

**CTC Meeting #27  
JUNE 17 – 18, 2013**

**CTC Care  
Group B Public Comment Drafts.**

The following 2013 Group B changes have been compiled for the above noted CTC Area of Study. Code changes with an (\*) indicate CTC sponsored code changes. Code changes with an (\*\*) indicate joint CTC and Adhoc Health sponsored code changes. These changes are intended to serve as the agenda for the CTC in order to establish CTC public comments, if any, for the upcoming 2013 Group B Final Action Hearings. THIS REPORT ONLY INCLUDES THOSE CODE CHANGES FOR WHICH CTC HAS TAKEN A POSITION ON A CODE CHANGE.

\*\*EB33 - D  
F109-AM (\*\*F111-D)  
F133-AS  
F212 Part I – D (CTC)

Code changes reviewed by the study group but not recommended for public comments are:

EB34-AM  
EB36-AM (CTC)  
F33-AM  
F54-AM (CTC)  
F187 – AS  
F212 Part II – D (CTC)  
F225-AM (CTC)  
\*F227-AM  
\*\*F240-AM  
\*\*F291-AM  
F340 – AS (Send comments to FCAC)  
F360-AM

## **EB33 – D**

**Proponent:** John Williams, CBO, Chair, ICC Ad Hoc Committee on Health Care (john.williams@doh.wa.gov) and Carl Baldassarra, P.E., FSFPE, Chair, ICC Code Technology Committee (cbaldassarra@RJAGroup.com)

**Revise as follows:**

**804.4.1 Occupancy requirements.** A fire alarm system shall be installed in accordance with Sections 804.4.1.1 through 804.4.1.7. Existing alarm-notification appliances shall be automatically activated throughout the building. Where the building is not equipped with a fire alarm system, alarm-notification appliances within the *work area* shall be provided and automatically activated.

**Exceptions:**

1. Occupancies with an existing, previously approved fire alarm system.
2. Where selective notification is permitted, alarm notification appliances shall be automatically activated in the areas selected.

**804.4.1.3 Group I-2.** A fire alarm system shall be installed in work areas of Group I-2 occupancies as required by the International Fire Code for ~~existing~~ new Group I-2 occupancies.

**Reason:** This proposed change is a joint proposal from the ICC Ad Hoc Committee on Healthcare (AHC) and the Code Technology Committee (CTC). The scope of the AHC deals with Group I-2 hospitals (now Group I-2 Condition 2 as a result of approved code change G257-12) and the scope of the CTC's investigation of the area of study entitled "Care Facilities" addresses Group I-1 and Group I-2 Condition 1 (nursing homes).

This section in the IEBC refers you to the IFC for fire alarm requirements in existing buildings undergoing a Level 2 Alteration. Section 1103.7.3 of the IFC refers back to the new construction requirements of Section 907.2.6.2. This proposal removes the circuitous references by stipulating that the fire alarm system needs to be installed as required for new construction.

This is a joint proposal submitted by the ICC Ad Hoc Committee for Healthcare and the ICC Code Technology Committee.

The AHC was established by the ICC Board of Directors to evaluate and assess contemporary code issues relating to hospitals and ambulatory healthcare facilities. The AHC is composed of building code officials, fire code officials, hospital facility engineers, and state healthcare enforcement representatives. The goals of the committee are to ensure that the ICC family of codes appropriately addresses the fire and life safety concerns of a highly specialized and rapidly evolving healthcare delivery system. This process is part of a joint effort between ICC and the American Society for Healthcare Engineering, a subsidiary of the American Hospital Association, to eliminate duplication and conflicts in healthcare regulation. Since its inception in April 2011, the AHC has held 8 open meetings and over 150 workgroup calls which included members of the AHC as well as any interested party to discuss and debate the proposed changes. All meeting materials and reports are posted on the AHC website at: <http://www.iccsafe.org/cs/AHC/Pages/default.aspx>.

The ICC Board established the ICC Code Technology Committee (CTC) as the venue to discuss contemporary code issues in a committee setting which provides the necessary time and flexibility to allow for full participation and input by any interested party. This proposal is submitted by the ICC Code Technology Committee. The ICC Board established the ICC Code Technology Committee (CTC) as the venue to discuss contemporary code issues in a committee setting which provides the necessary time and flexibility to allow for full participation and input by any interested party. The code issues are assigned to the CTC by the ICC Board as "areas of study". Information on the CTC, including: meeting agendas; minutes; reports; resource documents; presentations; and all other materials developed in conjunction with the CTC effort can be downloaded from the following website: <http://www.iccsafe.org/cs/CTC/Pages/default.aspx>. Since its inception in April/2005, the CTC has held twenty-five meetings - all open to the public. In 2012, three of the 25 face-to face meetings were held. In addition to the CTC meetings, the CTC established Study Groups (SG) of interested parties for each of the areas of study. These SG's are responsible for reviewing the available information and making recommendations to the CTC. All totaled, the SG's held over 70 conference calls in 2012.

**Cost Impact:** This code change proposal will not increase the cost of construction.

**Committee Action:**

**Disapproved**

**Committee Reason:** This proposal was felt to conflict with the IFC for existing Group I-2 occupancies. Other concerns related to the fact that this provision should be dealt with in the change of occupancy requirements for new installations.

**Assembly Action:**

**None**

**Study group recommendation:**

**Replace the proposal with the following:**

**804.4.1 Occupancy requirements.** A fire alarm system shall be installed in accordance with Sections 804.4.1.1 through 804.4.1.7. Existing alarm-notification appliances shall be automatically activated throughout the building. Where the building is not equipped with a fire alarm system, alarm-notification appliances within the *work area* shall be provided and automatically activated.

**Exceptions:**

1. Occupancies with an existing, previously approved fire alarm system.
2. Where selective notification is permitted, alarm notification appliances shall be automatically activated in the areas selected.

