

## **ARTICLE V. LIFE SAFETY**

### **DIVISION 1. GENERALLY**

#### **Sec. 9-79. Scope.**

The provisions of this Article shall apply to both new and existing buildings, structures, and operations. In various sections there are specific provisions for existing conditions that may differ from those for new buildings, structures, and operations.

Specifically, this article addresses:

- (a) Construction, protection, and occupancy features necessary to minimize danger to life from the effects of fire, including smoke, heat, and toxic gases created during a fire.
- (b) Minimum criteria for the design of egress facilities so as to allow prompt escape of occupants from buildings, structures, or properties; or where desirable, into safe areas within buildings.
- (c) Other considerations essential to life safety in recognition of the fact that life safety is more than a matter of egress.

#### **Sec. 9-80. Purpose.**

The purpose and the intent of this article are to establish minimum requirements for the design, operation, and maintenance of buildings and structures for safety to life from the effects of fire, including smoke, heat, and toxic gases created during a fire. Provisions in this article will also aid life safety in other, similar emergencies.

#### **Sec. 9-81. Definitions.**

The definitions contained in this section apply throughout this Article and are in addition to any document referred to therein. The definitions are intended to be read in place of any definitions of the same words contained in the publication adopted in Section 9-90.

*Shell business use* means a new building or structure that, when complete, will provide base building elements, including, but not limited to, the structure, envelope, and building-level utility systems. Shell business use spaces are typically intended to accommodate tenants complying with the Business, Mercantile, and Assembly (of limited size) occupancy classifications as defined by NFPA 101, Life Safety Code.

**Secs. 9-82 – 9-84. Reserved.**

## DIVISION 2. ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT

Secs. 9-85 – 9-89. Reserved.

## DIVISION 3. TECHNICAL STANDARDS

### Sec. 9-90. NFPA 101, Life Safety Code--Adopted.

The NFPA 101, Life Safety Code, 2015 Edition, as issued by the National Fire Protection Association, is hereby adopted by reference, except as amended by Section 9-91 of this Chapter. One (1) copy of such publication, as adopted, shall be maintained by the Inspection Services Division in the City of Rockville City Hall and made available for inspection by the public during regular office hours. Any amendment or change in such code promulgated by the NFPA shall not become part of this article until the modifications have been duly adopted by ordinance.

### Sec. 9-91. Same-Amendments.

The NFPA 101, Life Safety Code, 2015 Edition, is amended in the following respects:

*Section 2.2* of the NFPA 101, Life Safety Code, 2015 Edition, is amended by adding the following:

**2.2.1** Wherever NFPA 5000 is referenced, other than for extracted text, substitute the Rockville City Code, Chapter 5, Buildings and Building Regulations.

The referenced publication NFPA 1124 Code for the Manufacture, Transportation, Storage, and Retail Sales of Fireworks and Pyrotechnic Articles, 2006 Edition.

*Subsection 3.3.62* of the NFPA 101, Life Safety Code, 2015 Edition, is amended by adding Paragraph 3.3.62.3 to read as follows:

**3.3.62.3 Bulkhead Door.** A type of door assembly covering an opening in the ground providing direct access to a basement, the floor of which is not more than 8 feet below ground level. The door consists of a single rigid leaf or two (2) overlapping rigid leaves or covers which need to be pushed or lifted upwards in order to be opened. A person, after opening the door, can walk up a series of steps to escape to the outside.

*Paragraph 3.3.142.1* of the NFPA 101, Life Safety Code, 2015 Edition, is amended to read as follows:

**3.3.142.1\*** Day-Care Home. A building or portion of a building in which not more than twelve (12) clients receive care, maintenance, and supervision, by other than their relative(s) or legal guardians(s), for less than twenty-four (24) hours per day.

*Paragraph 3.3.190.4* of the NFPA 101, Life Safety Code, 2012 Edition, is amended to read as follows:

**3.3.190.4\*** Day-Care Occupancy. An occupancy in which clients receive care, maintenance, and supervision, by other than their relatives or legal guardians, for less than twenty-four (24) hours per day.

*Paragraph 3.3.190.12* of the NFPA 101, Life Safety Code, 2015 Edition, is amended to read as follows:

**3.3.190.12\* Residential Board and Care Occupancy.** A building or portion thereof that is used for lodging and boarding of six (6) or more residents, not related by blood or marriage to the owners or operators, for the purpose of providing personal care services.

