

**COUNTY COUNCIL OF CECIL COUNTY, MARYLAND
LEGISLATIVE SESSION 2025-09**

BILL NO. 2025-06

Title of Resolution: Amendment – Adoption of National Electric Code

Synopsis: A Bill to amend Chapter 191, Adoption of National Electric Code, of the Code of Cecil County by recommending the adoption of the 2023 National Electric Code (NEC) and amending 191-2 (D) Amendments, Clarifications, and Deletions.

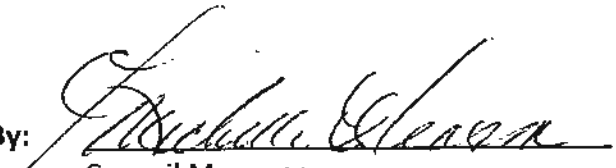
Introduced by: Council President at the request of the County Executive

Introduced and order posted on: May 6, 2025

Public Hearing scheduled on: May 20, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. Elk Room, County Administrative Building

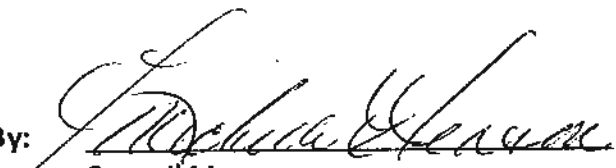
Consideration scheduled on: June 3, 2025

By:


Council Manager

Notice of time and place of public hearing and title of Resolution having been posted by May 6, 2025 at the County Administrative Building, 200 Chesapeake Blvd, Elkton, and having been published according to the Charter on May 7, 2025 and May 14, 2025, a public hearing was held on May 20, 2025 and concluded on May 20, 2025

By:


Council Manager

Explanation: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING ORDINANCE.

~~Strike-through~~ indicate matter deleted from existing ordinance.

Underlining indicates language added by amendment.

~~Double Strike-through~~ indicates language deleted by amendment.

1 **WHEREAS**, Title 6 of Business Occupation and Professions Article of the Annotated Code
2 of Maryland establishes a licensing program for individuals who provide or assist providing electrical
3 services, in order to safeguard the life, health, property and public welfare of the citizens of the state;
4 and

5 **WHEREAS**, Business Occupation and Professions Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland was
6 amended for the purpose of generally relating to the State Board of Electricians, the licensing and
7 regulation of electricians, and altering the powers and duties of local jurisdiction relating to electricians
8 as enacted in Chapter 708 of 2021 Laws of Maryland; and

9 **WHEREAS**, pursuant to Section 402 of the Cecil County Charter (the “Charter”), the County
10 Executive (the “Executive”) shall see that the affairs of the Executive Branch are administered properly
11 and efficiently, and that employees of the Executive Branch faithfully perform their duties; and

12 **WHEREAS**, pursuant to Section 402 of the Charter, the duties and responsibilities of the
13 Executive include, but are not limited to: (a) Supervising and directing offices, agencies and divisions of
14 the Executive Branch and ensuring that County employees as well as County boards and commissions
15 faithfully perform their duties; and, (e) recommending to the Council such measures for legislative
16 action that the Executive may consider to be in the best interests of the County; and

17 **WHEREAS**, pursuant to Chapter 191, of the Cecil County Code, there is an Electrical Standards
18 Ordinance; and

19 **WHEREAS**, the County has adopted the National Electric Code, codified as Cecil County Code,
20 Chapter 191, and

21 **WHEREAS**, the Chief, Permits and Inspections Division, Cecil County Department of Land Use
22 and Development Services, together with the Cecil County Electrical Board, have recommended
23 amendments, clarifications, and deletions to Chapter 191 of the Cecil County Code, and

24 **WHEREAS**, the County Executive has submitted the amendments set forth herein to the County
25 Council for consideration and approval.

26 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF CECIL COUNTY,**
27 **MARYLAND**, that the 2023-NFPA 70 National Electric Code adopted under Cecil County Code, Chapter
28 191, Electrical Standards, is amended as follows: See Appendix 1

29 **Article I General Provisions**

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30 § 191-1. Purpose

31 *No changes*

32 § 191-2. Adoption of National Electric Code

33 ~~The State of Maryland is the authority to adopt the National Electric Code (NEC) NFPA 70. The~~
 34 ~~authority having jurisdiction (AHJ) in Cecil County will begin enforcing the edition of the National~~
 35 ~~Electric Code upon the state's adoption. THE 2023-NFPA 70 NATIONAL ELECTRICAL CODE (NEC) IS~~
 36 ADOPTED AS THE CECIL COUNTY ELECTRICAL CODE.