**804.4.1.3 Group I-2.** A fire alarm system shall be installed ~~in work areas of~~ throughout Group I-2 occupancies as required by the International Fire Code for ~~existing~~ Group I-2 occupancies.

**Reason:** The proposal was not discussion new vs. existing occupancies. The intent is to send the designer to the correct location for fire alarms as required in IFC and maintaining correlation in the codes. Section 804.4.1 could be confusing for designers. Fire Codes and CMS require fire alarms throughout a Group I-2 already.

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## F111 – 13

(IBC [F] 202); 807.1 (IBC [F] 806.1), 807.4, 807.4.1, 807.4.3.1, 807.4.4, 807.4.4.1, 807.4.5(New)

**Proponent:** John Williams, CBO, Chair, ICC Ad Hoc Committee on Health Care (john.williams@doh.wa.gov) and Carl Baldassarra, P.E., FSFPE, Chair, ICC Code Technology Committee (cbaldassarra@RJAGroup.com)

**Revise as follows:**

### SECTION 202 (IBC [F] 202) GENERAL DEFINITIONS

**DECORATIVE MATERIALS.** All materials applied over the building *interior finish* for decorative, acoustical or other effect (~~such as including but not limited to~~ curtains, draperies, fabrics, streamers and surface coverings), and all other materials utilized for decorative effect (~~such as including but not limited to, photographs, paintings, bulletin boards, artwork, posters,~~ batting, cloth, cotton, hay, stalks, straw, vines, leaves, trees, moss and similar items), including foam plastics and materials containing foam plastics. Decorative materials do not include floor coverings, ordinary window shades, *interior finish* and materials 0.025 inch (0.64 mm) or less in thickness applied directly to and adhering tightly to a substrate.

### SECTION 807 DECORATIVE MATERIALS OTHER THAN DECORATIVE VEGETATION IN NEW AND EXISTING BUILDINGS

**IFC 807.1 (IBC [F] 806.1) General requirements.** In occupancies in Groups A, E, ~~I-4~~ and R-1 and dormitories in Group R-2, curtains draperies, hangings and other combustible decorative materials suspended from walls or ceilings shall meet the flame propagation performance criteria of NFPA 701 in accordance with section 807.2 or be noncombustible.

#### Exceptions:

1. Curtains, draperies, hangings and other combustible decorative materials suspended from walls of *sleeping units* and *dwelling units* in dormitories in Group R-2 ~~protected~~ equipped by an *approved automatic sprinkler system* installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1 and such materials are limited to not more than 50 percent of the aggregate area of walls.
2. Decorative materials, including, but not limited to, photographs and paintings in dormitories in Group R-2 where such materials are of limited quantities such that a hazard of fire development or spread is not present.

In Groups I-1 and I-2, curtains, draperies, hangings and other combustible decorative materials suspended from walls or ceilings shall meet the flame propagation performance criteria of NFPA 701 or be noncombustible unless the decorative materials, including, but not limited to, photographs and paintings, are of such limited quantities that a hazard of fire development or spread is not present.

In Group I-3, combustible decorative materials are prohibited.

Fixed or movable walls and partitions, paneling, wall pads and crash pads applied structurally or for decoration, acoustical correction, surface insulation or other purposes shall be considered *interior finish* if they cover 10 percent or more of the wall or of the ceiling area, and shall not be considered *decorative materials* or furnishings.

In Group B and M occupancies, fabric partitions suspended from the ceiling and not supported by the floor shall meet the flame propagation performance criteria in accordance with Section 806.2 and NFPA 701 or shall be noncombustible.

**IFC 807.4 Occupancy-based requirements.** In occupancies specified in ~~Group A, E and I-4 day care facilities~~, combustible decorative materials other than decorative vegetation shall comply with Sections 807.4.1 through ~~807.4.4.2~~ 807.4.5.4.

**IFC 807.4.1 General.** All of the following requirements shall apply to all Group A, ~~and E occupancies and Group I-4 day care facilities~~ occupancies regulated by Sections 807.4.2 through 807.4.4:

1. ~~Explosive or highly flammable materials:~~ Furnishings or decorative materials of an explosive or highly flammable character shall not be used.
2. ~~Fire-retardant coatings:~~ Fire-retardant coatings in existing buildings shall be maintained so as to retain the effectiveness of the treatment under service conditions encountered in actual use.
3. ~~Obstructions:~~ Furnishings or other objects shall not be placed to obstruct *exits*, access thereto, egress there from or visibility thereof.

**807.4.2 Group A.** *(No change)*

**807.4.2.1 Foam plastics.** *(No change)*

**807.4.2.2 Motion picture screens.** *(No change)*

**807.4.2.3 Wood use in Group A-3 places of religious worship.** *(No change)*

**807.4.3 Group E.** *(No change)*

**807.4.3.1 Storage in corridors and lobbies.** Clothing and personal effects shall not be stored in *corridors* and lobbies.

**Exceptions:**

1. *Corridors* protected by an *approved automatic sprinkler system* installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1.
2. *Corridors* protected by an *approved smoke detection system* installed in accordance with Section 907.
3. Storage in metal lockers, provided the minimum required egress width is maintained.

**807.4.3.2 Artwork.** *(No change to current text)*

**807.4.4 Group I-4, ~~day care facilities.~~** Group I-4 occupancies shall comply with, the requirements in Sections 807.4.4.1 and 807.4.4.2 ~~shall apply to day care facilities classified in Group I-4.~~

**807.4.4.1 Storage in corridors and lobbies.** Clothing and personal effects shall not be stored in *corridors* and lobbies.

**Exceptions:**

1. *Corridors* protected by an *approved automatic sprinkler system* installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1.
2. *Corridors* protected by an *approved smoke detection system* installed in accordance with Section 907.
3. Storage in metal lockers, provided the minimum required egress width is maintained.

