



**Informal Interpretation Report
Number 8601**



Date January 11, 2022

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Section 306

Question:

Regarding the 30" clearance requirement for appliances, is an open web joist considered "accessible" for the purpose of this section?

Answer

The intent of the code is to have sufficient room to repair or replace the VAV box without removing elements of permanent construction. 30" is the minimum clearance considered as sufficient by the code, unless manufacturers installation instructions requires additional space. This sounds like it meets the requirement for access. The intent is to be able to work on the equipment safely. If it appears that requirement can be met, it may be acceptable

Commentary:

None.

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.