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CITY OF CONCORD

In the year of our Lord two thousand and thirteen

AN ORDINANCE amending the CODE OF ORDINANCES, Title III, Building and Housing Codes; Chapter 27, Housing Maintenance and Occupancy Code; Article 27-1, Housing Maintenance and Occupancy Code, Section 27-1-5, Amendments to the International Property Maintenance Code/2009.

The City of Concord ordains as follows:

SECTION I: Amend the CODE OF ORDINANCES, Title III, Building and Housing Codes; Chapter 27, Housing Maintenance and Occupancy Code; Article 27-1, Housing Maintenance and Occupancy Code, by amending Section 27-1-5, Amendments to the International Property Maintenance Code/2009, as follows:

Section 101 – General

Add new section 101.3.1 Licensed Trades as follows:

101.3.1 Licensed Trades: To further ensure the public health, safety and welfare, any new installations or major repairs in residential rental property to plumbing, mechanical or electrical work must be performed by State of NH licensed tradesperson who shall obtain the necessary permits for such work. The Code Official may require licensed tradesperson to correct non-compliances to plumbing, mechanical or electrical work performed by the property owner or his or her agent.

Section 102- Applicability

102.3 Application of other codes: Delete this section in its entirety and replace with the following:

102.3 Application of other codes. Repairs, additions or alterations to a structure, or changes of occupancy, shall be done in accordance with the procedures and provisions of the most recently adopted versions of the following codes: International Building Code, International Fuel Gas Code, International Mechanical Code, International Plumbing Code, NFPA 70, International Existing Building Code, NFPA 101 Life Safety Code, International Building Code, International Fuel Gas Code, International Mechanical and NFPA 70.

Nothing in this code shall be construed to cancel, modify or set aside any provision of the Municipal Code of Ordinances, Chapter 28.

Section 104- Duties and Powers of the Code Official

Add new section "104.3.1 Access by owner/operator/agent" as follows:

104.3.1 Access by owner/operator/agent: Every occupant of a structure or premises shall give the owner or operator thereof, or agent or employee, access to any part of such structure or its premises at reasonable times for the purpose of making such inspection, maintenance, repairs or alterations as are necessary to comply with the provisions of this code.

Section 202 – General Definitions

Under Section 202, General Definitions, add the following definitions:

Cooking Appliance: A stove containing an oven and cooking surface, or a stove top cooking surface and wall oven.

Weed(s): All grasses, annual plants and vegetation other than trees or shrubs or cultivated flowers and gardens.

Under Section 202, General Definitions, amend paragraph 7 of the definition of "Public Nuisance" as follows:

7. Any premises that is unsanitary, or that is littered with rubbish or garbage or ~~that has an uncontrolled growth of weeds;~~ or

Under Section 202, General Definitions, amend the definition of "Rooming House" as follows:

Rooming House: A detached dwelling unit containing sleeping accommodations for ~~individuals other than~~ **more than three (3) unrelated individuals** ~~other than members of the resident family and~~ having common kitchen and dining facilities.

Section 302 – Exterior Property Areas

302.4 Weeds: Delete this section in its entirety and replace with the following:

302.4 Weeds. Weeds on all exterior premises shall be maintained at a height that does not obstruct sight distance when entering or exiting a roadway or has the potential to create a fire hazard or public nuisance.

Section 307 – Handrails and Guardrails

307.1 General: Delete this section in its entirety and replace with the following:

307.1 General. Every exterior and interior flight of stairs having more than four risers shall have a handrail on one side of the stair and every open portion of a stair, landing, balcony, porch, deck, ramp, or other walking surface which is more than 30 inches above the floor or grade below shall have guards. Handrails shall not be less than 30 inches high or more than 42 inches high measured vertically above the nosing of the tread or above the finished floor of the landing or walking surfaces. Guards shall not be less than 30 inches high above the floor of the landing, balcony, porch, deck of ramp or other walking surface.

Exception: Guards shall not be required where exempted by the more recently adopted building code.

Section 405 – Dwelling Units

405.1 Dwelling Unit: Amend paragraph 1 as follows:

1. The unit shall be provided with a kitchen sink, cooking appliance (a microwave is not considered a cooking appliance per section 403.3) ***with all components in safe, clean working condition***, and a clear working space of not less than 30 inches. Light and ventilation conforming to this code shall be provided.

Add the following as a new section:

Section 406 – Rooming Houses

406.1 A person shall not operate a rooming house, hotel or motel unless that person holds a valid rooming house permit per Article 27-1-3 of the City of Concord Code of Ordinances.

406.2 A detached dwelling housing three (3) or more unrelated individuals other than members of the resident family is classified as a rooming house and is subject to an annual inspection.

Section 503 – Toilet Rooms

503.3 Floor surface: Amend this section as follows:

503.3 Floor surface. In ~~other than~~ dwelling units, every toilet room floor shall be maintained to be a smooth, hard, non-absorbent surface to permit such flooring to be easily kept in a clean and sanitary condition.

Section 605 – Electrical Equipment

Add new sections “605.4, 605.5, 605.6, 605.7 and 605.8” as follows:

605.4 Branch circuits in buildings with more than one occupancy. Branch circuits in each dwelling unit shall supply only loads within that dwelling.

605.5 Common area branch circuits with more than one occupancy. Branch circuits installed for the purpose of lighting, central alarm, signal, communications, or other purposes for public or common areas of a two-family dwelling, a multi-family dwelling, or a multi-occupancy building shall not be supplied from equipment that supplies an individual dwelling unit or tenant space.

605.6 Identification. Each circuit in an electrical panel is required to be identified as to what area of the building that circuit supplies power.

605.7 Occupancy. Each occupant shall have ready access to all overcurrent devices protecting the conductors supplying that occupancy.

Exception: Where electrical service and electrical maintenance are provided by the building management and where these are under continuous building management supervision, the service overcurrent devices and feeder overcurrent devices supplying more than one occupancy shall be permitted to be accessible only to authorized management personnel in multiple-occupancy building and guest rooms/guest suites.

605.8 Unused openings. Unused openings for circuit breakers and switches shall be closed using identified closures or other approved means that provide protection substantially equivalent to the wall of the enclosure.

Section 702 – Fire Protection Systems

704.2 *Smoke alarms*: Amend this section as follows:

704.2 Smoke alarms. ~~The minimum standard pursuant to the City Housing Code, Article 27 of the Municipal code of Ordinances and a July 1, 1999 amendment to the State of NH Smoke Detector Law Rules (RSA 153:10 a) requires that Existing battery powered smoke detectors located within single family rental housing and multi-family (two or more dwelling units) housing, must be replaced with a hard wired*, electrically powered battery back-up smoke detectors, which incorporate a “false alarm silencing” feature. The electrically powered smoke detector(s) must be installed by a New Hampshire licensed master electrician. An electrical permit must be obtained prior to installation. This code standard applied to the installation of smoke detection where none were previously provided but~~ *or additional units* are required.

**Remote Smoke Detectors. In existing buildings, wireless remote, battery-back up smoke detectors may be installed. Installation must be performed by a State of NH licensed electrician.*

SECTION II: This ordinance shall take effect upon its passage.