*Subsection 4.5.8* of the NFPA 101, Life Safety Code, 2015 Edition, is amended to read as follows:

**4.5.8 Maintenance.** Whenever or wherever any device, equipment, system, condition, arrangement, level of protection, or any other feature is required, such device, equipment, system, condition, arrangement, level of protection, or other feature shall thereafter be maintained, unless the *Code* exempts such maintenance.

*Subsection 4.6.12.1* of the NFPA 101, Life Safety Code, 2015 Edition, is amended to read as follows:

**4.6.12.1** Whenever or wherever any device, equipment, system, condition, arrangement, level of protection, fire-resistive construction, or any other feature is required, such device, equipment, system, condition, arrangement, level of protection, fire-resistive construction, or other feature shall thereafter be continuously maintained in accordance with applicable NFPA requirements or requirements developed as part of a performance-based design, or as directed by the authority having jurisdiction.

*Paragraph 4.6.12.3* of the NFPA 101, Life Safety Code, 2015 Edition, is amended to read as follows:

**4.6.12.3\*** Existing life safety features obvious to the public, tenants, or occupants, if not required, shall be either maintained or removed.

*Subsection 4.8.2* of the NFPA 101, Life Safety Code, 2015 Edition, is amended by adding Paragraph 4.8.2.4 to read as follows:

**4.8.2.4** Emergency plans shall be maintained in a location approved by the AHJ.

*Paragraph 6.1.4.1* of the NFPA 101, Life Safety Code, 2015 Edition, is amended to read as follows:

**6.1.4.1\* Definition — Day-Care Occupancy.** An occupancy in

which clients receive care, maintenance, and supervision, by other than their relatives or legal guardians, for less than twenty-four (24) hours per day.

*Paragraph 6.1.9.1* of the NFPA 101, Life Safety Code, 2015 Edition, is amended to read as follows:

**6.1.9.1\* Definition — Residential Board and Care Occupancy.** A building or portion thereof that is used for lodging and boarding of six (6) or more residents, not related by blood or marriage to the owners or operators, for the purpose of providing personal care services.

*Subparagraph 7.2.1.5.12* of the NFPA 101, Life Safety Code, 2015 Edition, is amended to read as follows:

**7.2.1.5.12** Devices shall not be installed in connection with any door assembly on which panic hardware or fire exit hardware is provided where such devices prevent or are intended to prevent the free use of the leaf for purposes of egress, unless otherwise provided in 7.2.1.6

*Subparagraph 7.2.1.7.1* of the NFPA 101, Life Safety Code, 2015 Edition, is amended to read as follows:

**7.2.1.7.1** Where a door assembly is equipped with panic or fire exit hardware, such hardware shall meet the following criteria:

- (1) It shall consist of a cross bar or a push pad, the actuating portion of which extends across not less than one-half of the width of the door leaf.
- (2) It shall be mounted as follows:
  - (a) New installations shall not be less than 34 in. (865mm) and not more than 48 in. (1220mm) above the floor.
  - (b) Existing installations shall not be less than 30 in. (760mm) and not more than 48 in. (1220mm) above the floor.
- (3) It shall be constructed so that a horizontal force not to exceed 15 lbf (66N) actuates the cross bar or push pad and latches.

*Subparagraph 7.2.1.7.3* of the NFPA 101, Life Safety Code, 2015 Edition, is amended to read as follows:

**7.2.1.7.3** Panic and fire exit hardware in other than detention and correctional occupancies as otherwise provided in Chapters 22 and 23, shall not be equipped with any locking device, set screw, or other arrangement that prevents the release of the latch when pressure is applied to the releasing device.

*Table 7.3.1.2* of the NFPA 101, Life Safety Code, 2015 Edition, is amended by adding the following line under “Business Use” to read as follows:

Shell business use

65 ft<sup>2</sup> per person

6 m<sup>2</sup> per person

Subsection 7.7.4 of the NFPA 101, Life Safety Code, 2015 Edition, is amended by adding Paragraph 7.7.4.1 to read as follows:

**7.7.4.1** Egress discharge paths shall be made of permanent formed materials arranged in a manner to lead occupants to a public way. Grass lawns, gravel, flagstones, and other filler materials will not be an acceptable path base.

*Paragraph 7.9.1.2* of the NFPA 101, Life Safety Code, 2015 Edition, is amended to read as follows:

**7.9.1.2** For the purposes of 7.9.1.1, exit access shall include, but not be limited to, designated stairs, aisles, corridors, ramps, escalators, and passageways leading to an exit. For the purposes of 7.9.1.1, exit discharge shall include only designated stairs, ramps, aisles, walkways, and escalators leading to a public way.

