

CHAPTER 1

ADMINISTRATION

SECTION 101 GENERAL

101.1 Title. These regulations shall be known as the *North Carolina Fire Code*, hereinafter referred to as "this code." *References to the International Codes shall mean the North Carolina Codes. Any references to ICC/ANSI A117.1 shall mean the North Carolina Accessibility Code. The North Carolina amendments are shown italicized and underlined.*

101.2 Scope. This code establishes regulations affecting or relating to structures, processes and premises and safeguards from the hazard of fire and explosion arising from the storage, handling or use of structures, materials or devices; from conditions hazardous to life, property or public welfare in the occupancy of structures or premises from fire hazards in the structure or on the premise from occupancy or operation; and, matters related to the construction, extension, repair, alteration or removal of fire suppression and alarm systems.

101.2.1 Appendices. Provisions in the appendices shall not apply unless specifically referenced in this code.

101.3 Intent. The purpose of this code is to establish the minimum requirements consistent with nationally recognized good practice for providing a reasonable level of life safety and property protection from the hazards of fire, explosion or dangerous conditions in new and existing buildings, structures and premises.

101.4 Severability. If a section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this code is, for any reason, held to be unconstitutional, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this code.

101.5 Validity. In the event any part or provision of this code is held to be illegal or void, this shall not have the effect of making void or illegal any of the other parts or provisions hereof, which are determined to be legal; and it shall be presumed that this code would have been passed without such illegal or invalid parts or provisions.

SECTION 102 APPLICABILITY

102.1 Applicability. *The provisions of this code shall apply to all buildings, structures, premises and conditions that pose danger of fires, explosions, or related hazards within this jurisdiction. The provisions of this code shall apply equally to existing as well as new buildings, structures, premises and conditions, except that existing buildings, structures, premises and conditions which complied with the minimum safety standards of the code in effect at the time of construction or installation and which have been properly maintained shall be deemed as complying with this code. Only those violations to the technical provisions of the code which create an imminent safety to life hazards and/or which may create delays in the exiting of the building's occupants are required to be corrected. When the*

present building code requires certain safety to life requirements for existing buildings, those requirements shall apply.

102.2 Administrative, operational and maintenance provisions. *Deleted.*

102.3 Change of use or occupancy. *Deleted.*

102.4 Application of building code. *Deleted.*

102.5 Historic Buildings. *Deleted. See the Existing Buildings Code and the Administration and Enforcement Requirements Code.*

102.6 Referenced codes and standards. *Deleted. See the Administration and Enforcement Requirements Code.*

102.7 Subjects not regulated by this code. Where no applicable standards or requirements are set forth in this code, or are contained within other laws, codes, regulations, ordinances or bylaws adopted by the jurisdiction, compliance with applicable standards of the National Fire Protection Association or other nationally recognized fire safety standards as are approved shall be deemed as prima facie evidence of compliance with the intent of this code. Nothing herein shall derogate from the authority of the code official to determine compliance with codes or standards for those activities or installations within the code official's jurisdiction or responsibility.

102.8 Matters not provided for. Requirements that are essential for the public safety of an existing or proposed activity, building or structure, or for the safety of the occupants thereof which are not specifically provided for by this code shall be determined by the code official.

102.9 Conflicting provisions. Where there is a conflict between a general requirement and a specific requirement, the specific requirement shall be applicable.

SECTION 102A EXCEPTIONS TO APPLICABILITY

Provisions of this Code shall not apply to the following:

- * 1. One and two family dwellings.*
- 2. Buildings for the use of any farmer or his immediate family located outside the building regulation jurisdiction of any municipality when use of the building does not involve the health and safety of the public. If the operation of such can be considered a business endeavor, it shall meet the provisions of the technical codes.*

Exceptions: All buildings used for sleeping purposes shall conform to the provisions of the technical codes. All electric wiring of houses, buildings, or structures