

Introduced 9/5/17
 Public Hearing 9/19/17
 Council Action 10/2/17
 Executive Action 10/5/17
 Effective Date 12/15/17

County Council of Howard County, Maryland

2017 Legislative Session

Legislative Day No. 12

Bill No. 71-2017

Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

AN ACT adopting the 2017 National Electrical Code as the Electrical Code for Howard County; regulating the design, construction, alteration, improvement or modification to electrical equipment; adopting certain local amendments to the Electrical Code; making certain technical corrections; and generally relating to the electrical code in Howard County.

Introduced and read first time September 5, 2017. Ordered posted and hearing scheduled.
 By order Jessica Feldmark
 Jessica Feldmark, Administrator

Having been posted and notice of time & place of hearing & title of Bill having been published according to Charter, the Bill was read for a second time at a public hearing on September 18 2017.
 By order Jessica Feldmark
 Jessica Feldmark, Administrator

This Bill was read the third time on October 2, 2017 and Passed , Passed with amendments _____, Failed _____.
 By order Jessica Feldmark
 Jessica Feldmark, Administrator

Sealed with the County Seal and presented to the County Executive for approval this 4th day of October 2017 at 1 a.m. p.m.
 By order Jessica Feldmark
 Jessica Feldmark, Administrator

Approved Vetoed by the County Executive Oct 5, 2017
Allan Kittleman
 Allan Kittleman, County Executive

NOTE: [[text in brackets]] indicates deletions from existing law; TEXT IN SMALL CAPITALS indicates additions to existing law; Strike-out indicates material deleted by amendment; Underlining indicates material added by amendment.

1 **Section 1. *Be It Enacted*** by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland, that the
2 *Howard County Code* is amended as follows:

3 *By repealing and reenacting:*

4 1. *Title 3. Buildings.*

5 *Subtitle 2. Electrical Regulations.*

6 *Section 3.214. Adoption of National Electrical Code.*

7
8 **Title 3. Buildings.**

9 **Subtitle 2. Electrical Regulations.**

10
11 **SECTION 3.214. ADOPTION OF NATIONAL ELECTRICAL CODE.**

12 (A) (1) THE 2017 EDITION (NFPA 70) OF THE NATIONAL ELECTRICAL CODE, WITH
13 AMENDMENTS AS LISTED IN SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, IS HEREBY
14 ADOPTED AS THE ELECTRICAL CODE FOR HOWARD COUNTY, AS IF THE
15 NATIONAL ELECTRICAL CODE WERE SET OUT IN FULL IN THIS SECTION.

16 (2) A PERSON PERFORMING OR CAUSING THE PERFORMANCE OF ELECTRICAL
17 WORK SHALL CONFORM TO THE HOWARD COUNTY ELECTRICAL CODE AND
18 TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE HOWARD COUNTY BUILDING CODE ADOPTED IN
19 TITLE 3, SUBTITLE 1 OF THIS CODE.

20 (3) IF A CONFLICT EXISTS BETWEEN THE HOWARD COUNTY BUILDING CODE
21 AND THE HOWARD COUNTY ELECTRICAL CODE, THE CODE REQUIRING THE
22 HIGHER STANDARD SHALL GOVERN.

23 (B) THE FOLLOWING AMENDMENTS MODIFY CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF THE ADOPTED CODE:

24 (1) *SECTION 90.4. ENFORCEMENT.*

25 ADD A SENTENCE AT THE END OF THIS SECTION AS FOLLOWS: "IF THERE IS A
26 CONFLICT BETWEEN THIS SECTION AND ANY OTHER PROVISION OF THIS
27 SUBTITLE, THE REQUIREMENT OF THE OTHER PROVISION SHALL GOVERN."

28 (2) *ARTICLE 100. DEFINITIONS.*

29 DELETE THE SENTENCE FOLLOWING "AUTHORITY HAVING JURISDICTION
30 (AHJ)." AND SUBSTITUTE THE FOLLOWING, "THE AUTHORITY HAVING

- 1 JURISDICTION IS THE BUILDING OFFICIAL AS SET FORTH IN SECTION
2 3.101(A)(2) OF THIS CODE.
- 3 (3) *SECTION 210.8. GROUND-FAULT CIRCUIT-INTERRUPTER PROTECTION FOR*
4 *PERSONNEL.*
5 IN SUBSECTION (A), DWELLING UNITS, ADD EXCEPTION NUMBER 1 AS
6 FOLLOWS:
7 EXCEPTION NO. 1: A SINGLE RECEPTACLE THAT SUPPLIES SUMP PUMPS AND
8 SEWER EJECTOR PUMPS IS NOT REQUIRED TO HAVE GROUND-FAULT CIRCUIT-
9 INTERRUPTER PROTECTION PROVIDED THAT A GFCI RECEPTACLE IS
10 ADJACENT TO THE SINGLE RECEPTACLE.
- 11 (4) *SECTION 210.12. ARC-FAULT CIRCUIT-INTERRUPTER PROTECTION.*
12 IN SUBSECTION (D), BRANCH CIRCUIT EXTENSIONS OR MODIFICATIONS –
13 DWELLING UNITS AND DORMITORY UNITS, ADD EXCEPTION NUMBER 2 AS
14 FOLLOWS:
15 EXCEPTION NO. 2: ARC-FAULT-CIRCUIT-INTERRUPTER PROTECTION IS NOT
16 REQUIRED FOR NEWLY INSTALLED 120 VOLT INTERCONNECTED SMOKE
17 DETECTORS.
- 18 (5) *SECTION 230.71. MAXIMUM NUMBER OF DISCONNECTS.*
19 IN SUBSECTION (A), GENERAL, DELETE “FOR THE PURPOSE OF THIS
20 SECTION,” THROUGH THE END OF NUMBER (4), INCLUSIVE.
- 21 (6) *SECTION 240.21. LOCATION IN CIRCUIT.*
22 AMEND SUBSECTION (B), FEEDER TAPS, BY ADDING A SECOND EXCEPTION
23 TO ITEM (B)(1) AND A NEW EXCEPTION TO ITEM (B)(2), BOTH AS FOLLOWS:
24 EXCEPTION: IN METER ROOMS, THE CONDUCTORS WITHIN THE AUXILIARY
25 GUTTER THAT SUPPLIES THE METER SHALL NOT COUNT AS A PART OF THE
26 TOTAL LENGTH.”.
- 27 (7) *SECTION 250.52. GROUNDING ELECTRODES.*
28 ADD THE FOLLOWING TO THE BEGINNING OF SUBSECTION 250.52(A)(3):
29 “CONCRETE-ENCASED ELECTRODES: EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE APPROVED BY
30 THE DEPARTMENT, THE PRINCIPAL GROUNDING ELECTRODE FOR A NEW

1 STRUCTURE IS A CONCRETE ENCASED ELECTRODE INSTALLED IN
2 ACCORDANCE WITH THIS SUBSECTION.”.

3 (8) *SECTION 310.106. CONDUCTORS.*

4 ADD THE FOLLOWING AT THE END OF SUBSECTION (A), MINIMUM SIZE OF
5 CONDUCTORS:

6 “WHETHER SOLID OR STRANDED, A CONDUCTOR SHALL NOT BE SMALLER
7 THAN NUMBER 14 COPPER, NUMBER 12 COPPERCLAD ALUMINUM, OR
8 NUMBER 6 ALUMINUM OR ALUMINUM ALLOY.”.

9 (9) *ANNEX H. ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT.*

10 ONLY THE PROVISIONS OF SUBSECTION 80.9 ARE ADOPTED. THE REMAINDER
11 OF ANNEX H IS SPECIFICALLY AND INTENTIONALLY NOT ADOPTED.

12

13 *Section 2. And Be It Further Enacted by the County Council of Howard County,*
14 *Maryland, that this Act shall become effective 61 days after its enactment.*