

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2019

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HOUSE PRINCIPAL CLERK

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HOUSE BILL DRH10419-MH-32

Short Title: Trash Collection/Multifamily Residential. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Szoka, Corbin, Howard, and Richardson (Primary Sponsors).

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT REQUIRING THAT DOORSTEP REFUSE AND RECYCLING COLLECTION  
3 CONTAINERS BE ALLOWED IN EXIT ACCESS CORRIDORS OF CERTAIN  
4 APARTMENT OCCUPANCIES UNDER CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES.  
5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:  
6 **SECTION 1.** Definitions. – As used in this act, "Council" means the Building Code  
7 Council, "Code" means the 2018 North Carolina Fire Prevention Code (NCFPC) as adopted by  
8 the Council, and "exit obstruction and waste accumulation provisions" means sections 1031.2  
9 (Reliability), 1031.3 (Obstructions), 304.1 (Waste accumulation prohibited), and 304.2 (Storage)  
10 of the Code.  
11 **SECTION 2.** New Code amendment. – Until the effective date of the Code  
12 amendment that the Council is required to adopt pursuant to Section 4 of this act, the Council  
13 and local governments enforcing the Code shall follow the provisions of Section 3 of this act  
14 with respect to exit obstruction and waste accumulation.  
15 **SECTION 3.** Implementation. – Notwithstanding any provision of the Code to the  
16 contrary, code enforcement authorities with jurisdiction over apartment occupancies shall permit  
17 doorstep refuse and recycling collection containers which stand upright on their own and do not  
18 leak liquids when standing upright in exit access corridors as follows:  
19 (1) With respect to apartment occupancies with enclosed corridors, when all of  
20 the following conditions exist:  
21 a. The maximum doorstep refuse and recycling collection container size  
22 does not exceed 13 gallons.  
23 b. Waste in a doorstep refuse and recycling collection container is not  
24 placed in the exit access corridors for single periods exceeding five  
25 hours.  
26 c. Doorstep refuse and recycling collection containers do not occupy the  
27 exit access corridors for single periods exceeding 12 hours.  
28 d. Doorstep refuse and recycling collection containers do not reduce the  
29 means of egress width below that required under sections 1005 and  
30 1020.2 of the Code.  
31 e. Management staff of the apartment occupancy have written policies  
32 and procedures in place and enforce them to ensure compliance with  
33 this subdivision, and, upon request, provide a copy of such policies  
34 and procedures to the code enforcement authority having jurisdiction.  
35 (2) In apartment occupancies with open-air corridors or balconies served by  
36 exterior exit stairs, when all of the following conditions exist:



- 1 a. The maximum doorstep refuse and recycling collection container size
- 2 does not exceed 27 gallons.
- 3 b. Waste in a doorstep refuse and recycling collection container is not
- 4 placed in the exit access corridors for single periods exceeding five
- 5 hours.
- 6 c. Doorstep refuse and recycling collection containers do not reduce the
- 7 means of egress width below that required under sections 1005 and
- 8 1020.2 of the Code.
- 9 d. Management staff of the apartment occupancy have written policies
- 10 and procedures in place and enforce them to ensure compliance with
- 11 this subdivision, and, upon request, provide a copy of such policies
- 12 and procedures to the code enforcement authority having jurisdiction.
- 13 (3) The code enforcement authority having jurisdiction may approve alternative
- 14 containers and storage arrangements that are demonstrated to provide an
- 15 equivalent level of safety to that provided under subdivisions (1) and (2) of
- 16 this section.
- 17 (4) To provide a transition period for compliance with the requirements of this
- 18 section, code enforcement authorities having jurisdiction shall allow
- 19 apartment occupancies a phase in period until December 31, 2020, to comply
- 20 with this subsection.

21 **SECTION 4.** Rule-making authority. – Notwithstanding G.S. 150B-19(4), the  
22 Commission shall revise the exit obstruction and waste accumulation provisions of the NCFPC  
23 in a manner substantively identical to the provisions of Section 3 of this act.

24 **SECTION 5.** Sunset. – Section 3 of this act expires on the date that permanent rules  
25 adopted pursuant to Section 4 of this act become effective. The Council may adopt temporary  
26 rules to implement this act.

27 **SECTION 6.** Effective date. – This act is effective July 1, 2019.