*Chapter 8* of the NFPA 101, Life Safety Code, 2015 Edition, is amended by adding the following Section and Subsections to read as follows:

## **8.9 Fire Department Personnel Access.**

**8.9.1 Access to Floors.** In all complex structures, at least one entrance to a stair shall be provided in the vicinity of the main fire department access point, which accesses all levels of the structure. If a standpipe system is required in the building, this stair must be provided with that means of manual fire protection. The automatic fire sprinkler floor control valves shall also be located in this stair.

*Paragraph 9.6.1.3* of NFPA 101, Life Safety Code, 2015 Edition, is amended to read as follows:

**9.6.1.3** Fire alarm systems shall be installed, tested, and maintained in accordance with the applicable requirements of NFPA 70, *National Electrical Code*, and NFPA 72, *National Fire Alarm and Signaling Code*, unless it is an approved existing installation, which shall be permitted to be continued to be used.

*Paragraph 9.6.1.6* of the NFPA 101, Life Safety Code, 2015 Edition, is amended by adding as follows:

**9.6.1.6** Where a required fire alarm system is impaired or out of service for more than four (4) hours in a twenty-four (24) hour period, mitigating measures shall be in accordance with Section 9-14 of the Rockville City Code.

*Paragraph 9.6.2.6* of the NFPA 101, Life Safety Code, 2015 Edition, is amended to read as

follows:

**9.6.2.6\*** For fire alarm systems using automatic fire detection or waterflow detection devices, not less than one manual fire alarm box shall be provided to initiate a fire alarm signal. The manual fire alarm box shall be located where required by the authority having jurisdiction. This paragraph does not permit the omission of manual fire alarm boxes in accordance with other provisions of this subsection unless specifically permitted by Chapters 12 through 43.

*Paragraph 9.7.1.1* of the NFPA 101, Life Safety Code, 2015 Edition, is amended by adding Subparagraph 9.7.1.1.1 to read as follows:

**9.7.1.1.1** For new ceiling installations, drop-out ceilings as referenced in NFPA 13, Subsection 8.15.14 shall be prohibited.

*Subsection 9.11.1* of the NFPA 101, Life Safety Code, 2015 Edition, is amended to read as follows:

**9.11.1 Maintenance and Testing.** All automatic sprinkler and standpipe systems shall be inspected, tested, and maintained in accordance with NFPA 25, *Standard for the Inspection, Testing, and Maintenance of Water-Based Fire Protection Systems*.

*Paragraph 11.8.3.1* of the NFPA 101, Life Safety Code, 2015 Edition, is amended to read as follows:

**11.8.3.1** High-rise buildings shall be protected throughout by an approved, supervised automatic sprinkler system in accordance with section 9.7. A sprinkler control valve and waterflow device shall be provided for each floor. High rise buildings do not include a structure or building used exclusively for open-air parking.

*Paragraph 11.8.6.1* of the NFPA 101, Life Safety Code, 2015 Edition, is amended to read as follows:

**11.8.6.1** An emergency command center shall be provided that complies with all of the following:

- (1) The location of the emergency command center shall be provided in a location approved by the authority having jurisdiction.
- (2) A door that opens directly to the exterior shall be provided on the address side of the building.
- (3) The exterior door to the emergency command center shall be within 50 ft. (15.24 m) of a fire department access road.
- (4) A fire department access box shall be provided within 6 ft. (1.83 m) of the exterior door to the emergency command center.
- (5) The exterior door to the emergency command center shall be identified on the exterior face as the emergency command center in a

manner acceptable to the authority having jurisdiction.

(6) Chapter 5, Buildings and Building Regulations, of the Rockville City Code

*Paragraph 11.11.2.1* of the NFPA 101, Life Safety Code, 2015 Edition, is amended to read as follows:

**11.11.2.1** All tent fabric shall meet the flame propagation performance criteria contained in NFPA 701, *Standard Methods of Fire Tests for Flame Propagation of Textiles and Films* or other approved testing standard approved by the State Fire Marshal.

*Paragraph 12.2.4.1* of the NFPA 101, Life Safety Code, 2015 Edition, is amended to read as follows:

**12.2.4.1** The number of means of egress shall be in accordance with section 7.4, other than exits for fenced outdoor assembly occupancies in accordance with 12.2.4.4

- (1) Not less than two (2) separate exits shall be provided on every story
- (2) Not less than two separate accessible exits shall be provided from every part of every story.

