

Florida Building Code 7th Edition (2020)

Presented to The Florida Home Builders Association

Codes and Standards Committee

August 1, 2019

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Florida Building Code, Residential

**Proposed
Code
Changes**



FBC-R 7th Edition (2020)

- **SUPPORTED: ASCE 7-16.**
 - National standard for design.
 - Roof uplift SFR about 15%.
 - Latest science.
 - Cannot reduce wind resistance.
 - 130 mph +\$111.25; 140 mph \$180.63; 180 mph \$275.63 Based on retail.

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- **SUPPORTED: Return air from bathrooms and closets.**
 - Optional.
 - May resolve moisture and mold issues.

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- **SUPPORTED: Reduce ventilation rate by 30%.**
 - Provide balanced ventilation.
 - Optional.

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- **SUPPORTED: Unvented attics.**
 - Resolves moisture.
 - Allows use of any type insulation.
 - Vapor diffuser required.
 - Allows moisture removal by vapor diffusion rather than by air change.
 - Cost of vapor diffuser offset by savings on vents.

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- **SUPPORTED: Enhanced underlayment.**
- **Roof slopes 4:12 and greater**
 - 2000 ft² roof approximately + \$220.
- **Roof slopes \leq 4:12**
- **2000 ft² roof approximately + \$440.**

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- **SUPPORTED:** Reinstatement of threshold height for secondary doors to meet wind driven rain resistance provisions (SGD).
- **SUPPORTED:** Flashing provisions to clarify galvanized metal not only flashing permitted.

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- **SUPPORTED:** Prohibit adoption of automatic control receptacles of ASHRAE 90.1.
- **STOPPED:** End run of prohibition of adoption of automatic control receptacles of ASHRAE 90.1.

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- **SUPPORTED:** Allowing insulation that will fit in restricted spaces for alterations of existing systems.
 - Same as removed or greater.
 - R-6 duct insulation maximum required.

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- **SUPPORTED: Update of testing standard for vapor permeable materials.**
 - Increases options for builders to use new materials.

FBC-R 7th Edition (2020)

- **SUPPORTED:** Numerous changes to delete provisions not applicable to Florida.
 - Not applicable due to basic wind speeds.
- **SUPPPORTED:** New section on soffit installation.

FBC-R 7th Edition (2020)

- **SUPPORTED:** Changes updating referenced standards.
- **SUPPORTED:** New section requiring ventilation in enclosed wood floor framing.
 - Floor supports an exterior balcony or walking surface exposed to the weather.
 - To eliminate deterioration causing collapse.

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- **SUPPORTED:** Allow calculated and other methods for determining fire-resistance of separation walls for two-family dwellings.

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- **STOPPED: Solar infrastructure for all new SFR construction.**
- **STOPPED: Surge protection for all new SFR – Cost \$500.**
- **STOPPED: Emergency communications for all elevators.**
 - Included alterations for existing.

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- **STOPPED: Elimination of Exception for interconnecting smoke alarms for alterations of SFR.**
 - Cost \$64 per unit for wireless.
- **FAILED: Buried ducts.**
 - Concerns about condensation.

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- **STOPPED:** Expansion of voltage drop limit (5%) to combination of customer-owned service conductors, feeder conductors, and branch circuit conductor.

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- **STOPPED:** Change establishing incorrect test standard of the thermal properties of air spaces used to comply with energy code requirements.
- **STOPPED:** Mandate for backstop for performance method – Eliminated trade-offs.

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- **STOPPED:** Reduction of percentage of replaced luminaires requiring high-efficacy lamps.
 - Reduced from 50% to 10%
- **STOPPED:** Deletion of air-impermeable insulation method for unvented attics.

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- **STOPPED:** Reduction in presumptive bearing capacity of sandy soils.
 - Reduced from 2000 psf to 1500 psf.
- **STOPPED:** Numerous provisions to require geotechnical testing, engineering design, and compaction of all soils.

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- **STOPPED:** Several changes to stucco and gypsum plaster.
- **STOPPED:** Rewrite of CO detection provisions.
 - More stringent.

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- **STOPPED:** Require chute room door to be able to close with chute open.
 - Result would be larger chute room.
- **STOPPED:** Requirement for multi-channel communications systems for buildings ≥ 120 ft.

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- **STOPPED:** Changes to fire extinguishers for domestic cooking equipment.
- **STOPPED:** Change in how ceiling height is measured.
- **STOPPED:** Numerous changes submitted to adopt all changes in 2018 I-Codes.

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- Questions?
- Answers?
- Thank you for your attendance and participation in FHBA.s efforts in codes and standards.