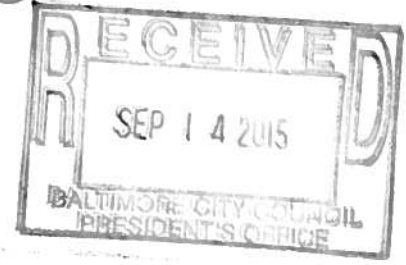




## BALTIMORE HOUSING

STEPHANIE RAWLINGS-BLAKE  
Mayor

PAUL T. GRAZIANO  
Executive Director, HABC  
Commissioner, HCD



## MEMORANDUM

To: The Honorable President and Members of the Baltimore City Council  
c/o Natawina Austin, Executive Secretary

From: Paul T. Graziano, Commissioner

Date: September 10, 2015

Re: **City Council Bill 15- 0546 - Building, Fire, and Related Codes - 2015 Edition**

The Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) has reviewed City Council Bill 15-0546 for the purpose of adopting a revised Building, Fire, and Related Codes Article, comprising the Maryland Building Performance Standards (effective January 1, 2015), the International Building Code (2015 Edition), the National Electrical Code (2014 Edition), the International Fuel Gas Code (2015 Edition), the International Mechanical Code (2015 Edition), the International Plumbing Code (2015 Edition), the International Property Maintenance Code (2015 Edition), the International Fire Code (2015 Edition), the International Energy Conservation Code (2015 Edition), the International Residential Code for One- and Two-Family Dwellings (2015 Edition), the International Green Conservation Code (2012 Edition), and the International Swimming Pool and Spa Code (2015 Edition), all as supplemented, amended, or otherwise modified by this Ordinance; providing for the effect, construction, and effective date of these new standards and codes; correcting obsolete agency references; conforming, correcting, and clarifying certain language; and generally relating to the adoption of new building, fire, property maintenance, electrical, plumbing, mechanical, and related codes for Baltimore City.

If enacted, this bill would adopt a revised Building, Fire and Related Codes as required by State law under the Maryland Building Performance Standards.

The International Code Council (ICC) regularly meets and reviews the various above-referenced codes and discusses potential amendments and adopts a new revised code every three years. Once the ICC has adopted its new codes, the State of Maryland adopts the newest ICC versions and requires local jurisdictions to incorporate the changes into local codes in a timely fashion.

In October of 2014, a team from the Code Enforcement Division of HCD started the thorough review of the changes to the new 2015 version of the ICC code and developed amendments that were necessary to make the code specific to



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Baltimore City and to update any sections that needed to be changed based on previous experience. The proposed revised Building, Fire and Related Codes of Baltimore City for 2105 does not differ in any substantive way with the 2012 version of the code.

The Department of Housing and Community Development recommends the passage of City Council Bill 15-0546.

PTG:sd

cc: Ms. Angela Gibson, *Mayor's Office of Government Relations*  
Mr. Colin Tarbert, *Deputy Mayor*