

MEMORANDUM

To: Administrators of Residential Board and Care Facilities, Fire Marshal Review Staff, Inspection Personnel, and Fire Prevention Bureaus

From: Jerry W. Jones
Deputy Assistant Secretary/ Chief Architect

Date: 4/29/99

Subject: Residential Board and Care Facilities, Furnishings, Bedding, and Decorations

It has been brought to the attention of this office that some residential board and care facilities in our state are not adhering to the life safety code requirements pertaining to the treatment of new furnishings, bedding, and decorations. NFPA 101:22-7.5 reads:

22-7.5.1: New draperies, curtains, and other similar loosely hanging furnishings and decorations, and board and care facilities shall be in accordance with the provisions of 6-6.1.

22-7.5.2: New upholstered furniture within board and care facilities shall be tested in accordance with the provisions of 6-6.2(a).

22-7.5.3: New mattresses within board and care facilities shall be tested in accordance with the provisions of 6-6.2(c).

22-7.5.1 requires new draperies, curtains, and other similar loosely hanging furniture and decorations in board and care facilities to comply with NFPA 701, standard methods of fire test for flame resistant, textiles, and films.

22-7.5.2 requires new upholstered furniture within board and care facilities to meet the requirements for Class I when tested in accordance with NFPA 260, standard method of tests and classification system for cigarette ignition resistance of components of upholstered furniture. It should be noted that this would not apply to upholstered furniture in rooms or spaces protected by an approved automatic fire sprinkler system.

NFPA 101:22-7.5.3 requires new mattresses within board and care facilities to be tested in accordance with Part 1632 of the code of federal regulations 16. The mattresses shall have a char length not exceeding 2" when tested in accordance with this standard.

These requirements apply whether the facility or the residents furnish these items.

JWJ/dl

cc: Pat Slaughter
Architectural Supervisors
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