*Paragraph 12.3.5.2* of the NFPA 101, Life Safety Code, 2015 Edition, is amended to read as follows:

**12.3.5.2** Any building containing one or more assembly occupancies where the aggregate occupant load of the assembly occupancies exceeds 100 shall be protected by an approved, supervised automatic sprinkler system in accordance with Section 9.7.

*Paragraph 13.2.4.1* of the NFPA 101, Life Safety Code, 2015 Edition, is amended to read as follows:

**13.2.4.1** The number of means of egress shall be in accordance with section 7.4, other than exits for fenced outdoor assembly occupancies in accordance with 12.2.4.4

- (1) Not less than two (2) separate exits shall be provided on every story
- (2) Not less than two separate accessible exits shall be provided from every part of every story.

*Paragraph 14.7.2.3* of the NFPA 101, Life Safety Code, 2015 Edition, is amended to read as follows:

**14.7.2.3** Fire emergency egress drills shall be conducted as follows:

- (1) Not less than one fire emergency egress drill shall be conducted every month the facility is in session, unless the following criteria are met:
  - (a) In climates where the weather is severe, the

monthly fire emergency egress drills shall be permitted to be deferred; and (b) In educational occupancies which are:

(i) fully protected by an automatic sprinkler system, the total number of annual fire emergency egress drills shall be five, with a least two of the required drills conducted in the first four months of the school year; or

(ii) not fully protected by an automatic sprinkler system, the total number of annual fire emergency egress drills shall be eight, with at least three of the required drills conducted in the first four months of the school year.

(2) All occupants of the building shall participate in the fire emergency egress drill.

(3) One fire emergency egress drill, other than for educational occupancies that are open on a year-round basis, shall be required within the first 30 days of operation.

*Paragraph 15.7.2.3 of the NFPA 101, Life Safety Code, 2015 Edition, is amended to read as follows:*

**15.7.2.3** Fire emergency egress drills shall be conducted as follows:

(1) Not less than one fire emergency egress drill shall be conducted every month the facility is in session, unless the following criteria are met:

(a) In climates where the weather is severe, the monthly fire emergency egress drills shall be permitted to be deferred; and (b) In educational occupancies which are:

(i) fully protected by an automatic sprinkler system, the total number of annual fire emergency egress drills shall be five, with a least two of the required drills conducted in the first four months of the school year; or

(ii) not fully protected by an automatic sprinkler system, the total number of annual fire emergency egress drills shall be eight, with at least three of the required drills conducted in the first four months of the school year.

(2) All occupants of the building shall participate in the fire emergency egress drill.

(3) One fire emergency egress drill, other than for educational occupancies that are open on a year-round basis, shall be required within the first 30 days of operation.

*Subsection 16.1.1 of the NFPA 101, Life Safety Code, 2015 Edition, is amended by adding Paragraph 16.1.1.9 to read as follows:*

**16.1.1.9** Day-care centers providing day care for school-age children before and after school hours in a building which is in use as a public or



private school are not required to meet the provisions of this chapter, but shall meet the provisions for educational occupancies.

*Subparagraph 16.2.11.1.1* of the NFPA 101, Life Safety Code, 2015 Edition, is amended by adding item (4) to read as follows:

**16.2.11.1.1** For windows at grade the minimum net clear opening shall be permitted to be 5.0 ft<sup>2</sup> (0.46 m<sup>2</sup>).

*Sub-subparagraph 16.6.1.4.1.1* of the NFPA 101, Life Safety Code, 2015 Edition, is amended to read as follows:

**16.6.1.4.1.1 Family Day-Care Home.** A family day-care home shall be a day-care home in which fewer than nine (9), clients receive care, maintenance, and supervision by other than their relative(s) or legal guardian(s) for less than twenty-four (24) hours per day, generally within a dwelling unit.

*Sub-subparagraph 16.6.1.4.1.2* of the NFPA 101, Life Safety Code, 2015 Edition, is amended to read as follows:

**16.6.1.4.1.2 Group Day-Care Home.** A group day-care home shall be a day-care home in which not less than nine (9), but not more than twelve (12), clients receive care, maintenance, and supervision by other than their relative(s) or legal guardian(s) for less than twenty-four (24) hours per day, generally within a dwelling unit.

*Subparagraph 16.6.1.7.1* of the NFPA 101, Life Safety Code, 2015 Edition, is deleted and replaced to read as follows:

**16.6.1.7.1** In family day-care homes, the following shall apply:

- (1) The minimum staff-to-client ratio shall be not less than one (1) staff for up to eight (8) clients, including the caretaker's own children incapable of self-preservation.
- (2) There shall be not more than four (4) clients incapable of self-preservation, including the caretaker's own children incapable of self-preservation.
- (3) A staff-to-client ratio of at least one (1) staff to every two (2) clients incapable of self-preservation shall be maintained at all times.
- (4) The staff-to-client ratio shall be permitted to be modified by the authority having jurisdiction where safeguards in addition to those specified by this section are provided.

