



TechNotes

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SPECIAL EDITION

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This issue of TechNotes was written by Jeffrey M. Hugo, CBO, Manager of Codes. He serves as a member on the ICC Fire Code Action Committee (FCAC) representing NFSA. He is also the author the *Code Corner* in SQ Magazine and the editor of the Fire Sprinkler Guide. Please distribute to all local fire and building code officials.

**2018 IBC and IEBC Codes
ICC Group A OGCV
Online Governmental Consensus Voting for Final Action
Ballots Available February 8-21**

The development of the 2018 editions of IBC, IPC, IEBC and IRC Plumbing ICC codes is nearly completed. All that remains is the online governmental consensus vote to either uphold or change the position of the last action from the Long Beach Public Comment Hearings; hence, these are the final action for these editions.

Unlike the Committee Action Hearings (CAH) where all ICC members are eligible to vote, the online governmental consensus ballot for final action is only available for eligible ICC Governmental Member Voting Representatives in good standing. Those that can vote at this stage are local building and fire officials validated earlier in 2015 by ICC.

The Online Governmental Consensus Vote (OGCV) on www.cdpassess.com is open from February 8 through 21. ICC Governmental Member Voting Representatives can vote on the final motions made at the Long Beach Public Comment Hearings during this time.

The National Fire Sprinkler Association encourages voting in support of the consent agenda and specifically with the following motions listed below:

EGRESS

- E 40-15: Support the As Modified by Public Comment 2 motion and VOTE FOR AS MODIFIED BY PUBLIC COMMENT 2 - A vote for AS MODIFIED BY PUBLIC COMMENT 2 provides a clarification on an exception for exterior rescue when fully sprinklered.
- E 97-15 and E 105-15: - Support the Disapproved motion and VOTE FOR DISAPPROVE A vote for DISAPPROVE supports many other industries and code officials' stance on removing fire sprinkler protection for so-called resilient construction.

These proposals come from industries who have repeatedly attempted, unsuccessfully, to remove tried and true fire sprinkler trade-offs that have been in the codes for decades.

- E 145-15: Support the As Submitted motion and VOTE FOR AS SUBMITTED - A vote for AS SUBMITTED supports the committee motion to provide options for fully sprinklered R-2 and R-3 basement windows.

FIRE SAFETY

- FS 1-15: Oppose the Disapproved motion and VOTE FOR AS SUBMITTED - A vote for AS SUBMITTED removes the current confusing IBC Section 703.4 and modifies other sections with the intent to prohibit fire sprinklers used to promote a fire rating on un-rated glazing and other un-rated materials.
- FS 2-15: Oppose the Disapproved motion and VOTE FOR AS SUBMITTED - A vote for AS SUBMITTED will remove the current IBC Section 703.4, permanently. This section specifically prohibits fire sprinklers as part of the listed assembly for fire rated products. This section is poorly written and is negative for the long successful record of sprinklers that protect glazing assemblies. Code officials need a clear code and the previous section, Section 703.3 provides clear guidance to the code user for alternative protection methods.
- FS 27-15: Support the As Modified motion and VOTE FOR AS MODIFIED - A vote for AS MODIFIED creates a uniform and consistent method for code officials to apply property line issues for access to fire pump and fire sprinkler riser rooms.
- FS 35-15: Oppose the Disapproved motion and VOTE FOR AS SUBMITTED - An AS SUBMITTED vote correlates the fire pump room construction criteria in Chapter 7 of the IBC. This is not a technical change, but it adds to the list of other correlated sections in Section 707.3.11 and 711.2.4.7. **THIS NEEDS A 2/3 MAJORITY TO PASS.**
- FS 41-15: Oppose the Disapproved motion and VOTE FOR AS SUBMITTED - A vote for AS SUBMITTED establishes enhanced criteria for draftstopping in attics. This proposal provides multilayered draftstopping above every four units (or 5,000 sq. ft, whichever is smaller) for unsprinkered attics.

GENERAL

- G 33-15: Support the Disapproved motion and VOTE FOR DISAPPROVE - A vote DISAPPROVE will agree with the committee that the proposed language is detrimental to residential sprinklers in the IRC. This proposal removes the residential sprinkler requirement for medical and custodial care facilities when in a residential structure constructed according to the IRC. A jurisdiction that prohibits sprinklers in the IRC will have these IBC facilities unsprinklered.
- G 41-15 Oppose the Disapproved motion and VOTE FOR AS SUBMITTED - A vote for AS SUBMITTED correlates the requirements for sprinklers in lodging houses from the IBC to the IRC. While the IRC has lodging house sprinkler requirements, having the same requirements in Chapter 3 of the IBC is consistent code text. **THIS WILL TAKE 2/3 MAJORITY TO PASS.**

- G 88-15 Oppose the Disapproved motion and VOTE FOR AS MODIFIED - A vote for AS MODIFIED clarifies that when sprinklers in the atrium ceiling are removed, it is only for a low hazard fuel load.
- G 140-15, G 152-15, G 171-15: - Support the Disapproved motion and VOTE FOR DISAPPROVE A vote for DISAPPROVE supports many other industries and code officials stance on removing fire sprinkler protection for so-called resilient construction. These proposals come from industries who have repeatedly attempted, unsuccessfully, to remove tried and true fire sprinkler trade-offs that have been in the codes for decades.
- G 147-15: Oppose the Disapproved motion and VOTE FOR AS MODIFIED - A vote for AS MODIFIED supports the changes that the General Committee had requested for accessory occupancy increases for residential and I-1 Condition 1 occupancies.
- G 200-15: Oppose the Disapproved motion and VOTE FOR AS SUBMITTED - A vote for AS SUBMITTED supports the work of the ICC Code Technology Committee and permits fully sprinklered buildings to eliminate elevator lobbies on upper floors.

EXISTING BUILDING CODE

- EB 28-15: Support the As Submitted motion and VOTE FOR AS SUBMITTED - A vote for AS SUBMITTED supports the IEBC committee's support for this fire sprinkler trade-off correlation in the IEBC.
- EB 59-15: Oppose the Disapproved motion and VOTE FOR AS SUBMITTED - A vote for AS SUBMITTED increases fire sprinkler installations, property protection and life safety in existing buildings when Level 2 alterations are performed.
- EB 60-15: Oppose the Disapproved motion and VOTE FOR AS SUBMITTED - A vote for AS SUBMITTED increases fire sprinkler installations, property protection and life safety in existing buildings when Level 2 alterations are performed.
- EB 61-15: Oppose the Disapproved motion and VOTE FOR AS SUBMITTED - A vote for AS SUBMITTED increases fire sprinkler installations, property protection and life safety in existing buildings when Level 2 alterations are performed.
- EB 86-15: Oppose the Disapproved motion and VOTE FOR AS MODIFIED - A vote of AS MODIFIED addresses the concerns of the committee and restores the original values back. Chapter 14 has several glitches from when it was transferred from IBC Chapter 34 and this proposal fixes this section and correlates language used with the IEBC and IBC.
- EB 88-15: Oppose the Disapproved motion and VOTE FOR AS MODIFIED - A vote of AS MODIFIED addresses the committee's concerns for increasing the values in column F for suppression style systems.

There are many more proposals and motions that do not affect fire sprinklers and NFSA encourages all governmental members to look thoroughly through the proposals in cdpACCESS and get more involved in the code development process. Please renew your ICC membership by March of 2016 in order to participate in Group B cycle.

The National Fire Sprinkler Association thanks all who participated and supported the ICC process for the development of the 2018 editions in Group A. Please continue to support the ICC for Group B and future editions.