



HOUSE BILL 768: Clarify Emerg. Comm. Exemptions/Fire Code.

2025-2026 General Assembly

Committee:	House Emergency Management and Disaster Recovery. If favorable, re-refer to Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House	Date:	April 30, 2025
Introduced by:	Reps. Brody, Cotham, Zenger, Winslow	Prepared by:	Howard Marsilio
Analysis of:	Second Edition		Staff Attorney

OVERVIEW: *House Bill 768 would exempt certain buildings and structures from emergency responder communication coverage requirements found within the North Carolina Fire Code.*

CURRENT LAW: Section 510 of the North Carolina Fire Code, as amended by the North Carolina Building Code Council, sets forth the requirements for emergency responder communication coverage, and related systems, in new buildings, and the exceptions to those requirements.

BILL ANALYSIS: The bill would exempt the following types of buildings and structures, whether new or existing, from application of Section 510 requirements within the North Carolina Fire Code:

- Apartment buildings not exceeding 75 feet in height, constructed using wood framing, provided the building has fewer than 150 dwelling units, and all dwelling units discharge directly to the exterior or to an interior corridor providing required egress that leads directly to an exterior exit.
- Apartment buildings and transient public lodging establishments, including hotels and motels, not exceeding two stories above grade plane and that provide direct exterior egress from each dwelling unit or guest room.
- Buildings or structures subject to the North Carolina Residential Code.
- Buildings with a total gross floor area of less than 12,000 square feet and containing no story below grade plane or basement areas.

The bill would also specify that the removal of any exempt existing systems would not be required.

The remainder of the bill would require the Building Code Council to promulgate rules in accordance with this act, and directs the Councils and local governments enforcing the Code to follow the provisions of this act until the effective date of those permanent rules.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This act would become effective when it becomes law.

Kara McCraw
Director



Legislative Analysis
Division
919-733-2578