

Concise Explanatory Statement

Rhode Island Government Register

In accordance with the Administrative Procedures Act, R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.6, following is a concise explanatory statement:

AGENCY: Rhode Island Department of Business Regulation

DIVISION: Building Code Commission

RULE IDENTIFIER: 510-RICR-00-00-5

REGULATION TITLE: RISBC-5 Rhode Island Electrical Code

RULEMAKING ACTION: Full rulemaking, Amendment

REASON FOR RULEMAKING:

RISBC-5 State Electrical Code sets forth the electrical code requirements for the State. Rhode Island Building Codes are amendments of the National Electrical Code (“NEC”) which we use as our model. The Building Standards Committee modifies parts of the Codes to adhere to our State and the elements of our State. The State Building Code Standards Committee has reviewed this regulation and proposes the following non-technical amendments. As described below:

CHANGES TO TEXT OF THE RULE:

- Numerous punctuation and grammatical changes have been made throughout that do not result in substantive changes to the regulation.
- All references to NEC 2017, have been changed to the 2020 edition. Some NEC section numbers have been amended to conform to NEC 2020.
- Throughout the regulation: updated internal cross-references with new RICR citations and references to the 2021 version for all Parts in Title 510 being amended this year.

REGULATORY ANALYSIS:

Building codes have a significant impact on the state. The following economic analysis will explain the process of regulatory development and the potential impacts that these regulations will have on Rhode Islanders. The construction standards in the state building codes impacts include:

Safety, health, livability, and environmental impacts related to increased protective requirements;

Building quality and resiliency impacts related to higher quality construction and energy savings requirements;

Construction cost impacts related to the cost of construction and compliance with the state building code requirements; and,

Procedural and administrative impacts related to the management and application of the code requirements.

In the development of the proposed adoption consideration was given to: (1) alternative approaches; (2) overlap or duplication with other statutory and regulatory provisions; and (3) significant economic impact on small business. No alternative approach, duplication, or overlap was identified based upon available information.