ENROLLMENT(S)

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AN ACT D.C. ACT 11-339

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA JULY 22, 1996

To amend the District of Columbia Fire Prevention Code and the District of Columbia Building Code to permit District of Columbia public schools to permanently close certain exit doors.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this act may be cited as the "Fire Code Amendment Act of 1996".

DCMR

Sec. 2. Article 17 of the District of Columbia Fire Prevention Code and 1992 Supplement (12 DCMR article 17), adopted pursuant to section 10 of the Construction Codes Approval and Amendments Act of 1986, effective March 21, 1987 (D.C. Law 6-216; D.C. Code § 5-1309), is amended by adding a new section F-1707 to read as follows:

"F-1707.0 Permanent Closing of Exit Doors in D.C. Public Schools

"F-1707.1 In the event the Director of the Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs ("Director") approves the proposed closing of certain exit doors in a public school building, a revised fire evacuation plan shall be developed by the Superintendent of Public Schools (Superintendent") describing the exits proposed to be closed. The Superintendent shall file a certificate with the Director and with the code official stating that the egress plan provided is sufficient for the safety of the occupants of the building, and citing, where possible, egress plans provided and accepted elsewhere for similar occupancy conditions.

"F-1707.2 The code official shall review and approve the revised fire evacuation plan for conformance with the Fire Code, based on the reduced number of exit doors and other egress requirements for this type of occupancy.

"F-1707.3 Exit doors which shall no longer be used as exits shall be permanently closed in such a manner that they can no longer be used as a means of egress under any circumstances. All exit signs or other indications that an exit had been at a certain location shall be removed.".

Sec. 3. Section 103.0 of the District of Columbia Building Code and Supplements (12 DCMR 103), adopted pursuant to section 10 of the Construction Codes Approval and Amendments Act of 1986, effective March 21, 1987 (D.C. Law 6-216; D.C. Code § 5-1309), is

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amended by adding a new subsection 103.6 to read as follows:

"103.6 Permanent Closing of Exit Doors: The code official is authorized to approve the permanent closing of certain exits in D.C. Public Schools upon a determination that such exit doors are no longer needed for egress purposes under current usage and occupancy levels. The Superintendent of Public School shall make application in writing to the code official, identifying exits proposed for closing and including a modified fire evacuation plan."

Sec. 4. Fiscal impact statement.

The Council finds that this legislation will have no fiscal impact because the Fire Chief and the Director of the Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs have determined that implementation of the law will require no new employees or resources.

Sec. 5. Effective date.

This act shall take effect following approval by the Mayor (or in the event of veto by the Mayor, action by the Council to override the veto), approval by the Financial Responsibility and Management Assistance Authority as provided in section 203(a) of the District of Columbia Financial Responsibility and Management Assistance Authority Act of 1995, approved April 17, 1995(109 Stat. 116; D.C. Code § 47-392.3(a)), and a 30-day period of Congressional review as provided in section 602(c)(1) of the District of Columbia Self-Government and Governmental Reorganization Act, approved December 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 813; D.C. Code § 1-233(c)(1)) and publication in the District of Columbia Register.

Chairman

Council of the District of Columbia

Mayor

District of Columbia

APPROVED: July 22, 1996



COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

COUNCIL PERIOD ELEVEN

RECORD OF OFFICIAL COUNCIL VOTE

B11-603

Docket No. Docket No.															
(X) ACTION & DAT	TE			ADOPTED FIRST READING, 6-4-96 APPROVED											
X VOICE VOTE APPRUVED RECORDED VOTE ON REQUEST															
ABSENT BRAZIL															
	[] ROLL CALL VOTE - Result														
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Secretary to the Council July 1, 1996															
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