



Informal Interpretation Report Number 7848



Date November 03, 2016

Edition 2014

Section 601.5

Question:

Is it the intent of section 601.5 to apply to all occupiable spaces or does the language of exception #3 stating "Habitable only shall be required to met these requirements..." mean that all of 601.5 only applies to habitable rooms?

Answer

No, the intent is not to apply balanced air requirements to all "occupiable" spaces. The provision applies to "habitable rooms" only.

Commentary:

As the requester points out, the wording of Exception #3 is remarkably poor. This being the case, it is unlikely that the author intended for any reader to read Exception #3 several times between the lines in an effort to interpret/extract intent or meaning.

Perhaps there should have been 4 Exceptions. The first part of Exception #3 exempts bathrooms, closets, storage rooms and laundry rooms. The last part of Exception #3 should have become Exception #4 �except that all supply air into the master suite shall be included�. (Balancing the return and supply air into the master suite became a concern for the Technical Advisory Committee due to the large size of some master suites with his and hers closets, dressing areas, bath area, shower, toilet rooms, etc.)

Notice:

The Building Officials Association of Florida, in cooperation with the Florida Building Commission, the Florida

Department of Business & Professional Regulation, ICC, and industry and professional experts offer this interpretation of the Florida Building Code in the interest of consistency in their application statewide. This interpretation is informal, non-binding and subject to acceptance and approval by the local building official.