**807.4.4.2 Artwork.** Artwork and teaching materials shall be limited on the walls of *corridors* to not more than 20 percent of the wall area.

**IFC 807.4.5 Groups I-1 and I-2.** In Groups I-1 and I-2 occupancies, combustible *decorative materials* shall comply with Sections 807.4.5.1 through 807.4.5.4

**IFC 807.4.5.1 Group I-1 and Group I-2 Condition 1 within units.** In Group I-1 and Group I-2 Condition 1 occupancies, equipped throughout by an *approved automatic sprinkler system* installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1, within sleeping units and dwelling units, combustible decorative materials are limited to not more than 50 percent of the aggregate wall area.

**IFC 807.4.5.2 In Group I-1 and Group I-2 Condition 1 for areas other than within units.** In Group I-1 and Group I-2 Condition 1 occupancies, equipped throughout by an *approved automatic sprinkler system* installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1, combustible decorative materials in areas other than within dwelling and sleeping units are limited to not more than 30 percent of the aggregate wall area.

**IFC 807.4.5.3 In Group I-2 Condition 2.** In Group I-2 Condition 2 occupancies, equipped throughout by an *approved automatic sprinkler system* installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1, the combustible decorative materials are limited to not more than 30 percent of the aggregate wall area.

**IFC 807.4.5.4 Other areas in Groups I-1 and I-2.** In Group I-1 and I-2 occupancies, in areas not equipped throughout by an *approved automatic sprinkler system*, the combustible decorative materials, shall be of such limited quantities that a hazard of fire development or spread is not present.

**Reason:** The intent of this proposal is to create consistent language for the Group I-1, I-2, and I-4 language for flame resistant curtains complying with NFPA 701 and the appropriate amount of paper permitted in these environments. The format for Group I-2 is consistent with how education and day care are currently addressed.

807.1 –The change from Group I-1 to I-4 in the first line is because I-1, I-2 and I-3 are addressed later in the section. For Group I-1 and I-2, the language is revised so it is clear what materials must comply with NFPA 701. Allowances for other decorative materials in Group I-1 and I-2 will be addressed in a new Section 807.4.5.

In the remainder of revised sections, the changes are editorial clean ups for consistent use of language and current terminology.

- 807.4 is revised to include the provisions added for Group I-1 and I-2.
- 807.4.1 is revised to remove redundant language.
- 807.4.3.1 is revised for consistent language with the referenced Section 907
- 807.4.4 is revised to remove redundant language.
- 807.4.4.1 is revised for consistent language with the referenced Section 907

807.4.5 is new text to address Group I-1 and I-2 facilities.-

Residents/patients in health care facilities increasingly seek to make their stay be comfortable and maintain connections with family and community. Part of this process may include decorating their bedrooms with personal décor from their homes, pictures drawn by their grandchildren, get well cards and other such items. The code currently calls for any combustible decorations to meet the flame spread requirements of NFPA 701, and a report must be provided to the code official. However, it is not practical nor routinely possible for every construction paper drawing or greeting card to be tested to NFPA 701 or to be treated with a flame retardant coating.

However, Section 407.2.1 of the code allows waiting or similar areas to be open to corridors. These types of spaces typically have magazines, bulletin boards with paper notices tacked to them, and other combustible items, not treated with flame retardants nor tested to NFPA 701. We submit that by allowing a specified percentage of un-treated, combustible decorative materials, in fully sprinkled Group I-1 and I-2 buildings, we do not exceed the “ordinary occupancy” classification outlined in NFPA 13, nor to do we increase the fire loading above what is currently permitted. What this proposal does do, though, is provide consistent language to aid enforcement, and provides a guide to providers to determine compliance within their facilities. This should eliminate the haphazard and inconsistent application of these provisions in facilities nationwide. A brief outline of the new provisions are as follows:

Section 807.4.5.1 - Group I-1 and I-2 Condition 1 buildings, that are protected throughout with an automatic sprinkler system, would be allowed to have combustible decorative materials that cover up to 50% of the aggregate area of walls inside of resident rooms. This is consistent with the requirements within sprinklered dwelling units in Group R-2 dormitories.

Section 807.4.5.2 - In I-1 and I-2 Condition 1 buildings, that are protected throughout with an automatic sprinkler system, spaces other than resident rooms would be limited to 30% coverage of walls by combustible decorative materials. This would include common spaces and corridors.

Section 807.4.5.3 - For Group I-2 Condition 2 buildings, protected throughout with an automatic sprinkler system, all spaces would be limited to 30% coverage of walls. The need for this allowance is for such items as pictures, bulletin boards, safety bulletins, educational materials, patient bills or rights, allowing longer term patients to put up cards, and limited holiday decorations.

Section 807.4.5.4 - For existing Group I-1 and I-2 non-sprinkled buildings, and for Group I-2 buildings that have not yet retroactively provide complete automatic sprinkler protection, Section 807.4.5.4 shall apply. This text is current language relocated from Section 807.1.

Please note, that this proposed language change would also include combustible decorations that are tested to NFPA 701 or have been treated with an approved fire retardant coating within these limits. This change would also allow decorations to be placed on doorways, as long as they are either less than 50% coverage inside a Group I-1 or I-2 Condition 1 resident or 30% in other areas, and do not obstruct the use of the door, nor block vision panels.

