



BILL SYNOPSIS

Committee: Judiciary

Bill 20-0505

Building, Fire, and Related Codes - 2020 Edition

Sponsor: City Council President (Department of Housing and Community Development)

Introduced: March 9, 2020

Purpose:

For the purpose of adopting a revised Building, Fire, and Related Codes Article, comprising the Maryland Building Performance Standards (effective March 25, 2019), the International Building Code (2018 Edition), the National Electrical Code (2017 Edition), the International Fuel Gas Code (2018 Edition), the International Mechanical Code (2018 Edition), the International Plumbing Code (2018 Edition), the International Property Maintenance Code (2018 Edition), the International Fire Code (2018 Edition), the International Energy Conservation Code (2018 Edition), the International Residential Code for One- and Two-Family Dwellings (2018 Edition), the International Green Conservation Code (2012 Edition), and the International Swimming Pool and Spa Code (2018 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; conforming, correcting, and clarifying certain language; providing for a special effective date; and generally relating to the adoption of new building, fire, property maintenance, electrical, plumbing, mechanical, and related codes for Baltimore City.

Effective: The date it is enacted

AGENCY REPORTS

Department of Housing and Community Development	Favorable
Department of Planning	Favorable with Amendments
Board of Municipal and Zoning Appeals	
Department of Public Works	Favorable

Department of Transportation	
Department of General Services	
Fire Department	
City Solicitor	

ANALYSIS

Current Law

Article - Building, Fire, and Related Codes; Article - Health Section 6-603.1(b)(1) (BFR Codes); Article 1- Mayor, City Council, and Municipal Agencies Sections 40-14(e)(5c) and (6), and 41-14(5); Article 9 - Fire Suppression and Prevention Subtitle 8 (Editor’s Note); Article 10 - Harbors, Docks, and Wharves Subtitle 7 (Editor’s Note); Article 13 - Housing and Urban Renewal Section 11-2(d); Article 15 - Licensing and Regulation Sections 246 and 255(a); Article 19 - Police Ordinances Section 71-2(i)(1); Article 26 - Surveys, Streets, and Highways Section 6-7(1); and Article 32 – Zoning Section 16-409. Baltimore City Code (Edition 2000).

Bill Summary

The bill adopts a revised Building, Fire, and Related Codes Article of the Baltimore City Code. The Building, Fire, and Related Codes Article is comprised of the following international, national, and state model codes and standards, as supplemented, amended, or otherwise modified by the City:

- Maryland Building Performance Standards (effective March 25, 2019),
- International Building Code (2018 Edition),
- National Electrical Code (2017 Edition),
- International Fuel Gas Code (2018 Edition),
- International Mechanical Code (2018 Edition),
- International Plumbing Code (2018 Edition),
- International Property Maintenance Code (2018 Edition),
- International Fire Code (2018 Edition),
- International Energy Conservation Code (2018 Edition),
- International Residential Code for One- and Two-Family Dwellings (2018 Edition),
- International Green Conservation Code (2012 Edition), and
- International Swimming Pool and Spa Code (2018 Edition)

The ordinance adopts some provisions of the model codes as written, adopts others with specific modifications, and identifies the provisions that are not adopted by the City. The changes to the existing code are highlighted in the attached 1st Reader copy of the ordinance.

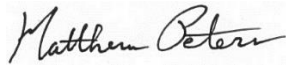
Amendments

The Department of Planning recommended fourteen revisions to the bill intended to streamline the code without affecting the substance. The revisions are included in the Department's written report.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Fiscal Note: None

Information Source(s): Reporting Agencies, Bill 20-0505.



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