

ENROLLED

COUNTY COUNCIL OF WICOMICO COUNTY, MARYLAND

2025 Legislative Session

Legislative Day No. 08

Legislative Bill 2025- 05

Introduced: April 15, 2025

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

AN ACT TO AMEND CHAPTER 117 OF THE WICOMICO COUNTY CODE TITLED “BUILDING CONSTRUCTION” TO REFLECT THE CURRENT EDITIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL RESIDENTIAL CODE, THE INTERNATIONAL BUILDING CODE AND THE INTERNATIONAL ENERGY CONSERVATION CODE AND TO AMEND THE PROCESS OF PROMULGATION OF FUTURE EDITIONS.

WHEREAS, Wicomico County utilizes the International Residential Code, the International Building Code, and the International Energy Conservation Code, including all appendices thereof, as the respective building codes for Wicomico County; and

WHEREAS, from time to time, the International Residential Code, the International Building Code, and the International Energy Conservation Code, including all appendices thereof, are respectively amended and updated through the release of a new version; and

WHEREAS, until Wicomico County adopts the new versions, the old versions control as the respective building codes for Wicomico County.

Section I. BE IT ENACTED AND ORDAINED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF WICOMICO COUNTY, MARYLAND, IN LEGISLATIVE SESSION, that Chapter 117 of the Wicomico County Code, titled “Building Construction” is hereby amended and shall read as follows:

Chapter 117

Building Construction

Article I

Wicomico County Building Construction

§ 117-2 Adoption of International Building Code.

A. ADOPTION OF THE CODE.

The County Council of Wicomico County hereby adopts the provisions set forth in the International Building Code (hereinafter referred to as “IBC”), 2015-2021 Edition, including the appendices, as the building code for Wicomico County, Maryland and incorporated by reference. The provisions shall be controlling for all buildings within the corporate limits of Wicomico County, Maryland, unless otherwise exempted herein.

B. PROMULGATION OF NEW EDITION AND ADOPTION BY WICOMICO COUNTY

1. WITHIN NINETY (90) DAYS OF PROMULGATION OF A NEW EDITION OF THE IBC BY THE INTERNATIONAL CODE COUNCIL, THE DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING, ZONING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT'S CHIEF BUILDING INSPECTOR SHALL REVIEW THE NEW EDITION TO DETERMINE WHETHER ANY MODIFICATIONS ARE RECOMMENDED.

2. THE CHIEF BUILDING INSPECTOR SHALL NOTIFY THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE AND COUNTY COUNCIL, IN WRITING, OF SUGGESTED MODIFICATIONS TO THE NEW EDITION, IF ANY, AND THE JUSTIFICATION FOR EACH MODIFICATION. 180 DAYS FOLLOWING THE NOTIFICATION BY THE CHIEF BUILDING INSPECTOR, ANY PROVISION OF THE NEW EDITION, TO INCLUDE APPENDICES, NOT MODIFIED BY LAW, SHALL BE ADOPTED AS THE BUILDING CODE FOR WICOMICO COUNTY, MARYLAND AND INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE, BUT FOR THE PROVISIONS IN CONFLICT WITH THE MODIFICATIONS CODIFIED IN § 117-3. PURSUANT TO SECTION 302 OF THE COUNTY CHARTER, THE NEW EDITION MAY BE MODIFIED AT ANY TIME.

3. UNTIL A NEW EDITION OF THE IBC IS PROMULGATED BY THE INTERNATIONAL CODE COUNCIL AND ADOPTED PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION, THE FORMER EDITION OF THE IBC IS THE BUILDING CODE FOR WICOMICO COUNTY.

C. A LIST OF THE MOST CURRENT EDITION OF THE IBC, ADOPTED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION B, IS AVAILABLE ON THE COUNTY WEBSITE AND IS AVAILABLE THROUGH VISTING THE DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING, ZONING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT'

§ 117-4 Adoption of International Residential Code.

A. ADOPTION OF THE CODE.

The County Council of Wicomico County hereby adopts the provisions set forth in the International Residential Code (hereinafter referred to as "IRC"), ~~2015~~ 2021 Edition, including the appendices, and as such shall be adopted, along with the IBC, as the building code for Wicomico County, Maryland, and incorporated by reference. The provisions shall be controlling for all buildings within the corporate limits of Wicomico County, Maryland, unless otherwise exempted herein.