37 A. New installations. This code applies to new installation with construction permits dated after
 38 adoption of this code.

39 B. Existing installations. Existing installations that do not comply with the provisions of the
 40 adopted code shall be permitted to continue in use unless the AHJ determines that the lack of
 41 conformity with the adopted code presents an imminent danger to the occupants. Where changes are
 42 required for the corrections of hazards, a reasonable amount of time shall be given for compliance,
 43 depending on the degree of hazard.

44 C. Additions, alterations, or repairs. Additions, alterations or repairs to any building, structure, or
 45 premises shall conform to that required of a new building without requiring the existing building to
 46 comply with all the requirements of the adopted code. Additions, alterations, installations, or repairs
 47 shall not cause an existing building to become unsafe or to adversely affect the performance of the
 48 building as determined by the AHJ. Electrical wiring added to an existing service, feeder or branch
 49 circuit shall not result in an installation that violated the provisions of the adopted code at the time the
 50 additions were made.

51 D. ADDENDUM, Clarifications EXCEPTIONS, and deletions CLARIFICATIONS.

52 1) In Subsection 110.14 of the National Electrical Code (2023), add the following sentence
 53 to the end of the first paragraph ADDENDUM: NO ALUMINUM CONDUCTORS SMALLER
 54 THAN #6 WILL BE ACCEPTED

55 2) ADDENDUM: ALL INTERIOR & EXTERIOR STAIRWAYS SHALL BE ILLUMINATED. INTERIOR
 56 AND EXTERIOR STAIRWAYS SHALL HAVE A LUMINAIRE INSTALLED AT EACH LANDING OF
 57 THE STAIRWAY. INTERIOR AND EXTERIOR STAIRWAYS SHALL HAVE A SWITCH OR
 58 AUTOMATIC ACTIVATION DEVICE INSTALLED AT THE TOP AND BOTTOM OF EACH
 59 STAIRWAY WITHOUT TRAVERSING ANY RISERS. EXTERIOR STAIRWAYS SHALL HAVE A

Amendment – Adoption of National Electric Code

LUMINAIRE INSTALLED AT THE TOP OF THE STAIRWAY. BASEMENT STAIRWAYS SHALL HAVE A LUMINAIRE INSTALLED AT THE BOTTOM OF THE STAIRWAY.

3) ADDENDUM: TEMPORARY SERVICES: THE INSTALLATION OF ONLY ONE (1) 8 FOOT GROUND ROD SHALL BE REQUIRED FOR TEMPORARY SERVICE.

4) ADDENDUM: ENFORCING NEC ARTICLE 250.52 (A) (3) CONCRETE ENCASED ELECTRODE EVERYWHERE EXCEPT WHERE CONCRETE ENCASED ELECTRODES ARE PRESENT IN DWELLING UNITS.

5) ADDENDUM: COLOR CODE: 480/277v – BOY (BROWN, ORANGE, YELLOW)
240/120v – BOB (BLACK, ORANGE (OR TAGGED OR HIGHLEG), BLUE)
120/208V – BRB (BLACK, RED, BLUE)

6) In Subsection 210.8 of the National Electrical Code (2023), Add the Following exceptions:

EXCEPTION 1: RECEPTACLES FOR SUBMERSIBLE PUMPS ARE PERMITTED TO BE INSTALLED WITHOUT GFCI PROTECTION WHEN A SINGLE DEDICATED RECEPTACLE IS UTILIZED, OR THE DEVICE IS HARDWIRED.
EXCEPTION 2: RECEPTACLES FOR REFRIGERATION ARE PERMITTED TO BE INSTALLED WITHOUT GFCI PROTECTION WHEN A SINGLE DEDICATED RECEPTACLE IS UTILIZED.

