

# Concise Explanatory Statement

## Rhode Island Government Register

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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 (“Department”)

**DIVISION:** Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal and Review (“RIFSCBAR”)

**RULE IDENTIFIER:** 450-RICR-00-00-1

**REGULATION TITLE:** Fire Safety Code Sections 1 through 6

**RULEMAKING ACTION:** Full rulemaking, Amendment

**REASON FOR RULEMAKING:**

RIFSCBAR is proposing changes to the Rhode Island State Fire Safety Code Regulations. These changes include updating the base codes to a more recent version of the relevant national/international base codes—updating from the NFPA 2015 family of model codes to the NFPA 2018 model codes. RIFSCBAR has also compiled RI-specific amendments that make changes to these base codes to better align with the specific needs of Rhode Island.

**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 NFPA Codes (“NFPA”) 2015, have been changed to the 2018 edition. Some NFPA section numbers have been amended to conform to NFPA 2018.
- Throughout the regulation: updated internal cross-references with new RICR citations and references to the 2021 version for all Parts in Title 450 being amended this year.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

No Public Comments received.

**REGULATORY ANALYSIS:**

Pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 23-28.3, the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal and Review “has the power to promulgate, amend, and repeal rules and regulations to safeguard life and property

from the hazards of fire and explosives.” The statute further notes that “regulations, amendments, or repeals shall be in accordance with standard safe practice as embodied in widely recognized standards of good practice for fire prevention and fire protection.” After considering each of the proposed changes and the alternative means of achieving the goals of each provision, the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal and Review has determined that the benefits of the proposed changes to the state fire safety codes justify the costs of the proposed rule, and that the proposed rule will achieve the objectives of the authorizing statute in a more cost-effective manner, or with greater net benefits, than other regulatory alternatives.