This proposal is submitted by the ICC Ad Hoc Committee for Healthcare (AHC). The AHC was established by the ICC Board of Directors to evaluate and assess contemporary code issues relating to hospitals and ambulatory healthcare facilities. The AHC is composed of building code officials, fire code officials, hospital facility engineers, and state healthcare enforcement representatives. The goals of the committee are to ensure that the ICC family of codes appropriately addresses the fire and life safety concerns of a highly specialized and rapidly evolving healthcare delivery system. This process is part of a joint effort between ICC and the American Society for Healthcare Engineering, a subsidiary of the American Hospital Association, to eliminate duplication and conflicts in healthcare regulation. Since its inception in April 2011, the AHC has held 8 open meetings and over 150 workgroup calls which included members of the AHC as well as any interested party to discuss and debate the proposed changes. All meeting materials and reports are posted on the AHC website at: <http://www.iccsafe.org/cs/AHC/Pages/default.aspx>.

This proposal is being co-sponsored by the ICC Code Technology Committee. The ICC Board established the ICC Code Technology Committee (CTC) as the venue to discuss contemporary code issues in a committee setting which provides the necessary time and flexibility to allow for full participation and input by any interested party. The code issues are assigned to the CTC by the ICC Board as "areas of study". Information on the CTC, including: meeting agendas; minutes; reports; resource documents; presentations; and all other materials developed in conjunction with the CTC effort can be downloaded from the following website: <http://www.iccsafe.org/cs/CTC/Pages/default.aspx>. Since its inception in April/2005, the CTC has held twenty five meetings - all open to the public.

**Cost Impact:** None

**Committee Action:**

**Disapproved**

**Committee Reason:** The wording in Section 807.4.5.1 appeared awkward and was in need of revision as to how the term combustible material related to the section. In addition, the titles for the newly introduced sections addressing Group I-1 and I-2 occupancies needed more work. Specifically the use of the term "unit" on its own was confusing. Also the proposal needs to be coordinated with F109-13.

**Assembly Action:**

**None**

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**Study Group recommendation: F111 was proposed by CTC and Adhoc Health. F111 was disapproved after a floor medication intended to coordinate with F109(AM)/F110(D) & F3(AS)/F4(D) was submitted. The study group proposes a modification to F109 specifically to address paper in Group I-2 only.**

## **F109-AM**

**Proponent:** John Williams, CBO, Chair, ICC Ad Hoc Committee on Health Care ([john.williams@doh.wa.gov](mailto:john.williams@doh.wa.gov)) and Carl Baldassarra, P.E., FSFPE, Chair, ICC Code Technology Committee ([cbaldassarra@RJAGroup.com](mailto:cbaldassarra@RJAGroup.com))

**Further modify the proposal as following:**

**IFC 807.5.3 Groups I-1 and I-2.** In Groups I-1 and I-2 occupancies, combustible *decorative materials* shall comply with Sections 807.5.3.1 through 807.5.3.4.

**IFC 807.5.3.1 Group I-1 and Group I-2 Condition 1 within sleeping units and dwelling units.** In Group I-1 and Group I-2 Condition 1 occupancies, equipped throughout by an *approved automatic sprinkler system* installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1, within sleeping units and dwelling units, combustible decorative materials are limited to not more than 50 percent of the aggregate wall area.

**IFC 807.5.3.2 In Group I-1 and Group I-2 Condition 1 for areas other than within sleeping units and dwelling units.** In Group I-1 and Group I-2 Condition 1 occupancies, equipped throughout by an *approved automatic sprinkler system* installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1, combustible decorative materials in areas other than within sleeping units and dwelling units are limited to not more than 30 percent of the aggregate wall area.

**IFC 807.5.3.3 In Group I-2 Condition 2.** In Group I-2 Condition 2 occupancies, equipped throughout by an *approved automatic sprinkler system* installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1, the combustible decorative materials are limited to not more than 30 percent of the aggregate wall area.

**IFC 807.5.3.4 Other areas in Groups I-1 and I-2.** In Group I-1 and I-2 occupancies, in areas not equipped throughout by an *approved automatic sprinkler system*, the combustible decorative materials, shall be of such limited quantities that a hazard of fire development or spread is not present.

~~**807.5.5 Groups I-1 and I-2.** In Groups I-1 and I-2 occupancies, combustible decorative materials shall be of such limited quantities that a hazard of fire development or spread is not present.~~

~~**807.5.4 807.5.6 Group I-3.** (No change to text)~~

~~**807.5.5 807.5.3 Group I-4, day care facilities.** (No change to text)~~

~~**807.5.5.1 807.5.3.4 Storage in corridors and lobbies.** (No change to text)~~

~~**807.5.5.2 807.5.3.2 Artwork in corridors.** (No change to text)~~

~~**807.5.5.3 807.5.3.3 Artwork in classrooms.** (No change to text)~~

~~**807.5.6 807.5.4 Dormitories in Group R-2.** (No change to text)~~

*(Portions or proposal not shown remain unchanged.)*

**Reason:** The renumbering is to put the groups addressed in alphabetical order for ease of use.

Code change F109 was approved as modified as part of a coordination effort between F109 and F110. This is a good cleanup of the section and is indicated below as it will appear in the 2015 IBC. This change, along with the approval of F3, addressed the issues in F111 with the exception of the allowance for paper in assisted living facilities, nursing homes and hospitals.

The committee did not really express any reasons for not approving the percentages recommended. There was a floor modification that attempted to coordinate F111 with the coordination work being done with F109 and F110 which appeared to confuse the issue.

Section 807.5.5, dealing with Group I-2, while a relocation of existing language, is very open for interpretation and/or unenforceable. This proposal pulls the more exact language in F111 to put it here to address situations in Group I-1 and I-2 facilities such as assisted living, nursing homes and hospitals.

#### **SECTION 807 (IBC [F] 806) DECORATIVE MATERIALS OTHER THAN DECORATIVE VEGETATION IN NEW AND EXISTING BUILDINGS**

**807.1 (IBC [F]806.1) General.** Combustible decorative materials, other than decorative vegetation, shall comply with Section 807.2 through 807.5.