*Paragraph 16.6.2.1* of the NFPA 101, Life Safety Code, 2015 Edition, is amended to read as follows:

**16.6.2.1 General.** Means of escape shall comply with Section 24.2. Bulkhead doors may not serve as a primary means of escape.

*Paragraph 16.6.2.2* of the NFPA 101, Life Safety Code, 2015 Edition, is amended to read as follows:

**SLIDING DOOR:** For family day-care homes, a sliding door used as a required means of escape shall comply with the following conditions:

- (1) The sliding door shall have not more than one, easily operated, locking device that does not require special knowledge, effort, or tools to operate;
- (2) There may not be draperies, screens, or storm doors that could impede egress;
- (3) The sill or track height may not exceed ½ in. (12.7 mm) above the interior finish floor;
- (4) The surface onto which exit is made shall be an all-weather surface such as a deck, patio, or sidewalk;
- (5) The floor level outside the door may be one step lower than the inside, but not more than 8 in. (203.2 mm) lower;
- (6) The sliding door shall open to a clear open width of at least 28 in. (711.2 mm);
- (7) Before day-care use each day, the sliding door shall be unlocked and tested to the full required width to be sure it is operating properly, and the door shall be nonbinding and slide easily; and
- (8) During periods of snow or freezing rain, door tracks shall be cleared out and the door opened periodically throughout the day in order to ensure proper operation.

*Paragraph 16.6.2.3* of the NFPA 101, Life Safety Code, 2015 Edition, is amended to read by adding as follows:

**SPECIAL MEANS OF ESCAPE REQUIREMENTS:** For family day-care homes, deadbolt locks shall be provided with approved interior latches, or these locks shall be of a captured key design from which the key cannot be removed from the interior side of the lock when the lock is in the locked position. These locks shall be unlocked at all times when the home is occupied for the purpose of family day care.

*Subparagraph 16.6.2.4.5* of the NFPA 101, Life Safety Code, 2015 Edition, is amended to read as follows:

**16.6.2.4.5** Where clients occupy a story below the level of exit discharge, that story shall have not less than one means of escape complying with one of the following:

- (1) Door leading directly to the outside with access to finished ground level.
- (2) Door leading directly to an outside stair going to finished ground level.
- (3) Bulkhead enclosure complying with 24.2.7.
- (4) Interior stair leading directly to the outside with access to finished ground level, separated from other stories by a ½ hour barrier in accordance with Section 8.3.

Bulkhead doors may not serve as a primary means of escape.

*Subparagraph 17.6.2.4.5* of the NFPA 101, Life Safety Code, 2015 Edition, is amended to read as follows:

**17.6.2.4.5** Where clients occupy a story below the level of exit discharge, that story shall have not less than one means of escape complying with one of the following:

(5) Door leading directly to the outside with access to finished ground level. (6) Door leading directly to an outside stair going to finished ground level. (7) Bulkhead enclosure complying with 24.2.7.

(8) Interior stair leading directly to the outside with access to finished ground level, separated from other stories by a ½ hour barrier in accordance with Section 8.3. Bulkhead doors may not serve as a primary means of escape.

*Subsection 17.1.1* of the NFPA 101, Life Safety Code, 2015 Edition, is amended by adding Paragraph 17.1.1.9 to read as follows:

**17.1.1.9** Day-care centers providing day care for school-age children before and after school hours in a building which is in use as a public or private school are not required to meet the provisions of this chapter, but shall meet the provisions for educational occupancies.

*Subparagraph 17.2.11.1.1* of the NFPA 101, Life Safety Code, 2015 Edition, is amended by adding item (4) to read as follows:

**17.2.11.11** For windows at grade the minimum net clear opening shall be permitted to be 5.0 ft<sup>2</sup> (0.46 m<sup>2</sup>).

