

EXHIBIT 84

NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE BUILDING CODE PROPOSED AMENDMENT

Proposed amendment submitted by:

Name: Richard W. Wood, President Date: October 6, 2009

Company/ Jurisdiction : NH Fire Prevention Society

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Applicable code: IBC IRC IPC IMC IECC NFPA 70
(circle applicable code)

Current code language (including section numbers) :

R313.1 Townhouse automatic fire systems.

An automatic residential fire sprinkler system shall be installed in Townhouses.

Exception:

An automatic residential fire sprinkler system shall not be required for additions or alterations to existing townhouses that are not already provided with an automatic residential sprinkler system.

R313.2 One and two family dwellings automatic fire systems.

Effective January 1, 2011, an automatic residential fire sprinkler system shall be installed in one and two family dwellings.

Exception:

An automatic residential fire sprinkler system shall not be required for additions or alterations to existing buildings that are not already provided with an automatic residential sprinkler system.

Proposed code language:

R313.1 Townhouse automatic fire systems.

An automatic residential fire sprinkler system shall be installed in Townhouses.

Exception:

An automatic residential fire sprinkler system shall not be required for additions or alterations to existing townhouses that are not already provided with an automatic residential sprinkler system, *unless the installation is required by another legally adopted code or ordinance.*

Exception 2:

An automatic residential fire sprinkler system shall not be required for townhouse projects that have received planning and zoning approval after January 1, 2006, but prior to the adoption of this code.

R313.2 One and two family dwellings automatic fire systems.

An automatic residential fire sprinkler system *may* be installed in one and two family dwellings covered by this code.

Exception:

An automatic residential fire sprinkler system shall not be required for additions or alterations to existing buildings that are not already provided with an automatic residential sprinkler system *unless the installation is required by another legally adopted code or ordinance.*

R313.2.1 One and two family dwellings automatic fire systems.

Buildings provided with an automatic residential fire sprinkler system shall be allowed to exercise all credits regarding egress as adopted as part of the state fire code in accordance with RSA155-A:2 II

Reason / Justification:

First, let me go on record stating that the NH Fire Prevention Society is dedicated to promoting fire and life safety in the built environment. We also recognize that there is no dispute regarding the impressive track record residential fire sprinklers have regarding saving lives. In fact we believe that it is our duty to work to ensure all buildings are constructed in such a manner as to provide the safest possible environment for people to work and live.

That being said, we cannot ignore the inherent lack of infrastructure currently in the State of NH regarding the ability to install home fire sprinklers. This problem is exacerbated further when we travel north of Concord. Currently there are only a handful of trained, equipped, and active fire protection system companies installing residential sprinkler systems. There are even fewer trained installers of the combination systems which install home fire sprinklers as part of the homes plumbing system. While the southern portion of the state is ripe for this kind of requirement, to impose this requirement state wide at this point would likely result in a huge demand with little ability to adequately supply that demand. The end result would likely be significantly elevated costs, faulty installations as untrained, inexperienced people enter the business to try to meet demand, which will likely lead to unreliable installations that will not accomplish their desired purpose.

Accordingly, we feel the proposed amendment would leave the language in the body of the code, creating greater visibility for this issue. We also have committed to working with the State Fire Marshal, The NH Fire Chief's Association, the NH Building Officials Association, and the Home Builders and Remodelers Association of NH to actively promote the use of residential home fire sprinklers, seek out and provide training to installers to expand the ability to meet the needs of the state, and provide training and educational materials to the building and remodeling community to assist with marketing home sprinklers and how this would benefit the builder.

We feel strongly that this type of active partnership will ultimately lead to a stronger more effective wide spread implementation of residential home fire sprinklers in New Hampshire in the future, ultimately achieving the intent of the code as outlined in R101.3.

Code Board Action:

Date: _____

Approved: _____ Approved with modifications: _____ Not approved: _____

Modifications: