

## STATE BUILDING CODE INTERPRETATION NO. I-43-99

December 1, 1999

The following is offered in response to your letter in which you seek interpretation of the 1995 CABO One and Two Family Dwelling Code portion of the 1999 State Building Code.

**Question 1:** Is it the intent of section 308.4, item 6, to require safety glazing within 24 inches of any door, including sliding closet doors and cabinet doors, when the bottom edge of such glazing is less than 60 inches above the floor or walking surface?

**Answer 1:** While the code is not specific as to which doors shall or shall not be subject to this requirement, the intent of the requirement is to provide protection to persons traveling through the door. Section 2405.2, item 6, of the BOCA National Building Code/1996 portion of the 1999 State Building Code contains language that is identical to the section you reference. The commentary to that section states that the protection is required at interior and exterior doors used for passage. Glazing adjacent to closet doors through which one does not travel and cabinet doors would, therefore, not be required to be safety glazed.

**Question 2:** Can the 30 psf design live load found in Table 301.4 for sleeping areas be applied to adjacent bathrooms, closets, sitting areas adjacent to bedrooms, hallways, etc?

**Answer 2:** No. The code is specific to apply the reduced live load to only those rooms used for sleeping. Due to the nature of loading conditions in a bathroom, for instance, with the additional live load of a full tub of water, it would be inappropriate to apply the 30 psf live load.

**Question 3:** Does the code allow for a 30 psf live load for sleeping rooms on the first floor, or only on the second floor?

**Answer 3:** The code does not specify the location of the sleeping room with respect to the reduction of live load requirements. The reduction is based on the limited occupancy, not the height above grade.

**Question 4:** Does the code allow a pocket door, which crosses the hallway when in a closed position, to be installed in a hallway leading to a bedroom wing?

**Answer 4:** Yes. The code only addresses the minimum width of hallways, not interior doors that may segment a hallway into multiple hallways. All hallways created by the placement of doors would have to comply with the minimum three foot width. Even though not a code requirement, one would, however, want to make the intersecting doorway as large as possible to provide an easy path of egress travel and facilitate furniture movement.

**Question 5:** Does the code allow the reduction in width of a hallway for a cased opening?

**Answer 5:** Yes. This scenario is similar to that set forth in question 4 above. In this case, the cased opening would create multiple hallways, each of which would have to comply with the three foot minimum width. As with doorways, cased openings in hallways should also be sized as large as possible for egress and furniture movement.