*Subparagraph 17.6.1.1.2* of the NFPA 101, Life Safety Code, 2015 Edition, is amended to read as follows:

**17.6.1.1.2\*** The requirements of Section 17.6 shall apply to existing day-care homes in which not more than twelve (12), clients receive care, maintenance, and supervision by other than their relative(s) or legal guardian(s) for less than twenty-four (24) hours per day, generally within a dwelling unit. An existing day-care home shall be permitted the option of meeting the requirements of Section 16.6 in lieu of Section 17.6. Any existing day-care home that meets the requirements of Chapter 16 shall be judged as meeting the requirements of this chapter. (*See also 17.6.1.4.*)

*Sub-subparagraph 17.6.1.4.1.1* of the NFPA 101, Life Safety Code, 2015 Edition, is amended to read as follows:

**17.6.1.4.1.1 Family Day-Care Home.** A family day-care home shall be a day-care home in which fewer than nine (9), clients receive care,

maintenance, and supervision by other than their relative(s) or legal guardian(s) for less than twenty- four (24) hours per day, generally within a dwelling unit.

*Sub-subparagraph 17.6.1.4.1.2* of the NFPA 101, Life Safety Code, 2015 Edition, is amended to read as follows:

**17.6.1.4.1.2 Group Day-Care Home.** A group day-care home shall be a day-care home in which not less than nine (9), but not more than twelve (12), clients receive care, maintenance, and supervision by other than their relative(s) or legal guardian(s) for less than twenty-four (24) hours per day, generally within a dwelling unit.

*Subparagraph 17.6.1.7.1* of the NFPA 101, Life Safety Code, 2015 Edition, is deleted and replaced to read as follows:

**17.6.1.7.1** In family day-care homes, the following shall apply:

- (1) The minimum staff-to-client ratio shall be not less than one (1) staff for up to eight (8) clients, including the caretaker's own children incapable of self- preservation.
- (2) There shall be not more than four (4) clients incapable of self- preservation, including the caretaker's own children incapable of self- preservation.
- (3) A staff-to-client ratio of at least one (1) staff to every two (2) clients incapable of self-preservation shall be maintained at all times.
- (4) The staff-to-client ratio shall be permitted to be modified by the authority having jurisdiction where safeguards in addition to those specified by this section are provided.

*Paragraph 17.6.2.1* of the NFPA 101, Life Safety Code, 2015 Edition, is amended to read as follows:

**17.6.2.1 General.** Means of escape shall comply with Section 24.2. Bulkhead doors may not serve as a primary means of escape.

*Paragraph 17.6.2.2* of the NFPA 101, Life Safety Code, 2015 Edition, is amended to read as follows:

**SLIDING DOOR:** For family day-care homes, a sliding door used as a required means of egress shall comply with the following conditions:

- 1) The sliding door shall have not more than one, easily operated, locking device that does not require special knowledge, effort, or tools to operate;
- 2) There may not be draperies, screens, or storm doors that could impede egress;
- 3) The sill or track height may not exceed ½ in.(12.7 mm) above the interior finish floor;
- 4) The surface onto which exit is made shall be an all-weather surface

such as a deck, patio, or sidewalk;

5) The floor level outside the door may be one step lower than the inside, but not more than 8 in. (203.2 mm) lower;

6) The sliding door shall open to a clear open width of at least 28 in (711.2 mm);

7) Before day-care use each day, the sliding door shall be unlocked and tested to the full required width to be sure it is operating properly, and the door shall be nonbinding and slide easily; and

8) During periods of snow or freezing rain, door tracks shall be cleared out and the door opened periodically throughout the day in order to ensure proper operation. [COMAR 29.06.01.07]

*Paragraph 17.6.2.3* of the NFPA 101, Life Safety Code, 2015 Edition, is amended to read as follows:

**SPECIAL MEANS OF ESCAPE REQUIREMENTS:** For family day-care homes, deadbolt locks shall be provided with approved interior latches, or these locks shall be of a captured key design from which the key cannot be removed from the interior side of the lock when the lock is in the locked position. These locks shall be unlocked at all times when the home is occupied for the purpose of family day care.

Exception: A double-keyed dead-bolt lock may be used on the secondary means of escape if the key is readily accessible and the lock is unlocked when the home is occupied for family day care.

*Subparagraph 17.6.3.4.4* of the NFPA 101, Life Safety Code, 2015 Edition, is amended to read as follows:

**17.6.3.4.4** Approved battery-powered smoke alarms, rather than house electrical service-powered smoke alarms required by 17.6.3.4.3, shall be permitted where the facility has testing, maintenance, and battery replacement programs that ensure reliability of power to the smoke alarms.

*Subparagraph 22.4.5.1.3* of the NFPA 101, Life Safety Code, 2015 Edition, is amended to read as follows:

**22.4.5.1.3** Lockups in occupancies, other than detention and correctional occupancies and health care occupancies, where the holding area has capacity for not more than fifty (50) detainees, and where no individual is detained for twenty- four (24) hours or more, shall comply with 22.4.5.1.4.

