

# 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  
**DIVISION:** Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal and Review  
**RULE IDENTIFIER:** 450-RICR-00-00-1  
**REGULATION TITLE:** Fire Safety Code Administrative Procedures and Appeal Process  
**RULEMAKING ACTION:** Full rulemaking, Amendment  
**COMMENT PERIOD:** December 2, 2025, to January 1, 2026

### **A. Statement of Purpose of the Amendments**

The Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal and Review (“Board”) has proposed amendments to this regulation to reflect certain administrative and procedural changes made during the past code cycle and to add certain clarifying terms where needed.

Here is a summary of the substantive changes:

- §§ 1.3 and 1.4 – Citations were updated for clarity.
- § 1.6(A) – Content that merely repeated the statute was deleted and replaced with a citation to the act.
- § 1.6(C) – A cross reference was added to Part 8 of Title 450.
- § 1.7.1(E) – This amendment clarifies existing procedure for the submission of appeal applications. No change to the status quo.
- § 1.7.1(G) – Amended to match current practice of the authority having jurisdiction. No change to status quo.
- § 1.7.2(Y) – Amended based on guidance from the District Court (appellate authority) and the Attorney General’s office. No change to current practice as this has not been followed in recent years. Deleting this sentence ensures the finality of Board decisions.
- § 1.7.2(AA) – Corrected typo which referred erroneously to Part 7 instead of Part 8.
- § 1.7.4(A) – Clarified that any party may request an interpretation of the statutory and regulatory provisions of the fire code, including all the regulations in Title 450, not just Part 7. No change to status quo.
- § 1.7.5(D) – Clarified that there are no filing fees for abatements. All filing fees are set forth in statute and there was never a fee for abatement. Adding this sentence to avoid confusion. No change to status quo.

## **B. Summary of the Regulatory Analysis**

The amendments to this regulation are for clarity: correcting typos and cross-references, updating citations to the general laws, and ensuring that the regulation matches current practices of the Board and the Office of the State Fire Marshal. These changes are good for all persons involved in Board matters and appeals. There are no costs resulting from these amendments.

In the development of the proposed amendment 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.

## **C. Summary of Comments Resulting in Post-Comment Changes**

No comments were received. No changes were made. Therefore, the final rule is the same as what was proposed.