

2010 SESSION

INTRODUCED

10103774D

HOUSE BILL NO. 422

Offered January 13, 2010

Prefiled January 12, 2010

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 36-99.5:2, relating to the Uniform Statewide Building Code; regulations of the Board of Housing and Community Development.

Patron—Hope

Referred to Committee on General Laws

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 36-99.5:2 as follows:

§ 36-99.5:2. Residential construction; visitability for persons with disabilities.

The Board shall promulgate regulations in accordance with the Administrative Process Act (§ 2.2-4000 et seq.) establishing standards for new construction of single-family residential buildings to meet minimum standards for accessibility for persons with disabilities, including provision for (i) doorway entrances of at least 32 inches in width; (ii) accessible pathways of at least 36 inches in width throughout the first floor; (iii) at least one accessible no-step main floor entryway; (iv) accessible environmental controls, including electrical outlets at least 18 inches above the floor and light switches at least 44 inches above the floor; and (v) at least one bathroom on the first floor that is capable of supporting the installation of grab bars and other assistive equipment. Such standards may include reasonable exemptions from such requirements as deemed appropriate by the Board.

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