**807.2 (IBC [F]806.2) General.** The following requirements shall apply to all occupancies:

1. Furnishings or decorative materials of an explosive or highly flammable character shall not be used.
2. Fire-retardant coatings in existing buildings shall be maintained so as to retain the effectiveness of the treatment under service conditions encountered in actual use.
3. Furnishings or other objects shall not be placed to obstruct *exits*, access thereto, egress there from or visibility thereof.
4. The permissible amount of noncombustible decorative materials shall not be limited.

**807.3 (IBC [F] 806.3) Combustible decorative materials.** In other than Group I-3, curtains, draperies, fabric hangings and other similar combustible decorative materials suspended from walls or ceilings shall comply with Section 807.4 and shall not exceed 10 percent of the specific wall or ceiling area to which they are attached.

Fixed or movable walls and partitions, paneling, wall pads and crash pads applied structurally or for decoration, acoustical correction, surface insulation or other purposes shall be considered *interior finish* shall comply with Section 803 and shall not be considered *decorative materials* or furnishings.

**Exceptions:**

1. In auditoriums in Group A, the permissible amount of curtains, draperies, fabric hangings and other similar combustible decorative materials suspended from walls or ceilings shall not exceed 75 percent of the aggregate wall area where the building is equipped throughout with an *approved automatic sprinkler system* in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1, and where the material is installed in accordance with Section 803.11 of the *International Building Code*.

2. In Group R-2 dormitories, within sleeping units and dwelling units, the permissible amount of curtains, draperies, fabric hangings and other similar decorative materials suspended from walls or ceiling shall not exceed 50 percent of the aggregate wall areas where the building is equipped throughout with an *approved automatic sprinkler system* installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.
3. In Group B and M occupancies, the amount of combustible fabric partitions suspended from the ceiling and not supported by the floor shall comply with Section 807.4 and shall not be limited.

**807.4 (IBC [F] 806.4) Acceptance criteria and reports.** Where required to exhibit improved fire performance, curtains, draperies, fabric hangings and other similar combustible decorative materials suspended from walls or ceilings shall be tested by an *approved* agency and meet the flame propagation performance criteria of Test 1 or Test 2, as appropriate of NFPA 701 or exhibit a maximum rate of heat release of 100kW when tested in accordance with NFPA 289, using the 20 kW ignition source. Reports of test results shall be prepared in accordance with the test method used and furnished to the *fire code official* upon request.

**807.5 Occupancy-based requirements.** In occupancies, combustible decorative materials not complying with Section 807.3 shall comply with Sections 807.5.1 through 807.5.7.

**807.5.1 Group A.** In Group A occupancies, the requirements in Sections 807.5.2.1 through 807.5.2.4 shall apply to occupancies in Group A.

**807.5.1.1 Foam plastics.** Exposed foam plastic materials and unprotected materials containing foam plastic used for decorative purposes or stage scenery or exhibit booths shall have a maximum heat release rate of 100 kW when tested in accordance with UL 1975, or when tested in accordance with NFPA 289 using the 20 kW ignition source.

**Exceptions:**

1. Individual foam plastic items or items containing foam plastic where the foam plastic does not exceed 1 pound (0.45 kg) in weight.
2. Cellular or foam plastic shall be allowed for trim in accordance with Section 804.2.

**807.5.1.2 Motion Picture Screens.** The screens upon which motion pictures are projected in new and existing buildings shall either comply with Section 807.4 or shall comply with the requirements for a Class B interior finish in accordance with Section 803 of the *International Building Code*.

**807.5.1.3 Wood use in places of religious worship.** In places of religious worship, wood used for ornamental purposes, trusses, paneling or chancel furnishing shall not be limited.

**807.5.1.4 Pyroxylin plastic.** Imitation leather or other material consisting of or coated with a pyroxylin or similarly hazardous base shall not be used.

**807.5.2 Group E.** Group E occupancies, shall comply with Sections the requirements in Sections 807.5.3.1 through 807.5.3.3

**807.5.2.1 Storage in corridors and lobbies.** Clothing and personal effects shall not be stored in *corridors* and lobbies.

**Exceptions:**

1. *Corridors* protected by an *approved automatic sprinkler system* installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1.
2. *Corridors* protected by an *approved fire alarm system* installed in accordance with Section 907.
3. Storage in metal lockers, provided the minimum required egress width is maintained.

**807.5.2.2 Artwork in corridors.** Artwork and teaching materials shall be limited on the walls of *corridors* to not more than 20 percent of the wall area.

**807.5.2.3 Artwork in classrooms.** Artwork and teaching materials shall be limited on walls of classrooms to not more than 50 percent of the specific wall area to which they are attached.

**807.5.3 Group I-4, day care facilities.** Group I-4 occupancies shall comply with, the requirements in Sections 807.5.4.1 through 807.5.4.2 .

**807.5.3.1 Storage in corridors and lobbies.** Clothing and personal effects shall not be stored in *corridors* and lobbies.

**Exceptions:**

1. *Corridors* protected by an *approved automatic sprinkler system* installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1.
2. *Corridors* protected by an *approved fire alarm system* installed in accordance with Section 907.
3. Storage in metal lockers, provided the minimum required egress width is maintained.

**807.5.3.2 Artwork in corridors.** Artwork and teaching materials shall be limited on the walls of *corridors* to not more than 20 percent of the wall area.

**807.5.3.3 Artwork in classrooms.** Artwork and teaching materials shall be limited on walls of classrooms to not more than 50 percent of the specific wall area to which they are attached.

**807.5.4 Dormitories in Group R-2.** In Group R-2 dormitories, within sleeping units and dwelling units, the combustible decorative materials, shall be of limited quantities such that a hazard of fire development or spread is not present.



**807.5.5 Groups I-1 and I-2.** In Groups I-1 and I-2 occupancies, combustible *decorative materials* shall be of such limited quantities that a hazard of fire development or spread is not present.

