Notice of Intent to Adopt the 2022 Connecticut Fire Prevention Code

The Department of Administrative Services, Office of the State Fire Marshal, in conjunction with the Fire Prevention Code Advisory Committee, is announcing its intent to adopt a new fire prevention code to be titled the 2022 Connecticut Fire Prevention Code. In accordance with the requirements of section 29-291e, the agency will accept comments from the public for a period of forty-five (45) days, beginning January 31, 2022 through the close of business March 17, 2022

Written comments will be received by the agency via US mail, fax or email at:

Department of Administrative Services Office of the State Fire Marshal 450 Columbus Boulevard, Suite 1303 Hartford, CT 06103 Fax: 860-713-7269 Email: DAS.CodesStandards@ct.gov

A Public Hearing will be held by the agency in conjunction with the Fire Prevention Code Advisory Committee on February 23, 2022 starting at 1:00 P.M. via Microsoft Teams. Joining instructions will be posted on the <u>DAS Code Adoption</u> and <u>Secretary of State</u> web pages.

The 2022 Connecticut Fire Prevention Code will consist of the following national model codes, as amended in the 2022 Connecticut Fire Prevention Code:

• 2021 National Fire Protection Association Standard 1 – Fire Code

The Connecticut amendments to these model codes can be found here: <u>2022 CT State Fire Prevention</u> <u>Code</u>

The model codes can be viewed here: <u>ICC Free eCode Viewer</u>; <u>NFPA Free Viewer</u> or purchased at: <u>Where to Purchase Model Code Books</u>

The intended effective date for this code is October 1, 2022.

2022 CONNECTICUT STATE FIRE PREVENTION CODE

Small Business Impact Statement/Flexibility Analysis

In accordance with C.G.S. Section 29-291a the State Fire Marshal and the Fire Prevention Code Advisory Committee analyzed the effect on small businesses of the 2022 State Fire Prevention Code and considered whether potential adverse impacts on small businesses could be minimized in a way that (1) will not interfere with the intended objectives of the code and (2) will allow the new code to remain consistent with public health, safety and welfare. The State Fire Marshal and the Fire Prevention Code Advisory Committee determined the following:

(Check all appropriate boxes):

Adoption of the 2022 State Fire Prevention Code will not have an effect on small businesses.

 $\underline{\mathbf{X}}$ Adoption of the 2022 State Fire Prevention Code will have an effect on small businesses, but will not have an adverse effect on such small businesses.

_____ Adoption of the 2022 State Fire Prevention Code may have an adverse effect on small businesses, and no alternative considered would be both as effective in achieving the purpose of the action and less burdensome to potentially affected small business. Alternatives considered include the following:

(1) The establishment of less stringent compliance or reporting requirements for small businesses;

(2) The establishment of less stringent schedules or deadlines for compliance or reporting requirements for small businesses;

(3) The consolidation or simplification of compliance or reporting requirements for small businesses;

(4) The establishment of performance standards for small businesses to replace design or operational standards required in the new section or amendment; and

(5) The exemption of small businesses from all or any part of the requirements contained in the new section or amendment.

_____ Adoption of the 2022 State Fire Prevention Code will have an adverse effect on small businesses that cannot be minimized in a manner that is consistent with public health, safety and welfare.

2022 STATE FIRE PREVENTION CODE

Fiscal Note

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 29-291a

OTHER AGENCIES AFFECTED: Any agency performing construction and thus using the State Fire Prevention Code. The updated codes should have a minimal impact on the cost of construction.

EFFECTIVE DATE USED IN COST ESTIMATE: October 2022

ESTIMATE PREPARED BY: William Abbott, State Fire Marshal

SUMMARY OF STATE COST AND REVENUE IMPACT OF 2022 STATE FIRE PREVENTION CODE

AGENCY: DAS

POTENTIAL FUND AFFECTED: General

	First Year	Second Year	Full Operation
	2022	2023	2024
Number of Positions	0	0	0
Personal Services	0	0	0
Other Expenses	0	0	0
Equipment	0	0	0
Grants	0	0	0
Total State Cost (Savings)	0	0	0
Estimated Revenue Gain (Loss)	0	0	0
Total Net Cost (Savings)	0	0	0

The State Fire Marshal and the Fire Prevention Code Advisory Committee are statutorily required to adopt the State Fire Prevention Code.

EXPLANATION OF STATE IMPACT: The fiscal impact to the state of adopting the 2022 State Fire Prevention Code is to provide educational programs to code users, which the state already does within existing resources under the authority of Section 29-251c of the Connecticut General Statutes. The change in codes means a change in subject matter for educational classes, and will have no impact on staffing. New code books for staff are funded from the educational fee collected on building permits, which doesn't impact the general fund.

EXPLANATION OF MUNICIPAL IMPACT: Municipalities will be required to purchase new ICC and NFPA code books and resources, if they have not purchased them already, at a total cost of between \$250 and \$1,500 depending on staffing levels within the municipality. This expense occurs at every code change cycle and is appropriately budgeted for by the municipalities.