7) In Subsection 210.12 of the National Electrical Code (2023), Add the Following exceptions:

EXCEPTION: RECEPTACLES FOR REFRIGERATION AND SUBMERSIBLE PUMPS ARE PERMITTED TO BE INSTALLED WITHOUT AFCI PROTECTION WHEN A SINGLE DEDICATED RECEPTACLE IF UTILIZED OR THE DEVICE IF HARDWIRED.

8) In Subsection 250.104(B), add the following clarification: GAS PIPING SYSTEMS SHALL BE BONDED TO THE ELECTRICAL SERVICE GROUNDING ELECTRODE SYSTEM AT THE POINT WHERE THE GAS SERVICE ENTERS THE BUILDING. THE BONDING JUMPER SHALL NOT BE SMALLER THAN 6 AWG COPPER WIRE OR EQUIVALENT.

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- 89 9) CLARIFICATION: VACUUM SYSTEMS THAT UTILIZE ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT OR
90 ELECTRICAL DEVICES THAT EXCEEDS 50 VOLTS TO GROUND OR PHASE TO PHASE, MUST
91 BE INSTALLED BY A MASTER ELECTRICIAN.
- 92 10) CLARIFICATION: WIRELESS LOW VOLTAGE SYSTEMS THAT ARE 50 VOLTS OR LESS, THAT
93 HAVE APPROVED THIRD PARTY DEVICES AND DO NOT INCLUDE OR REQUIRE
94 PERMANENT WIRING, WILL NOT REQUIRE AN ELECTRICAL PERMIT OR AN ELECTRICAL
95 INSPECTION.

96 § 191-3

97 No Changes

98 § 191-4

99 No Changes

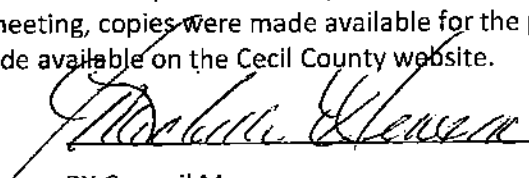
100 § 191-5

101 No Changes

102 **AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF CECIL COUNTY, MARYLAND,** that
103 this Act shall take effect in 60 calendar days from the date it becomes law.

CERTIFICATION

I, HEREBY CERTIFY that the above Bill was posted for the public on the public bulletin board with the date, time and location of the public hearing meeting, copies were made available for the public, a copy was distributed to the press, and copy was made available on the Cecil County website.



BY Council Manager

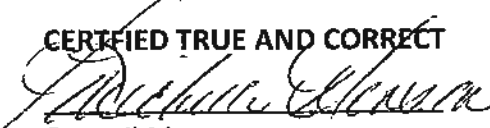
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A Bill to Amend Chapter 191, Adoption of National Electric Code, of the Code of Cecil County by recommending the adoption of the 2023 National Electric Code (NEC) and amending 191-2 (D) Amendments, Clarifications and Deletions is hereby submitted to the County Council of Cecil County, Maryland for enrollment as being the text as finally passed.

CERTIFIED TRUE AND CORRECT

ENROLLED


Council Manager


Council President

Date: June 3, 2025

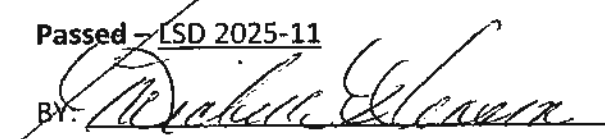
Date: June 3, 2025

BY THE COUNCIL

Read the third time.