**807.5.6 Group I-3.** In Group I-3, combustible *decorative materials* are prohibited.

## F133 - AM

**Proponent:** Marshall Klein, International Code Consultants, representing Multi Housing Council

### **903.3.1.1 (IBC [F] 903.3.1.1), 903.3.1.1.2 (New) [IBC [F] 903.3.1.1.2(New)]**

**Proponent:** Marshall Klein, International Code Consultants, representing Multi Housing Council

**Revise as follows:**

**903.3.1.1 (IBC [F] 903.3.1.1) NFPA 13 sprinkler systems.** Where the provisions of this code require that a building or portion thereof be equipped throughout with an automatic sprinkler system in accordance with this section, sprinklers shall be installed throughout in accordance with NFPA 13 except as provided in Sections 903.3.1.1.1 and 903.3.1.1.2.

**903.3.1.1.2 (IBC [F] 903.3.1.1.2) Bathrooms.** In Group R occupancies, other than Group R residential care facilities, sprinklers shall not be required in bathrooms that do not exceed 55 square feet in area and are located within individual dwelling units or sleeping units, provided that walls and ceilings, including the walls and ceilings behind any shower enclosure or tub, are of noncombustible or limited-combustible materials with a 15-minute thermal barrier rating.

**Reason:** This change is necessary to reinstate an exception that has been in existence since 1976 but was nevertheless deleted from the 2013 edition of NFPA 13 with no technical justification. Because the 2015 I-codes will reference the 2013 edition of NFPA 13, it is necessary and appropriate for the IBC and IFC to reverse NFPA's unsupported action on this issue.

Although reinstating the small bathroom exception will have a limited impact on new construction because many bathrooms exceed the 55 sq. ft. area limit in the exception to accommodate wheelchair access, the more important consequence will be removing an unnecessary cost increase for building owners who choose to retrofit existing properties with small bathrooms that were built before it was common to provide wheelchair access. Codes and standards should not erect any unnecessary barriers to retrofitting sprinklers into existing properties, such as existing high-rise buildings.

**Background:** In the 1976 edition of the Life Safety Code, to encourage cost effective fire protection systems for apartment buildings, NFPA 101 Section 11-3.8.3.4.1 provided an exception to permit bathrooms that did not exceed 55 sq. ft within individual dwelling units to omit sprinklers when the apartment building was sprinklered in accordance with NFPA 13. The basis of the 55 sq. ft. area is that this area accommodates a "typical" small bathroom that contains a standard tub, a toilet and a sink...nothing more. This exception was later duplicated from NFPA 101 into the 1991 edition of NFPA 13 with the understanding that the next edition of NFPA 101 (1994) could delete the exception since NFPA 13 would have it covered. NFPA 101-1994 then, as planned, deleted the exception.

The situation remained "status quo" until the cycle that produced the 2010 edition of NFPA 13. A proposal to delete the bathroom exception for apartments was initially rejected by the NFPA 13 Committee during the ROP process (Code Proposal 13-202 Log #79) with the Committee Statement for rejection as "No technical data was provided supporting this change". During the ROC process, a public comment (Comment 13-141 Log #235) was submitted by the National Fire Sprinkler Association (NFSA), and the NFPA 13 Committee reversed itself by accepting the Comment, even though no new technical information had been provided. Nevertheless, the NFPA membership rejected this revision at NFPA's annual conference, and the 2010 edition of NFPA 13 retained the exception.

During the 2013 edition cycle for NFPA 13, the issue was raised again, and this time, still with no technical justification, NFPA accepted the change. As a result, NFPA 13-2013 (Section 8.15.8.1.1) only allows omission of sprinklers from in bathrooms in hotels and motels, not apartments.

The history of apartment unit bathroom fires is statistically minimal. According to the recent NFPA Home Structure Fire Report, January 2009, Table 9B, "Reported Apartment Structure Fires by Area of Origin 2003-2006 Annual Averages", out of 113,000 fires/year, only 1600 (1%) are in bathrooms. Given that we have more than 35 years of experience with the bathroom sprinkler exception being in place (since it was put into NFPA 101 in 1976), one would certainly expect anecdotal or statistical experience to indicate the existence of a problem, if there were one. On the contrary, apartments have consistently rank at the top of the list with respect to sprinkler reliability and performance statistics, and no statistical (or other) evidence was presented to or by the NFPA 13 committee to justify deletion of the bathroom sprinkler exception for apartments.

**Cost Impact:** The code change proposal will not increase the cost of construction.

**Committee Action:**

**Approved as Modified**

**Modify the proposal as follows:**

**903.3.1.1 (IBC [F] 903.3.1.1) NFPA 13 sprinkler systems.** Where the provisions of this code require that a building or portion thereof be equipped throughout with an automatic sprinkler system in accordance with this section, sprinklers shall be installed throughout in accordance with NFPA 13 except as provided in Sections 903.3.1.1.1 and 903.3.1.1.2.

**903.3.1.1.2 (IBC [F] 903.3.1.1.2) Bathrooms.** In Group R occupancies, other than ~~Group R-4 occupancies~~ ~~Group R residential care facilities~~, sprinklers shall not be required in bathrooms that do not exceed 55 square feet in area and are located within individual dwelling units or sleeping units, provided that walls and ceilings, including the walls and ceilings behind any shower enclosure or tub, are of noncombustible or limited-combustible materials with a 15-minute thermal barrier rating.

**Committee Reason:** The exception for bathrooms has been deleted in the 2013 edition of NFPA 13 with no technical justification. Therefore, to retain this exception for use with the IFC and IBC it is necessary to add a new section 903.3.1.1.2. In addition it was a concern that this particular allowance should be within the IBC and IFC as often the architects miss the 15 minute thermal barrier requirement that NFPA 13 requires. The modification simply replaces "Group R residential care facility" with the proper I-Code occupancy terminology Group R-4.

