

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
STATE AND CONSUMER SERVICES AGENCY
CALIFORNIA BUILDING STANDARDS COMMISSION
2525 NATOMAS PARK DR., SUITE 130
SACRAMENTO, CA 95833
(916) 263-0916 Phone
(916) 263-0959 Fax
Email: BSC@dgs.ca.gov

Office Use Item No. _____

PARTICIPATION COMMENTS FOR THE NOTICE DATED OCTOBER 2, 2009
Written comments are to be sent to the above address.

WRITTEN COMMENT DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 16, 2009

Date: November 13, 2009

From:

Rick Thornberry, PE

Name (Print or type)

(Signature)

The Code Consortium, Inc. on behalf of the California Fire Safety Advisory Council (CFSAC)

Agency, jurisdiction, chapter, company, association, individual, etc.

2724 Elks Way

Street

Napa

City

CA

State

94558-3500

Zip

I/We ~~do~~(do not) agree with:

[] The Agency proposed modifications As Submitted on Section No. 403.2.1 Exception of Part 2

and request that this section or reference provision be recommended:

[] Approved [] Disapproved [] Held for Further Study [] Approved as Amended

Suggested Revisions to the Text of the Regulations:

403.2.1 Reduction in fire-resistance rating. The fire-resistance rating reductions listed in Sections 403.2.1.1 and 403.2.1.2 shall be allowed in buildings that have sprinkler control valves equipped with supervisory initiating devices and water-flow initiating devices for each floor.

Exception: Buildings, or portions of buildings, classified as a Group H-1, H-2, or H-3 or L occupancy.

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I/We ~~do~~(do not) agree with:

[] The Agency proposed modifications As Submitted on Section No. 508.2.4 Exception 1 of Part 2

and request that this section or reference provision be recommended:

[] Approved [] Disapproved [] Held for Further Study [] Approved as Amended

Suggested Revisions to the Text of the Regulations:

508.2.4 Separation of occupancies. No separation is required between accessory occupancies or the main occupancy.

Exceptions:

1. Groups H-2, H-3, H-4, H-5, I-2, I-2.1, and I-3 and L occupancies shall be separated from all other occupancies in accordance with Section 508.4.

Reason: [The reason should be concise if the request is for “Disapproval,” “Further Study,” or “Approve As Amend” and identify at least one of the 9-point criteria (following) of Health and Safety Code §18930.]

This proposed amendment to Exception 1 of Section 508.2.4 of Part 2 as proposed by the California State Fire Marshal for the adoption of the 2009 ICC International Building Code is based on Item 3 of the nine point criteria in Health and Safety Code Section 18930 which reads: “The public interest requires the adoption of the building standards.”

This proposed amendment simply adds the Group L occupancy to the list of those occupancies in Exception 1 that are required to be separated from all other occupancies in the building even if they are classified as accessory occupancies. The Group L occupancy is comparable in hazard to the Group H-2, H-3, H-4, and H-5 occupancies already contained in the Exception. This would also make it consistent with other State Fire Marshal amendments being proposed for Group L occupancies in this code adoption cycle.

Reason: [The reason should be concise if the request is for “Disapproval,” “Further Study,” or “Approve As Amend” and identify at least one of the 9-point criteria (following) of Health and Safety Code §18930.]

This proposed amendment to the Exception to Section 403.2.1 of Part 2 as proposed by the California State Fire Marshal for the adoption of the 2009 ICC International Building Code is based on Item 3 of the nine point criteria in Health and Safety Code Section 18930 which reads: “The public interest requires the adoption of the building standards.”

This proposed amendment simply adds the Group L occupancy to the list of occupancies in the Exception that are not allowed to take advantage of the reduction in the fire-resistance rating of the structural elements of high-rise buildings in this section.

In many respects, the Group L occupancy is considered to be as hazardous as the Group H-2 and H-3 occupancies already contained in the Exception. That is consistent with other provisions in the State Fire Marshal’s proposed amendments for this code adoption cycle. Furthermore, without this amendment, a Group L occupancy high-rise building could qualify for a reduction in types of construction under Item 1 of Section 403.2.1.1 which allows a Type IA construction high-rise building to have its fire-resistance ratings reduced to that required for a Type IB construction building. It would also allow Item 2 of Section 403.2.1.1 to be used to allow for a reduction in the fire-resistance ratings from a Type IB construction high-rise building to a Type IIA construction building which only requires a minimum 1-hour fire-resistance rating throughout. In our opinion, it would be entirely inappropriate to allow a Group L occupancy high-rise building to have its fire-resistance ratings reduced in accordance with Item 2 of Section 403.2.1.1 where occupancies with a similar fire loading but less hazardous, such as the Groups F-1, M, and S-1 occupancies, would not be allowed to utilize Item 2.