Department of Commerce
Division of Industrial Compliance
John R. Kasich, Governor
David Goodman, Director

MEMORANDUM OF RESPONSE

The Board of Building Standards (Board) has reviewed the response from the CSI Office regarding this proposed rule. The CSI Office provided no recommendations regarding this proposed rule and concluded that the Board should proceed with formal filing with JCARR. The Board is filing the proposed rule accordingly.

Modifications to section 407.2.5 have been made since the rule was posted for review and filed with the CSI Office. This new section permits a cooking facility having domestic cooking appliances to be located in areas open to corridors within nursing homes. Existing language is unclear whether nursing homes may be equipped with a cooking facility having domestic appliances open to the corridor resulting in the building official making a judgment call. To promote a more home-like environment in nursing homes, this new section has been proposed to make it clear that nursing homes may be equipped with a cooking facility having domestic appliances open to the corridor under certain conditions. Since the rule was posted for review and filed with the CSI Office it has been modified as follows: limits the application of the section only if the number of care recipients served by the cooking facility is not greater than 30; modified “domestic cooking facilities” to “cooking facility with domestic cooking appliances;” adds a requirement for an interlock device which will turn off the power or fuel supply to the cooktop or range if the hood suppression system is activated; and adds a requirement for a timer that automatically deactivates the cooking appliances within 120 minutes.

These modifications reflect changes adopted at the International Code Council Final Action Hearings conducted in October 2012 on the 2015 International Building Code. There was no testimony in opposition to this section with these additional modifications included. These modifications also address the comments received regarding this provision during e-notification and are consistent with the Life Safety Code which is used by adult care licensing entities.

The Board does not estimate an increased cost to the business community to comply with this rule as modified as this section provides an option for nursing homes to install a domestic cooking facility rather than a commercial cooking facility to safely create a more home-like environment.