clients.
5. See how the engineers reach out to equipment vendors/manufacturers.
6. Stay organized and don’t let a mound of work overwhelm you.

For more tips on starting out in the HVAC&R industry and on Ethan’s experience as an engineer-in-training, visit tinyurl.com/industry-news-eit ■



Ethan Parks