B. PROMULGATION OF NEW EDITION AND ADOPTION BY WICOMICO COUNTY

1. WITHIN NINETY (90) DAYS OF PROMULGATION OF A NEW EDITION OF THE IRC BY THE INTERNATIONAL CODE COUNCIL, THE DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING, ZONING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT'S CHIEF BUILDING INSPECTOR SHALL REVIEW THE NEW EDITION TO DETERMINE WHETHER ANY MODIFICATIONS ARE RECOMMENDED.

2. THE CHIEF BUILDING INSPECTOR SHALL NOTIFY THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE AND COUNTY COUNCIL, IN WRITING, OF SUGGESTED MODIFICATIONS TO THE NEW EDITION, IF ANY, AND THE JUSTIFICATION FOR EACH MODIFICATION. 180 DAYS FOLLOWING THE NOTIFICATION BY THE CHIEF BUILDING INSPECTOR, ANY PROVISION OF THE NEW EDITION, TO INCLUDE APPENDICES, NOT MODIFIED BY LAW, SHALL BE ADOPTED AS THE BUILDING CODE FOR WICOMICO COUNTY, MARYLAND AND INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE, BUT FOR THE PROVISIONS IN CONFLICT WITH THE MODIFICATIONS CODIFIED IN § 117-5. PURSUANT TO SECTION 302 OF THE COUNTY CHARTER, THE NEW EDITION MAY BE MODIFIED AT ANY TIME.

3. UNTIL A NEW EDITION OF THE IRC IS PROMULGATED BY THE INTERNATIONAL CODE COUNCIL AND ADOPTED PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION, THE FORMER EDITION OF THE IRC IS THE RESIDENTIAL CODE FOR WICOMICO COUNTY.

C. A LIST OF THE MOST CURRENT EDITION OF THE IRC, ADOPTED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION B, IS AVAILABLE ON THE COUNTY WEBSITE AND IS AVAILABLE THROUGH VISTING THE DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING, ZONING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT.

§ 117-6 Adoption of International Energy Conservation Code.

A. ADOPTION OF THE CODE.

The County Council of Wicomico County hereby adopts the provisions set forth in the International Energy Conservation Code (hereinafter referred to as "IECC"), ~~2015~~ 2021 Edition, including the appendices and as such shall be adopted, along with the IBC and IRC, as the building code for Wicomico County, Maryland, and incorporated by reference. The provisions shall be controlling for all buildings within the corporate limits of Wicomico County, Maryland, unless otherwise exempted herein.

B. PROMULGATION OF NEW EDITION AND ADOPTION BY WICOMICO COUNTY

1. WITHIN NINETY (90) DAYS OF PROMULGATION OF A NEW EDITION OF THE IEC BY THE INTERNATIONAL CODE COUNCIL, THE DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING, ZONING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT'S CHIEF BUILDING INSPECTOR SHALL REVIEW THE NEW EDITION TO DETERMINE WHETHER ANY MODIFICATIONS ARE RECOMMENDED.

2. THE CHIEF BUILDING INSPECTOR SHALL NOTIFY THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE AND COUNTY COUNCIL, IN WRITING, OF SUGGESTED MODIFICATIONS TO THE NEW EDITION, IF ANY, AND THE JUSTIFICATION FOR EACH MODIFICATION. 180 DAYS FOLLOWING THE NOTIFICATION BY THE CHIEF BUILDING INSPECTOR, ANY PROVISION OF THE NEW EDITION, TO INCLUDE APPENDICES, NOT MODIFIED BY LAW, SHALL BE ADOPTED AS THE BUILDING CODE FOR WICOMICO COUNTY, MARYLAND AND INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE, BUT FOR THE MODIFICATIONS CURRENTLY CODIFIED.

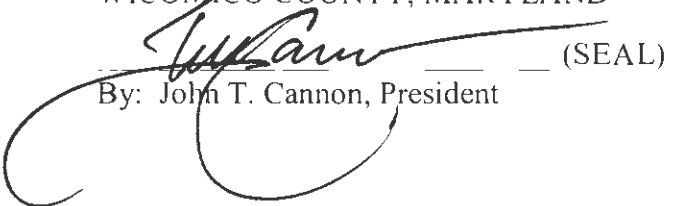
3. UNTIL A NEW EDITION OF THE IEC IS PROMULGATED BY THE INTERNATIONAL CODE COUNCIL AND ADOPTED PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION, THE FORMER EDITION OF THE IEC IS THE ENERGY CONSERVATION CODE FOR WICOMICO COUNTY.