*Subparagraph 22.4.5.1.4 (1)* of the NFPA 101, Life Safety Code, 2015 Edition, is amended to read as follows:

**22.4.5.1.4 (1)** Doors and other physical restraints to free egress by detainees can be readily released by staff within thirty (30) seconds of the onset of a fire or similar emergency.

*Subparagraph 22.4.5.1.4 (2)* of the NFPA 101, Life Safety Code, 2015 Edition, is amended to

read as follows:

**22.4.5.1.4 (2)** Staff is in sufficient proximity to the lockup so as to be able to effect the thirty (30) second release required by 22.4.5.1.4 (1) whenever detainees occupy the lockup.

*Subparagraph 22.4.5.1.5* of the NFPA 101, Life Safety Code, 2015 Edition, is deleted.

*Paragraph 22.4.5.2* of the NFPA 101, Life Safety Code, 2015 Edition, is deleted.

*Subparagraph 23.4.5.1.3* of the NFPA 101, Life Safety Code, 2015 Edition, is amended to read as follows:

**23.4.5.1.3** Lockups in occupancies, other than detention and correctional occupancies and health care occupancies, where the holding area has capacity for not more than fifty (50) detainees, and where no individual is detained for twenty- four (24) hours or more, shall comply with 23.4.5.1.4.

*Subparagraph 23.4.5.1.4 (1)* of the NFPA 101, Life Safety Code, 2015 Edition, is amended to read as follows:

**23.4.5.1.4 (1)** Doors and other physical restraints to free egress by detainees can be readily released by staff within thirty (30) seconds of the onset of a fire or similar emergency.

*Subparagraph 23.4.5.1.4 (2)* of the NFPA 101, Life Safety Code, 2015 Edition, is amended to read as follows:

**23.4.5.1.4 (2)** Staff is in sufficient proximity to the lockup so as to be able to effect the thirty (30) second release required by 23.4.5.1.4 (1) whenever detainees occupy the lockup.

*Subparagraph 23.4.5.1.5* of the NFPA 101, Life Safety Code, 2015 Edition, is deleted.

*Paragraph 23.4.5.2* of the NFPA 101, Life Safety Code, 2015 Edition, is deleted.

*Paragraph 24.1.1.2* of the NFPA 101, Life Safety Code, 2015 Edition, is amended to read as follows:

**24.1.1.2\*** The requirements of this chapter shall apply to one- and two-family dwellings, which shall include those buildings containing not more than two (2) dwelling units in which each dwelling unit is occupied by members of a single family with not more than five (5) outsiders.

*Subparagraph 24.2.2.3.3* of the NFPA 101, Life Safety Code, 2015 Edition, is amended to read as follows:

**24.2.2.3.3\*** It shall be an outside window or door operable from the

inside without the use of tools, keys, or special effort and shall provide a clear opening of not less than 5.7 ft<sup>2</sup> (0.53 m<sup>2</sup>), or not less than 5.0 ft<sup>2</sup> (0.46 m<sup>2</sup>) when at grade. The width shall be not less than 20 in. (510 mm), and the height shall be not less than 24 in. (610 mm). The bottom of the opening shall be not more than 44 in. (1120 mm) above the floor. Such means of escape shall be acceptable where one (1) of the following criteria is met:

- (1) The window shall be within 20 ft. (6100 mm) of the finished ground level.
- (2) The window shall be directly accessible to fire department rescue apparatus as approved by the authority having jurisdiction.
- (3) The window or door shall open onto an exterior balcony.
- (4) Windows having a sill height below the adjacent finished ground level shall be provided with a window well meeting the following criteria:
  - (a) The window well shall have horizontal dimensions that allow the window to be fully opened.
  - (b) The window well shall have an accessible net clear opening of not less than 9 ft<sup>2</sup> (0.82 m<sup>2</sup>) with a length and width of not less than 36 in. (915 mm).
  - (c) A window well with a vertical depth of more than 44 in. (1120 mm) shall be equipped with an approved permanently affixed ladder or with steps meeting the following criteria:
    - i. The ladder or steps shall not encroach more than 6 in. (150 mm) into the required dimensions of the window well.
    - ii. The ladder or steps shall not be obstructed by the window.

*Paragraph 26.1.1.1* of the NFPA 101, Life Safety Code, 2015 Edition, is amended to read as follows:

**26.1.1.1\*** The requirements of this chapter shall apply to buildings that do not qualify as one- and two-family dwellings that provide sleeping accommodations for sixteen (16) or fewer persons on either a transient or permanent basis, with or without meals, but without separate cooking facilities for individual occupants, except as provided in Chapter 24.

