

## DHCD, DBFR 2009 Code Change Process

### Summary of Workgroup 3 Sub-Workgroup Meeting June 11, 2009

#### Healthcare/Assisted Living Facilities

#### DISCUSS DRAFT CODE CHANGES:

1. I-2 - No code changes deemed necessary.

**Discussed I-2 and the change from five non-ambulatory persons being allowed to 1 non-ambulatory person being allowed to constitute an I-2 occupancy. Because I-2 nursing homes was left at 5 and the USBC and previous interpretation has always allowed 5 residents in R-4, I-1, R-3 or R-5 to be non-ambulatory that should still remain how building officials should approved the licensed assisted living facilities. No code change to be done. Off table**

2. I-1 - Draft code change of definition; state definition of assisted living care; and, licensure admittance (UAI) assessment and annual evaluation.

**Discussed R-4 and I-1 to add language on defining ambulatory, based on state law, that residents using canes, walkers, wheelchairs and prosthetic devices and able to evacuate with a single verbal command would be deemed ambulatory for emergency evacuation. Most felt not necessary, but AIA opine it might have some value. No code change so off-table for now. AIA, VBCOA and I-1 operators might want to review further.**

3. Residential Assisted Living Facilities - code change to amend definition with licensure assessment of admittance UAI.

**No consensus was reached. Off table.**

4. R-4 - Draft code change regarding possible sprinklers at 6 residents instead of 9.

**There was no interest to make the R-4 sprinkler requirement in the USBC at 8 to 6. May need to revisit if IRC mandates sprinklers.**

5. Discuss if any changes necessary for I-4.

**No consensus was reached. Off table.**

#### DISCUSS POTENTIAL PROPOSED R-4 CODE CHANGES RELATED TO CHANGES IN THE DEFINITION ON RESIDENTS ADMITTED TO ASSISTED LIVING FACILITIES:

1. 2009 IBC changes: R-4 and I-1 - improved flame spread ratings (i.e. for floor coverings) and I-1 increased separation rating for accessory areas. Virginia requires attics to be sprinkled for I-1.
2. 2009 USBC R-4 - possible code changes: R-4 attics sprinkled, CO alarms, arc-fault devices beyond bedrooms, sprinklers at 6 instead of 9 residents, persons needing assistance on grade access floors, some rated separation between floors or bedrooms.

**Jay Hall submitted a code change to say all residents shall get to an exit in 13 minutes for I-1. Some supported the concept but needed to see revised changes. It will have an impact on I-1 where it will put a time limit on residents in wheel chairs and those that use walkers, canes or prosthetic devices. I-1's are sprinkled, including attics, so not sure if adds measureable benefit and what are the fire drill implications and then moving residents to I-2 facilities? This is a non-consensus code change for now for discussion within the workgroup. Not yet clear on validity of the 13 minutes across state and in all I-1 and I-2 occupancies? Will be in fall Work Group on technical code changes after the 60 day public comment period on the proposed regulations.**

#### **OTHER ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION:**

1. Discuss SFPC IFC T405.2, Section 405 and Section 405 for possible fire drill changes.

**Operators opined the fire drills frequencies; occupant participation for total evacuation of residents both day and nighttime and seasonal was okay. Off table.**

2. Discuss IBC Chapter 11, A117.1 accessibility for bathroom grab bars. **(Page 16)**

**Bathroom grab bar issue from VDH will remain on table for fall Work Group technical committee meeting.**

3. New Business

**None.**

4. Adjournment

**No further meetings of this sub-group are planned to be scheduled as the remaining issues will be placed into a Work Group on technical issues this fall.**

**DHCD staff wishes to thank the DSS staff and the operators of ALF's for attending these meetings for the first time as there is a real need for both to stay involved in the USBC and SFPC regulatory process for 2009.**