

RHODE ISLAND GOVERNMENT REGISTER
AMENDED PUBLIC NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING
FIRE SAFETY CODE BOARD OF APPEAL AND REVIEW

Title of Rule: Rhode Island Fire Alarm Code

Rule Identifier: 450-RICR-00-00-10

Rulemaking Action: Proposed Amendment

Important Dates:

Date of Public Notice: December 2, 2025

End of Public Comment: January 1, 2026

Rulemaking Authority:

R.I. Gen. Laws §§ 23-28.1-2 and 23-28.3-3

Summary of Rulemaking Action:

The Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal and Review ("Board") has proposed amendments to this regulation to update from the 2019 edition of the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 72, National Fire Alarm and Signaling Code, to the 2022 edition, with annexes.

Here is a summary of the substantive changes:

§§ 10.1 and 10.2 – Added authority and incorporation by reference sections as required by the APA.

Updated references to NFPA 72's 2022 edition, rather than the current 2019 edition and noted that this adoption includes the Annexes to avoid conflicts with NFPA 70 and Part 5 of Title 510 (Electrical Code).

Additional Information and Public Comments:

All interested parties are invited to request additional information or submit written or oral comments concerning the proposed amendment until January 1, 2026 by contacting the appropriate party at the address listed below:

Keith Burlingame
Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal and Review
560 Jefferson Blvd, Suite 202
Warwick , RI 02886
keith.burlingame@dbr.ri.gov

In accordance with R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.8, an oral hearing will be granted if requested by twenty-five (25) persons, by a governmental agency or by an association having at least twenty-five (25) members. A request for an oral hearing must be made within ten (10) days of the publication of this notice.

Regulatory Analysis Summary and Supporting Documentation:

Structural improvement to the formatting of the regulation makes it more user friendly for fire and building officials, design professionals and property owners to read in conjunction with the NFPA model code.

Over the years, it has been consistently shown that the results of historical analyses of catastrophic and fatal fire events, evolution in manufacturing and building processes and advancements in technology and the modernization of supplies and materials are major factors in the development and modification to fire and building codes. These changes are associated by some with increased requirements and by association, cost, however in many cases the opposite is found to be the case and costs have decreased. These factors cannot be consolidated in a central theme as they are entirely site-specific and controlled by choices made by the property owner. Overall, no costs were identified because of the amendments proposed in this regulation.

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.

For full regulatory analysis or supporting documentation contact the agency staffperson listed above.