C. A LIST OF THE MOST CURRENT EDITION OF THE IEC, ADOPTED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION B, IS AVAILABLE ON THE COUNTY WEBSITE AND IS AVAILABLE THROUGH VISITING THE DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING, ZONING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT.

SECTION II: BE IT FURTHER ENACTED AND ORDAINED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF WICOMICO COUNTY, MARYLAND, IN LEGISLATIVE SESSION THAT this bill shall be known as Legislative Bill No. 2025-05 and shall take effect sixty (60) days after its enactment, unless a proper Petition for Referendum thereof shall be filed prior to said date; in which event, the Bill shall not take effect until the expiration of thirty (30) days following the approval of this Bill by a majority of the qualified voters of the County voting in any such referendum.

Certified correct as passed and adopted by the County Council of Wicomico County, Maryland this 15th day of April, 2025.

WICOMICO COUNTY, MARYLAND

 (SEAL)
By: John T. Cannon, President

 (SEAL)
By: Laura Hurley, Secretary

I HEREBY CERTIFY that copies of the above Bill are available to the public, the press and other news media at the time of its introduction.

 (SEAL)
By: Laura Hurley, Secretary

Explanation:

~~Strike Out~~ indicates matters deleted from existing law.

CAPITALS INDICATE MATTERS ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

~~CAPITAL STRIKE OUT~~ indicates matter stricken from Bill by Amendment.

CAPITAL UNDERLINING indicates Amendments to Bill

COUNTY COUNCIL
OF
WICOMICO COUNTY, MARYLAND

2025 Legislative Session

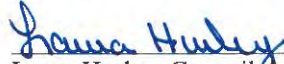
Legislative Day No. 08

LEGISLATIVE BILL NO. 2025-05

INTRODUCED BY: The Council President at the request of the County Executive

LEGISLATIVE BILL NO. 2025-05: AN ACT TO AMEND CHAPTER 117 OF THE WICOMICO COUNTY CODE TITLED "BUILDING CONSTRUCTION" TO REFLECT THE CURRENT EDITIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL RESIDENTIAL CODE, THE INTERNATIONAL BUILDING CODE AND THE INTERNATIONAL ENERGY CONSERVATION CODE AND TO AMEND THE PROCESS OF PROMULGATION OF FUTURE EDITIONS

Introduced and read first time on April 15, 2025. Ordered posted and public hearing scheduled for May 6, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.



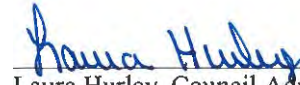
Laura Hurley, Council Administrator

PUBLIC HEARING: Having been posted and notice of time and place of hearing and title of Bill having been published according to the Charter, the Bill was read for a second time at a public hearing held on May 6, 2025.



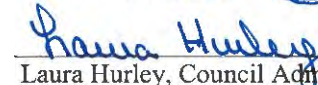
Laura Hurley, Council Administrator

CERTIFICATION: The undersigned hereby certifies that this Bill was Approved and Adopted by the County Council of Wicomico County, Maryland, on the 6th day of May, 2025.



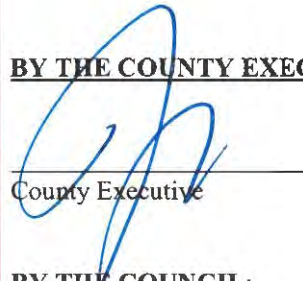
Laura Hurley, Council Administrator

Presented to the County Executive for approval this 7th day of May, 2025, at 1:30 a.m./p.m. (5 days §411)



Laura Hurley, Council Administrator

BY THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE:



County Executive

APPROVED

Date: 5/8/2025
(21 days §411)

VETOED

Date: _____

BY THE COUNCIL:

Option One: This Bill, having been approved by the County Executive and returned to the Council, becomes law on May 8, 2025 and effective on: July 7, 2025.
(60 days §311)

Option Two: This Bill, having received neither the approval nor the disapproval of the County Executive with 21 days of its presentation, stands enacted on _____ and becomes effective on _____.
(60 days §311)

Option Three: This Bill, being exempt from the Executive Veto stands enacted on _____ and becomes effective on _____. (Charter Section 305)

ENROLLMENT: Legislative Bill No. 2025-05 is herewith submitted to the County Council of Wicomico County for enrollment as being the text as finally passed.


Laura Hurley, Council Administrator