


<b>FROM</b>	NAME & TITLE	Niles R. Ford, PhD, Chief of Fire Department <i>NRF</i>	CITY of BALTIMORE  <b>MEMO</b>	
	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	Baltimore City Fire Department 401 East Fayette St. _21202		
	SUBJECT	City Council Bill #15-0546 Building, Fire and Related Codes-2015 Edition		

DATE:

**TO**

The Honorable Bernard C. Young, President  
And All Members of the Baltimore City Council  
City Hall, Room 408

August 14, 2015

**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.**

The Fire Department has no objection to this proposed City Council Bill #15-0546 as written with the following exception and explanation:

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Chapter 3. General Requirements

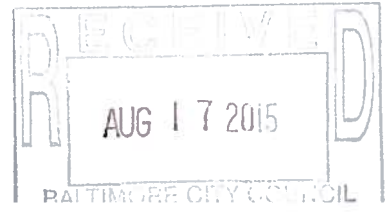
Section 308.1.4 Open-flame cooking devices. Charcoal burners and other open-flame cooking devices shall not be operated on combustible balconies or within 10 feet (3084 mm) of any combustible construction or property line.

Line 24:

In the IFC, the exception to this is one and two family dwellings. During the last reading of this, the exception language was removed. The problem with removing this language is that there are many homes in Baltimore City that do not have the 10 foot distance from the construction of the structure to the property line. While we are in agreement that open flame devices should not be operated on combustible balconies such as wooden decks, some latitude needs to be given to dwellings that do not have this 10 foot distance. The proposed language in the amendment below is language that is currently used for requirements of cooking for outdoor special events.

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*Fav w/ Amend*



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**TO**

The Fire Department proposes the following amendment to Section 308.1-4 Open-flame cooking devices.

Charcoal burners and other open-flame cooking devices shall not be operated on combustible balconies or within 10 feet (3084 mm) of any combustible construction or property line.

Exception: One and two family dwellings whose property lines are less than 10 feet from the structure are permitted to use these devices no closer than 6 feet from any combustible construction and shall have the proper extinguishing agent available. LPG burners shall have a portable fire extinguisher of at least a 2A-10BC rating. For wood and charcoal cooking, a water fire extinguisher or a 5-gallon bucket of water is required.

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