*Paragraph 32.2.2.3.1 (3)* of the NFPA 101, Life Safety Code, 2015 Edition, is amended to read as follows:

(3)\* Outside window or door operable from the inside, without the use of tools, keys, or special effort, that provides a clear opening of not less than 5.7 ft<sup>2</sup> (0.53 m<sup>2</sup>) “; or not less than 5.0 ft<sup>2</sup> (0.46 m<sup>2</sup>) when at grade, with the width not less than 20 in. (510 mm), the height not less than 24 in. (610 mm), and the bottom of the opening not more than 44 in. (1120 mm) above the floor, with such means of escape acceptable, provided that one of the following criteria is met:

- (a) The window is within 20 ft. (6100 mm) of grade.
- (b) The window is directly accessible to fire department rescue apparatus, as approved by the authority having jurisdiction.
- (c) The window or door opens onto an exterior balcony.

*Paragraph 33.2.2.3.1 (3)* of the NFPA 101, Life Safety Code, 2015 Edition, is amended to read as follows:

(3)\* Outside window or door operable from the inside, without the use of tools, keys, or special effort, that provides a clear opening of not less than 5.7 ft<sup>2</sup> (0.53 m<sup>2</sup>) “; or not less than 5.0 ft<sup>2</sup> (0.46 m<sup>2</sup>) when at grade, with the width not less than 20 in. (510 mm), the height not less than 24 in. (610 mm), and the bottom of the opening not more than 44 in. (1120 mm) above the floor, with such means of escape acceptable, provided that one of the following criteria is met:

- (a) The window is within 20 ft. (6100 mm) of grade.
- (b) The window is directly accessible to fire department rescue apparatus, as approved by the authority having jurisdiction.
- (c) The window or door opens onto an exterior balcony.

*Sub-subparagraph 33.3.3.4.8.1* of the NFPA 101, Life Safety Code, 2015 Edition, is amended to read as follows

**33.3.3.4.8.1** In all living areas, as defined in 3.3.21.5, and all corridors shall be provided with smoke detectors that comply with NFPA 72, *National Fire Alarm and Signaling Code*, and are arranged to initiate an alarm that is audible in all sleeping areas, as modified by 33.3.3.4.8.3.

*Sub-subparagraph of 33.3.3.4.8.2* of the NFPA 101, Life Safety Code, 2015 Edition, is deleted.

*Subparagraph 42.3.4.1.2* of the NFPA 101, Life Safety Code, 2015 Edition, is amended to read as follows:

**42.3.4.1.2** Storage occupancies less than three (3) stories with ordinary or high hazard contents not exceeding an aggregate floor area of 100,000 ft<sup>2</sup> (9300 m<sup>2</sup>) shall not be required to have a fire alarm system.

*Subparagraph 42.3.4.1.3* of the NFPA 101, Life Safety Code, 2015 Edition, is amended to read as follows:

**42.3.4.1.3** Storage occupancies less than three (3) stories protected throughout by an approved automatic sprinkler system in accordance with Section 9.7 shall not be required to have a fire alarm system.

*Subparagraph 42.8.3.4.1.1* of the NFPA 101, Life Safety Code, 2015 Edition, is amended to read as follows:

**42.83.4.1.1** Parking structures less than three stories not exceeding an



aggregate floor area of 100,000 ft<sup>2</sup> (9300 m<sup>2</sup>) shall not be required to have a fire alarm.

*Subparagraph 42.8.3.4.1.3* of the NFPA 101, Life Safety Code, 2015 Edition, is amended to read as follows:

**42.8.3.4.1.3** Parking structures less than three stories protected throughout by an approved automatic sprinkler system in accordance with Section 9.7 shall not be required to have a fire alarm system.

*Subparagraph 42.8.3.4.1.1* of the NFPA 101, Life Safety Code, 2015 Edition, is amended to read as follows:

**42.8.3.4.1.1** Parking structures less than three stories not exceeding an aggregate floor area of 100,000 ft<sup>2</sup> (9300 m<sup>2</sup>) shall not be required to have a fire alarm.

*Subparagraph 42.8.3.4.1.3* of the NFPA 101, Life Safety Code, 2015 Edition, is amended to read as follows:

**42.8.3.4.1.3** Parking structures less than three stories protected throughout by an approved automatic sprinkler system in accordance with Section 9.7 shall not be required to have a fire alarm system.

**Secs. 9-92-9-94. Reserved**