

BUREAU OF ENFORCEMENT/INVESTIGATION

DIVISION OF FIRE CODE ENFORCEMENT

ADMINISTRATIVE EXCEPTION 93-02

CODE REFERENCE NFPA 101, SEC. 10-8.2.4.2, 11-8.2.4.2, 10-9.2.4.1, 11-9.2.4.1
1988, 1991 edition

BACKGROUND

The above referenced sections require that in new and existing Group Day Care facilities and Family Day Care facilities, any room used for sleeping, living, or dining purposes must have at least two means of escape. The second means of escape can be a window that meets the requirements in sections 10-2.11.1 and 11-2.11.1. The requirements are designed to allow for rescue and ventilation in the event of a fire emergency. Unfortunately many homes do not have windows that meet the minimum requirements. This, many times, precludes a prospective day care provider from opening a facility. If an alternative can be provided that will alert the occupants with sufficient time to escape, then the issue of using the windows for rescue is resolved.

COMPENSATORY PROTECTION

For the purpose of enforcing the above referenced code sections, it will be considered an approved alternative to strict code compliance to allow the use of rooms with windows that do not meet the minimum requirements if a full area, hard-wired, interconnected smoke detection system is provided. It will not be necessary to provide coverage for bathrooms, closets, or attic spaces not used for storage. In addition, if the facility's furnace, hot water heater and/or clothes dryer is fueled by natural/propane gas, then these areas must be protected by sprinklers supplied by the domestic water system.

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DATE

9-29-93

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FIRE MARSHAL