



STATE OF MAINE  
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC  
AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



PAUL R. LEPAGE  
GOVERNOR

DENISE GARLAND  
ACTING COMMISSIONER

July 26, 2018

To: Interested Parties  
From: Maine Technical Building Codes and Standards Board  
RE: NFPA and IBC Conflict

MRSA Title 10 §9722 directs the Technical Building Codes and Standards Board to identify and resolve conflicts between fire codes and building codes adopted in Maine. Sprinkler Systems Inc. submitted an Application for Amendment Form that brought forth the following conflict:

**2015 IBC Section:** 903.2.8 Group R. An automatic sprinkler system installed in accordance with Section 903.3 shall be provided throughout all buildings with a Group R fire area.

**2009 NFPA Section:** 28.3.5.2 Automatic sprinkler protection shall not be required in buildings where all guest sleeping rooms or guest suites have a door opening directly to either of the following:

- (1) Outside at the street or the finished ground level
- (2) Exterior exit access arranged in accordance with 7.5.3 in buildings three or fewer stories in height

During the board meeting on July 17, 2018 board member Marc Veilleux made a motion to change the language in the 2015 IBC Section 903.2.8 to include an exception for all Occupancy Group R1 that they be allowed to follow NFPA 101 Section 26.3.6.2 and 28.3.5.2. This motion was seconded by Roger Rossignol. A vote was in favor of the motion 5 to 2.

This conflict advisory is effective as of July 18, 2018.

In the next update to the Rules the following will be added (pending language approval from the Attorney General's Office):

Delete: IBC Section 903.2.8 (all subsections remain)

Insert: "See NFPA 101 Section 26.3.6.2 and 28.3.5.2 (2009 edition) in its place"

Please contact me with any questions.

Brianne Hasty  
Chair, Technical Building Codes and Standards Board