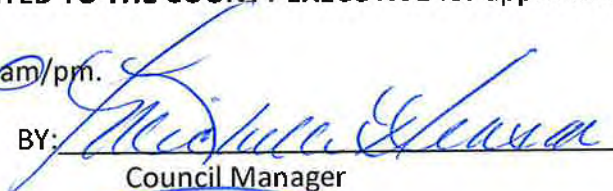
Passed – LSD 2025-11

Failed of Passage – LSD _____

BY: 
Council Manager

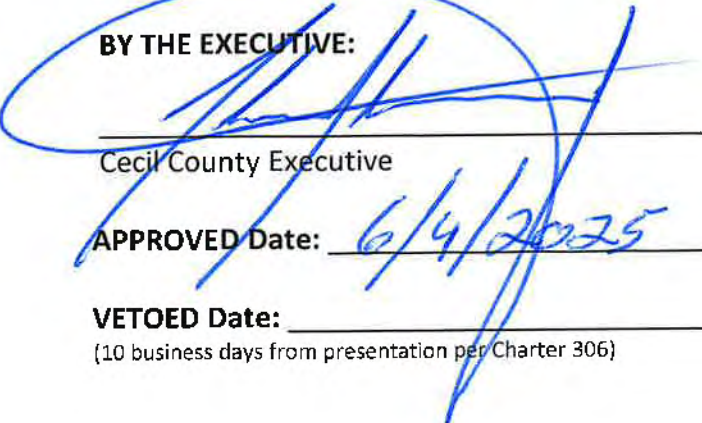
SEALED WITH THE COUNTY SEAL AND PRESENTED TO THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE for approval this

4th day of June, 2025 at 9:30 am/pm.
(10 business days from adoption per Charter 306)

BY: 
Council Manager



BY THE EXECUTIVE:


Cecil County Executive

APPROVED Date: 6/4/2025

VETOED Date: _____
(10 business days from presentation per Charter 306)

BY THE COUNCIL

Bill No. 2025-06 having been approved by the Executive and returned to the Council becomes law on

June 3, 2025 with an effective date of August 2, 2025
(60 calendar days after enactment unless otherwise specified per Charter 307)

BY: 
Council Manager

The Cecil County Electrical Board RECOMMENDS adoption of the 2023 National Electrical Code with the following PROPOSED Addendums, Exceptions & Clarifications to go along with Adoption of the 2023 National Electrical Code

PROPOSED

ADDENDUMS, EXCEPTIONS & CLARIFICATIONS TO THE 2023 NATIONAL ELECTRICAL CODE

- 1.) **ADDENDUM:** NO ALUMINUM CONDUCTORS SMALLER THAN #6 WILL BE ACCEPTED
- 2.) **ADDENDUM:** ALL INTERIOR & EXTERIOR STAIRWAYS SHALL BE ILLUMINATED. INTERIOR AND EXTERIOR STAIRWAYS SHALL HAVE A LUMINAIRE INSTALLED AT EACH LANDING OF THE STAIRWAY. INTERIOR AND EXTERIOR STAIRWAYS SHALL HAVE A SWITCH OR AUTOMATIC ACTIVATION DEVICE INSTALLED AT THE TOP AND BOTTOM OF EACH STAIRWAY WITHOUT TRAVERSING ANY RISERS. EXTERIOR STAIRWAYS SHALL HAVE A LUMINAIRE INSTALLED AT THE TOP OF THE STAIRWAY. BASEMENT STAIRWAYS SHALL HAVE A LUMINAIRE INSTALLED AT THE BOTTOM OF THE STAIRWAY.
- 3.) **ADDENDUM:** TEMPORARY SERVICES: THE INSTALLATION OF ONLY ONE (1) 8 FOOT GROUND ROD SHALL BE REQUIRED FOR TEMPORARY SERVICES.
- 4.) **ADDENDUM:** ENFORCING NEC ARTICLE 250.52(A) (3) CONCRETE ENCASED ELECTRODE EVERYWHERE EXCEPT WHERE CONCRETE ENCASED ELECTRODES ARE PRESENT IN DWELLING UNITS.
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240/120V - BOB (BLACK, ORANGE (OR TAGGED OR HIGH LEG), BLUE)
120/208V - BRB (BLACK, RED, BLUE)
- 6.) **EXCEPTION:** IN SUBSECTION 210.8 OF THE NATIONAL ELECTRICAL CODE (2023), ADD THE FOLLOWING EXCEPTIONS:
EXCEPTION 1: RECEPTACLES FOR SUBMERSIBLE PUMPS ARE PERMITTED TO BE INSTALLED WITHOUT GFCI PROTECTION WHEN A SINGLE DEDICATED RECEPTACLE IS UTILIZED OR THE DEVICE IS HARDWIRED.
EXCEPTION 2: RECEPTACLES FOR REFRIGERATION ARE PERMITTED TO BE INSTALLED WITHOUT GFCI PROTECTION WHEN A SINGLE DEDICATED RECEPTACLE IS UTILIZED.
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