

**From:** Virginia Fire Prevention Association [<mailto:vfpaadmin@vfpa.org>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 30, 2017 6:11 PM  
**To:**  
**Subject:** Presidents Letter- Code Change Process

# *Virginia Fire Prevention Association*

## A Letter From The President

May 30, 2017

**Dear VFPA Members,**

As you are aware, there has been an effort underway since October, 2015 to remove unenforceable items from the Virginia Statewide Fire Prevention Code by staff of the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD). Throughout this process many from the fire service, to include the Virginia Fire Prevention Association and the Virginia Fire Chiefs Association continue to have concern that this process is moving too fast with the fear being that there will be unintended consequences by the removal of important fire prevention measures which are indeed enforceable. Additionally, some of the changes are creating conflicts between other sections of the code and in the scope and purpose of the code which we believe need time to work through. This is not a remark against those proposing these changes but rather the speed of which these changes are being made.

Recently, Fire Chief Keith Brower, Loudoun County and Chief Fire Marshal Robbie Dawson, Chesterfield County met with Virginia Secretary of Commerce and Trade –Todd Haymore to express their concern over the ongoing process.

As a result of the positive meeting, it was recommended for organizations – including local government agencies – to send a supporting letter to Secretary Haymore reinforcing the issue and request that the process be moved to the next code cycle.

Attached to this email you will find a draft letter created by Chief Dawson for your review and potential use (Copy attached) - the letter can be modified as fire departments and jurisdictions may desire. A copy of the code change update and related meeting list provided at the 2017 VFPA Spring Training Conference and Annual Meeting is also attached for your review.

The Virginia Fire Prevention Association remains committed in serving Virginia's Fire Service and Code Enforcement Communities and is encouraging fire and code enforcement officials to remain involved in this process. For more information, please visit [www.vfpa.org](http://www.vfpa.org) or contact VFPA Delegate Elect, Linda Hale—Chief Fire Marshal, Loudoun County, VA at [linda.hale@loudoun.gov](mailto:linda.hale@loudoun.gov) or VFPA Past-President Robbie Dawson-Chief Fire Marshal, Chesterfield County, VA at [DawsonJ@chesterfield.gov](mailto:DawsonJ@chesterfield.gov).

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**"Serving Virginia's Fire Service and Code Enforcement Communities Since 1968"**

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[Sec Haymore Letter Template.docx](#)

[VFPA Code Update Document - Spring 2017.pdf](#)