

GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

CODE AMENDMENT FORM

ITEM NO: _____ (DCA USE ONLY) PAGE 1 OF 1

CODE: 2021/2024 IPC SECTION: 403.2 exception 6

PROPONENT: Kenneth Jacobsen DATE: 8/28/24

EMAIL: [REDACTED]

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

TELEPHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED] FAX NUMBER: () -

CHECK Revise section to read as follows: Add new section to read as follows:
ONE: Delete section and substitute the following: Delete without substitution:

~~LINE THROUGH MATERIAL TO BE DELETED:~~ UNDERLINE MATERIAL TO BE ADDED

Approve Approve as amended (DCA STAFF ONLY) Disapprove Withdrawn

DESCRIPTION:
Delete without substitution - IPC section 403.2, Exception #6

REASON/INTENT:
The safety of females is the paramount concern and intent behind section 403.2. Allowing all sexes in the same restroom at the same time removes the barrier for the women's safety.. Exception #6 violates the safety concerns for women & young girls.

FINANCIAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED AMENDMENT:
no impact

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5. The proponent’s name, address, telephone number and fax number must be filled out completely.
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12. Information concerning submittal of code amendments, including deadline dates for submittal, can be obtained by contacting the Codes and Industrialized Buildings Section at (404) 679-3118. All proposed code amendments should be submitted to:

The Department of Community Affairs
Codes and Industrialized Buildings Section
60 Executive Park South, NE
Atlanta, Georgia 30329-2231

We are regular citizens of the State of Georgia with no affiliation to any particular associations or groups. We live in and around the Savannah area. My background is in civil engineering with a focus on building design. My two counterparts in this email are Edith and Kim. Edith is the wife of an air force veteran, mother of an Army Sargent First Class, and grandmother. Kim is a business entrepreneur, wife and mother.

We are reaching out to you because we believe your heart's mission is to support and promote the welfare of families, women and children. We are deeply concerned about some of the provisions in the new 2024 Edition of International Building Code and International Plumbing Code ("Building Code") and how, if implemented in its original format, could gravely endanger the lives of women and children all over this state. We want to make sure that you and the Governor are aware of this risk and that the appropriate committees and state congressional leaders will address this threat without delay.

The Building Code has a provision for gender-neutral multiple occupancy use public restrooms where men, women and children will be forced to use toilet and urinal stalls next to each other and share common space at the sink area. The State's Department of Community Affairs Construction Codes Program is in the process of adopting this Code as statewide minimum building code.

<https://www.dca.ga.gov/node/8849>

<https://www.dca.ga.gov/node/9066>

Gender-neutral public restrooms discriminate against women and children. Men will have access to both water closet compartments and urinal spaces while decreasing the available number of bathroom spaces for women and children. It also decreases the area available for women to address personal needs such as menstrual or medical care, nursing and baby changing activities which may be carried out in the sink area as opposed to the water closet compartment.

Furthermore, Gender-neutral public restrooms place women and children in dangerous physical and emotional situations. Women and children tend to be physically less able to fight off predators who use this as opportunity for easy access. We have multiple sources demonstrating that this type of restroom directly exposes women and children to sexual violence, voyeurism, and human trafficking.

Gender-neutral public restrooms as provided in the Building Code do not work. In the United Kingdom, they tried to implement these kinds of facilities to disastrous effects and have since reverted to traditional gender-separated public restroom spaces. Our neighboring state of South Carolina adopted the Building Code last year, and when they realized these provisions were in it, they held an emergency session to revise their Code and remove this dangerous language.

It is our understanding that Bill HB1104 sponsored by Senator Clint Dixon will restrict student athletes from using school bathrooms based on gender identity which is further supported by efforts from Attorney General Chris Carr to prevent title IX from mandating males and females share restrooms. The new Building Code provision for gender-neutral multiple occupancy use restrooms is in direct conflict with the State's efforts to preserve gender-separate bathroom spaces for our students.

We have more information to share and hope that we might be able to meet with you to discuss this critical matter further. We would also appreciate your recommendations on who we may contact to make sure these dangers have been thoroughly discussed before this terrible Building Code language is implemented in Georgia. We wait in eager anticipation of your reply.

You can easily reach us through our emails or my contact number.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Respectfully,

Yen Yen Skelton

Edith Darden

GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

CODE AMENDMENT FORM

ITEM NO: _____ (DCA USE ONLY) PAGE 1 OF 1

CODE: 2024 IPC SECTION: 403.1.1 Exception #2

PROPONENT: Yen Yen Skelton DATE: 1/12/2025

EMAIL: _____

ADDRESS: _____

TELEPHONE NUMBER: _____ FAX NUMBER: () -

CHECK Revise section to read as follows:

ONE: Delete section and substitute the following:

Add new section to read as follows:

Delete without substitution:

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UNDERLINE MATERIAL TO BE ADDED

Approve Approve as amended (DCA STAFF ONLY) Disapprove Withdrawn

DESCRIPTION:

Delete without substitution 2024 IPC section 403.1.1, Exception #2. [This section is also mimic in the 2024 IBC [P] section 2902.1.1, Exception #2.]

REASON/INTENT:

Since 2024 IPC section 403.2, Exception #6 is to be deleted, this associated section should be deleted too.

FINANCIAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

None.

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CODE AMENDMENT FORM

ITEM NO: _____ (DCA USE ONLY) PAGE 1 OF 1

CODE: 2024 ISPSC SECTION: 305.1

PROPONENT: Kevin Gore DATE: 12/17/2024

EMAIL: Kevin.gore@perry-ga.gov

ADDRESS: 741 Main St. Perry, GA 31069

TELEPHONE NUMBER: 478-988-2719 FAX NUMBER: _____

CHECK Revise section to read as follows: Add new section to read as follows:
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DESCRIPTION:

305.1 General

The provisions of this section shall apply to the design of barriers for restricting entry into areas having pools and spas. Where the spas or hot tubs are equipped with a lockable safety cover complying with ASTM F1346 ~~and swimming pools are equipped with a powered safety cover that complies with ASTM F1346~~, the areas where those spas, or hot tubs ~~or~~ pools are located shall not be required to comply with Sections 305.2 through 305.7

REASON/INTENT:

The exception to the barrier requirements when a powered safety cover is installed, relies on the homeowner/occupant to ensure that the cover is closed when the pool is not in use. This exception creates an unenforceable regulation in that the code official is unable to police the closure of swimming pool covers. This exception essentially negates any safety measure if the pool cover is left open when the pool is not in use or unattended and increases the risk significantly for accidental drownings.

FINANCIAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

This proposed amendment would not have any financial impact on the cost of construction.

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