

2010 -- H 7706

LC02018

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2010

A N A C T

RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- THE FIRE SAFETY CODE

Introduced By: Representatives Serpa, Vaudreuil, Martin, Newberry, and Ferri

Date Introduced: February 25, 2010

Referred To: House Corporations

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 23-28.1-6 of the General Laws in Chapter 23-28.1 entitled
2 "Comprehensive Fire Safety Act" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **23-28.1-6. Applicability to new or existing structures.** -- (a) All regulations contained
4 in this code apply to all structures unless specifically exempted. Prior to a building permit being
5 issued, all plans for buildings regulated under this code shall be submitted to the authority having
6 jurisdiction. The authority having jurisdiction shall approve or disapprove the completed set of
7 plans within a reasonable time not to exceed ~~ninety (90)~~ fifteen (15) days. When a change of use
8 or type of occupancy is made in an existing building, the building shall conform to the
9 requirements established by the rehabilitation building and fire code for existing buildings and
10 structures, or if the rehabilitation building and fire code for existing structures is not applicable, to
11 the requirements for new structures as related to the proposed use or type of occupancy.
12 ~~Notwithstanding the foregoing, any completed set of plans relating to the construction or~~
13 ~~rehabilitation of a residential dwelling occupied by one, two (2), and/or three (3) families shall be~~
14 ~~approved or disapproved within sixty (60) days.~~

15 (b) In existing structures, since it is not always practical or efficient to strictly apply all
16 of the provisions of the code, the authority having jurisdiction shall have the power to implement
17 and enforce the provisions of the code as provided for in the Uniform Fire Code (NFPA 1) and
18 the Life Safety Code (NFPA 101) with annexes, as applicable to existing structures, consistent
19 with such rules and regulations as may be adopted and such decisions as may be rendered by the

1 Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal and Review.

2 (c) Application of the code to new and existing structures shall be consistent with such
3 blanket variances, variances, and rules, as may be approved by the Fire Safety Code Board of
4 Appeal and Review, and such modifications as may be issued in writing by the authority having
5 jurisdiction, in accordance with NFPA 101, with annexes.

6 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
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RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- THE FIRE SAFETY CODE

- 1 This act would reduce from ninety (90) days to fifteen (15) days the time within which
- 2 building plans must be approved or disapproved by the appropriate authority.
- 3 This act would take effect upon passage.

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