

# PREFACE of the 2006 NORTH CAROLINA STATE BUILDING CODES

North Carolina has been a pioneer in the field of statewide building regulations that have been enacted for the protection of the public. The building laws passed in 1903 and 1905 created a building code for materials and methods of construction in use at that time in the State.

The General Assembly of 1933 created a Building Code Council and authorized it to, in cooperation with the Commissioner of Insurance, prepare and to adopt a state building code. The first state building code was adopted in 1935 and ratified by the 1941 General Assembly.

The 1957 Legislature rewrote the 1933 Act, ratified the 1953 edition, and reorganized and expanded the membership and responsibility of the council. The 1953 edition of the state building code was revised in accordance with the 1957 Act and printed as the 1958 edition.

The 1933 Act of the General Assembly provided that any city or county could adopt any building regulation that was more stringent than the state building code regulations. However, after a General Assembly Study Commission Report, the 1957 Legislature provided that any local building regulation that was different from the State regulation would have to be approved by the Building Code Council. The council adopted a policy to only approve local amendments to the state code that were absolutely necessary. The policy includes that when the council sees the need for local amendments, they would be incorporated as a part of the state building code in lieu of approving the regulations applying to a specific city or county unless local conditions warranted such specific regulations.

The 1967 edition of the state building code was prepared utilizing the framework of the *Standard Building Code*, with several chapters taken from the American Insurance Association's *National Building Code* and the egress chapter taken from the *Life Safety Code* of NFPA.

The 1978, 1991 and 1996 editions were prepared by the Building Code Council with the assistance of specially appointed Advisory and Ad-Hoc Committees representing code enforcement officials, contractors, designers and others affected by the regulations. These editions were the latest *Standard Building Code* with North Carolina amendments.

The 2002 and 2006 editions were prepared by Ad-Hoc Committees representing code enforcement officials, contractors, designers and others affected by the regulations. These editions were the *International Building Code* with North Carolina amendments.

The 2006 North Carolina State Code is presented with the hope that its use will protect the public from dangerous and unsanitary buildings. This code is intended to provide code enforcement officials, contractors and designers a set of minimum standards to follow in design and construction. The Building Code Council has the authority to amend the code when the wider use of materials and methods comply with the safety standards set forth in the laws.

# PREFACE of the 2006 NORTH CAROLINA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE and POLICIES

The purpose of the *North Carolina Administrative Code and Policies* is to serve as a comprehensive document to guide decisions aimed at protecting the public's health, safety and welfare in the built environment. This protection is provided through the enforcement, by state and local governments, of the technical codes incorporated by reference herein.

The North Carolina Administrative Code was first adopted by the Building Code Council in 1991. The 1996 and 2002 editions were published in conjunction with the subsequent code editions. The 2006 *North Carolina Administrative Code and Policies* is a reorganization and rewrite of the 2002 *Administration and Enforcements Code*. Chapter 1, Administrative Code contains rules adopted by the Building Code Council and approved by the Rules Review Commission. Chapter 2, Policies contains generally accepted policies and procedures based on the North Carolina General Statutes. Chapter 3, Referenced Statutes contains reprints of many applicable North Carolina General Statutes. The appendices include representative administrative forms.

## EDITIONS of the NORTH CAROLINA STATE BUILDING CODES

Administrative	1991, 1996, 2002, 2006
Building	1936, 1953, 1958, 1967, 1978, 1991, 1996, 2002, 2006
Residential	1968, 1993, 1997, 2002, 2006
Accessibility	1973, 1991, 1999
Electrical (NEC)	1931, 1933, 1935, 1937, 1940, 1942, 1943, 1947, 1949, 1951, 1953, 1954, 1955, 1956, 1957, 1958, 1959, 1962, 1965, 1968, 1971, 1975, 1978, 1981, 1984, 1987, 1990, 1993, 1996, 1999, 2002, 2005
Fire	1991, 1996, 2002, 2006
Mechanical	1971, 1980, 1991, 1996, 2002, 2006
Energy Conservation	1991, 1996, 2002, 2006
Plumbing	1963, 1968, 1980, 1991, 1996, 2002, 2006
Fuel Gas	1991, 1996, 2002, 2006

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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# NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE

By statute, the Commissioner of Insurance has general supervision of the administration and enforcement of the North Carolina State Building Code and the Engineering Division serves as the staff for the Building Code Council. Officials of the Department of Insurance are:

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