**Assembly Action:**

**None**

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**Study group recommendation:**

**Further modify the proposal as follows:**

**903.3.1.1.2 (IBC [F] 903.3.1.1.2) Bathrooms.** In Group R occupancies, ~~other than Group R-4 occupancies~~, sprinklers shall not be required in bathrooms that do not exceed 55 square feet in area and are located within individual dwelling units or sleeping units, provided that walls and ceilings, including the walls and ceilings behind any shower enclosure or tub, are of noncombustible or limited-combustible materials with a 15-minute thermal barrier rating.

**Reason:** The Group R-4 is limited to 16 occupants capable of self-preservation, therefore, the chance that they would need a NFPA 13 system (i.e., 5 stories or taller) is very limited. In addition, the Fair Housing Act, requires that group homes be treated the same as any other congregate residence. Therefore, the language shown struck should be removed. The Group R-4 occupancy should have the same allowance for these small bathrooms as all other Group R occupancies. There is very minimal fire hazards in this area.

## **F212 – D Part I and II**

**THIS IS A 2 PART CODE CHANGE. PART I WILL BE HEARD BY THE IFC CODE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE AND PART II WILL BE HEARD BY THE IEBC CODE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE AS SEPARATE CODE CHANGES. SEE THE TENTATIVE HEARING ORDER FOR THESE COMMITTEES.**

**Proponent:** John Williams, CBO, Chair, ICC Ad Hoc Committee on Health Care  
(john.williams@doh.wa.gov)

### **PART I – INTERNATIONAL FIRE CODE**

**Revise as follows:**

**SECTION 1103  
FIRE SAFETY REQUIREMENTS FOR EXISTING BUILDING**

**1103.1 Required construction.** Existing buildings shall comply with not less than the minimum provisions specified in Table 1103.1 and as further enumerated in Sections 1103.2 through 1103.9.

The provisions of this chapter shall not be construed to allow the elimination of fire protection systems or a reduction in the level of fire safety provided in buildings constructed in accordance with previously adopted codes.

**Exceptions:**

1. Where approved in accordance with Section 102.4, in Group I-2 Condition 2 buildings where an automatic sprinkler system installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1 has been added and the building is now sprinklered throughout, the existing fire resistance ratings, opening protectives, penetrations and joints in assemblies are not required to be maintained where such fire resistance ratings, opening protectives, penetrations and joints are not required in new construction for sprinklered buildings.
2. Group U occupancies.

**SECTION 1104  
MEANS OF EGRESS FOR EXISTING BUILDINGS**

**1104.1 General.** *Means of egress* in existing buildings shall comply with the minimum egress requirements when specified in Table 1103.1 as further enumerated in Sections 1104.2 through 1104.23, and the building code that applied at the time of construction. Where the provisions of this chapter conflict with the building code that applied at the time of construction, the most restrictive provision shall apply. Existing buildings that were not required to comply with a building code at the time of construction shall comply with the minimum egress requirements when specified in Table 1103.1 as further enumerated in Sections 1104.2 through 1104.24.

**Exception:** Where approved in accordance with Section 102.4, in Group I-2 Condition 2 buildings where an automatic sprinkler system installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1 has been added and the building is now sprinklered throughout, the existing fire resistance ratings, opening protectives, penetrations and joints in assemblies are not required to be maintained where such fire resistance ratings, opening protectives, penetrations and joints are not required in new construction for sprinklered buildings.

**PART II – INTERNATIONAL EXISTING BUILDING CODE**

**Add new text as follows:**

**804.2.2.2 Group I-2.** Where approved, in Group I-2 Condition 2 buildings where an automatic sprinkler system installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1 of the *International Building Code* has been added and the building is now equipped throughout with an automatic sprinkler system, the existing fire resistance ratings, opening protectives, penetrations and joints in assemblies are not required to be maintained where such fire resistance ratings, opening protectives, penetrations and joints are not required in new construction for buildings equipped throughout with an automatic sprinkler system.

**Reason:** The changes provide tradeoffs for installation of automatic sprinkler systems consistent with those allowed for new construction and also with those allowed by CMS. In many editions of the legacy codes and the ICC Codes dating from the 1980s and even before, the same or similar tradeoffs were allowed when a facility elected to provide sprinkler protection. The Ad Hoc Committee on Health Care is proposing requiring retrofit of sprinklers in Hospitals that we feel provide the best protection available and feel because of this the tradeoffs are justified in existing facilities as has been vetted and justified in new construction for many years. These requirements are part of a package of retrofit requirements that provide a minimum level of safety considered necessary for patients, staff and first responders in an environment in which patients are in many instances not capable of self preservation and must be protected in place. Automatic sprinkler protection is key to any plan for protecting residents in place and for the safety of those responding to emergencies by providing the extra time needed to respond. The requirements are also consistent with current CMS standards that apply to all hospitals nationwide receiving Medicare/Medicaid funding and would not add additional requirements to those facilities beyond current nationwide Federal requirements but would allow the facilities to better meet those requirements without possible costly conflicts in other codes.

If this proposal is successful and the proposal for a new Section 1105 is also approved, the Adhoc Health Care committee will bring forward a corresponding exception to be applicable for the new Section 1105.1 as follows:

**SECTION 1105  
CONSTRUCTION REQUIREMENTS FOR EXISTING GROUP I-2**

**1105.1 General.** Existing Group I-2 shall meet the following requirements:

1. The minimum fire safety requirements in Section 1103, and
2. The minimum egress requirements in Section 1104, and
3. The additional egress and construction requirements in Sections 1105.2 through 1105.7.5.2.

Where the provisions of this chapter conflict with the construction requirements that applied at the time of construction, the most restrictive provision shall apply.

