

NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE BUILDING CODE
PROPOSED AMENDMENT FORM

Proposed amendment submitted by:

RE-15-29-17

Name: Wayne Richardson
Date: Wednesday, May 17, 2017
Company /Organization: NH Building Officials Association

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Applicable code: IRC2015 (2nd printing)

Applicable code section: R302.13

Current language {including section numbers and include prior adopted amendments):

R302.13 Fire protection of floors. Floor assemblies that are not required elsewhere in this code to be fire-resistance rated, shall be provided with 1/2 inch (12.7 mm) gypsum wallboard membrane, 5/8-inch (916 mm) wood structural panel membrane, or equivalent on the underside of the floor framing member. Penetrations or openings for ducts, vents, electrical outlets, lighting, devices, luminaires, wires, speakers, drainage, piping and similar openings or penetrations shall be permitted.

Exceptions:

1. Floor assemblies located directly over a space protected by an automatic sprinkler system in accordance with Section P2904, NFPA 13 D, or other approved equivalent sprinkler system.
2. Floor assemblies located directly over a crawl space not intended for storage or fuel-fired appliances.
3. Portions of floor assemblies shall be permitted to be unprotected where complying with the following:
 - 3.1 The aggregate area of the unprotected portions does not exceed 80 square feet (7.4 m squared) per story.
 - 3.2 Fire blocking in accordance with Section R302.11.1 is installed along the perimeter of the unprotected portion to separate the unprotected portion from the remainder of the floor assembly.
4. Wood floor assemblies using dimension lumber or structural composite lumber equal to or greater than 2-inch by 10-inch (50.8 mm by 254 mm) nominal dimension, or other approved floor assemblies demonstrating equivalent fire performance.

Check one: Delete without substitution: Add new section to read as follows:

Delete section and substitute the following: Revise section to read as follows: ~~Show Line through material to be deleted~~ Underline material to be added.

Proposed code language:

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4. Wood floor assemblies using dimension lumber or structural composite lumber equal to or greater than 2-inch by 10-inch (50.8 mm by 254 mm) nominal dimension, or other approved floor assemblies demonstrating equivalent fire performance.
5. Floor assemblies having been protected by an alternative method that has been evaluated as meeting the criteria for alternative methods of construction as outlined in R104.11.

Financial Analysis/Fiscal Impact of proposed amendment:

The reason for this proposed amendment is due to the objections of any type of sprinkler system mandate even in a limited capacity. There has a great deal of research done by the Engineered Wood Association (apawood.org) to explore other possible equivalent forms of protection based upon the criteria of R302.13. They have provided a comprehensive document (SR 405E – April 2016) outlining the methodology used for equivalency evaluation along with clear and concise pictographic and text for each type of protection system. The reason this specific report is not called out in the amendment is it would be unwise to limit the code language to a specific industry document when it is very likely there will be other similar document forthcoming in the future.

Fiscal impact: There will be an increased cost for those structures using engineered floor framing. It is our estimation the material cost to provide protection for a typical "I" joist system spaced 16" on center will be \$0.35/ sq. ft., using current non-contractor rate for 1/2" drywall, this is presuming the system to be used is one where drywall panels rest on I joists flanges. If we presume a 1600 sq. ft. basement ceiling; cost for materials, presuming no effort to recycle any of the waste material from finished space drywall installation, would be \$560.00.

For Building Code Review Board Use:

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

Scheduled Hearing Date: _____ Exhibit #: _____

Chair's Signature: [Signature] Date: 09 June 2017

Printed Name: Shawn G. Bergeron