**Exception:** Where approved in accordance with Section 102.4, in Group I-2 Condition 2 buildings where a sprinkler system installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1 has been added and the building is now sprinklered throughout, the existing fire resistance ratings, opening protectives, penetrations and joints in assemblies are not required to be maintained where such fire resistance ratings, opening protective, penetrations and joints are not required in new construction for sprinklered buildings.

This proposal is submitted by the ICC Ad Hoc Committee for Healthcare (AHC). The AHC was established by the ICC Board of Directors to evaluate and assess contemporary code issues relating to hospitals and ambulatory healthcare facilities. The AHC is composed of building code officials, fire code officials, hospital facility engineers, and state healthcare enforcement representatives. The goals of the committee are to ensure that the ICC family of codes appropriately addresses the fire and life safety concerns of a highly specialized and rapidly evolving healthcare delivery system. This process is part of a joint effort between ICC and the American Society for Healthcare Engineering, a subsidiary of the American Hospital Association, to eliminate duplication and conflicts in healthcare regulation. Since its inception in April 2011, the AHC has held 8 open meetings and over 150 workgroup calls which included members of the AHC as well as any interested party to discuss and debate the proposed changes. All meeting materials and reports are posted on the AHC website at: <http://www.iccsafe.org/cs/AHC/Pages/default.aspx>.

**Cost Impact:** None

**PART I – IFC**

**Committee Action:**

**Disapproved**

**Committee Reason:** The disapproval was based on the committee's concerns that the proposal needs to be well-correlated with code change EB26-13 which is related. It was also unclear as to why the exception should be limited to Group I-2 Condition 2 only when other occupancies would likely want to take advantage of it. The proposal also does not take into account alternative methods that may have been previously granted. Record keeping and documentation of reduced fire resistance ratings would be a major challenge as would trying to determine rating reductions by visual inspection.

**Assembly Action:**

**None**

**PART II – IEBC**

**This code change was heard by the IEBC code development committee.**

**Committee Action:**

**Disapproved**

**Committee Reason:** The committee disapproved this proposal in favor of the action taken on EB26-13 and by the request of the proponent.

**Assembly Action:**

**None**

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**Study group Recommendation:**

**Do not add exception to Section 1104.1 and 1105.1(F237). Copy the language in EB26-13. Emphasize that any changes to EB26 should be repeated in this language. Proposal to Part I only. Based on development committee comments, expand to all use groups. Support from Adhoc Health and CTC.**

**The committee discussed a reference to IEBC Section 803.6. However, some felt that this could be interpreted to not allow this exception when it was not part of a Level II alteration. Bob Davidson has offered to put in the following public comment.**

1. Where permitted in accordance with Section 803.6 of the International Existing Building Code.

**Proponent:** John Williams, CBO, Chair, ICC Ad Hoc Committee on Health Care (john.williams@doh.wa.gov) and Carl Baldassarra, P.E., FSFPE, Chair, ICC Code Technology Committee (cbaldassarra@RJAGroup.com)

**Replace the proposal with the following:**

### **SECTION 1103 FIRE SAFETY REQUIREMENTS FOR EXISTING BUILDING**

**1103.1 Required construction.** Existing buildings shall comply with not less than the minimum provisions specified in Table 1103.1 and as further enumerated in Sections 1103.2 through 1103.9.

The provisions of this chapter shall not be construed to allow the elimination of fire protection systems or a reduction in the level of fire safety provided in buildings constructed in accordance with previously adopted codes.

**Exceptions:**

1. Where approved by the code official, buildings where an automatic sprinkler system installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1 and 903.3.1.2 has been added and the building is now sprinklered throughout, the fire-resistance ratings of building elements and materials shall be permitted to meet the requirements of the current building code. The building is required to meet the other applicable fire protection requirements of Chapter 9 of the *International Building Code*. Plans, investigation and evaluation reports, and other data shall be submitted indicating which building elements and materials the applicant is requesting the code official to review and approve for determination of applying the current building code fire-resistance ratings. Any special construction features, conditions of occupancy, approved modifications or approved alternative materials, design and methods of construction, and equipment applying to the building that impact required fire-resistance ratings shall be identified in the evaluation reports submitted.
2. Group U occupancies.

**Reason:** The proposal is consistent with the language that was approved for EB26-13 (shown below). The EB26 proposal is acceptable to the CTC and Adhoc as meeting the same intent as Part II of F212, therefore this modification to F212 Part I only. It is the this language match what is finally approved for EB26, therefore, if there are successful public comments to EB26, those changes should also be reflected in the final version of this public comment.

This exception will allow facilities being reviewed as existing building under the IFC to have a process to show where continuing maintenance of rated corridor walls and their opening protective is no longer needed since the building has been improved to the extent that the entire building is suppressed.

It was decided that a reference to the IEBC text may not be relevant if the review was being performed separate from a current alteration. Therefore, the language should be repeated here.

Since this proposal is limited to the fire resistance ratings, there is no need for a similar exception to IFC Section 1104, since that deals with means of egress issues.

**EB26-13 AM**

**803.6 Fire-resistance ratings.** Where approved by the code official, buildings where an automatic sprinkler system installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1 and 903.3.1.2 of the *International Building Code* has been added, and the building is now sprinklered throughout, the required fire-resistance ratings of building elements and materials shall be permitted to meet the requirements of the current building code. The building is required to meet the other applicable fire protection requirements of Chapter 9 of the *International Building Code*.

Plans, investigation and evaluation reports, and other data shall be submitted indicating which building elements and materials the applicant is requesting the code official to review and approve for determination of applying the current building code fire-resistance ratings. Any special construction features, conditions of occupancy, approved modifications or approved alternative materials, design and methods of construction, and equipment applying to the building that impact required fire-resistance ratings shall be identified in the evaluation reports submitted.

