FOREWORD and ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

EDITION 5 OF THE MASSACHUSETTS STATE BUILDING CODE

FOREWORD

The Fifth Edition of the Massachusetts State Building Code has been revised from the Fourth Edition to make it as close to the BOCA National Model, both in Article and sub-Article numbering and in technical content. In several instances, BOCA could not be followed for a number of reasons, including:

- Requirements of Massachusetts General Laws (MGL)

- BBRS changes to meet specific needs of the Commonwealth

- Specialized Massachusetts Codes under the Control of Separate Independent Boards

The following Articles, in their entirety, are non-BOCA:

Article 1 - Administration

Article 10 - Fire Protection Systems

Article 11 - Structural Loads

Article 12 - Foundation Systems and Retaining Walls

Article 27 - Electrical Wiring and Equipment

Article 28 - Plumbing and Gasfitting

Article 31 - Energy Conservation

Article 32 - Repair, Alteration and Change of Use of Existing Buildings

Article 33 - Manufactured Buildings, Building Components and Mobile Homes

Article 34 - One and Two Family Dwelling Code (available as a separate document from the State Bookstore; not included in this code.)

In the remaining Articles, BBRS changes are presented in bold-faced type.

THE MASSACHUSETTS STATE BUILDING CODE

NOTE

The Fifth Edition becomes effective September 14, 1990, and will remain effective concurrently with the Fourth Edition, which is to be valid until February 28, 1991.

In following the BOCA National Building Code format, the Fifth Edition does not include either the One and Two-Family Dwelling Code provisions (Article 21 in the Fourth Edition) or the various Rules and Regulations (Appendix Q in the Fourth Edition). Both documents will be available as separate publications from the State Bookstore, Room 116, State House, Boston, MA 02133 (Tel: (617) 727-2834).

One and Two-Family Dwelling Code: Now identified separately and in the Fifth Edition as Article 34, includes Article 1 (Administration and Enforcement) of the Fifth Edition and Article 21 of the Fourth Edition. The Fourth Edition version of Article 21 will remain in effect until such time as it has been updated, using the 1989 edition of the CABO One and Two-Family Dwelling Code as a base.

Rules and Regulations of the Board of Building Regulations and Standards: Now identified as 780 CMR 1 through 4, may be purchased as a "package" or separately from the State Book Store. These four regulations which were contained in Appendix Q of the Fourth Edition will remain in effect until updated.

Guide to the Fifth Edition of the Massachusetts State Building Code: This guide was developed to assist code users and is available from the State Bookstore. It includes an Article No. Cross-Index from the Fourth Edition to the Fifth Edition, and a Summary of Major Changes made in the Fifth Edition relative to the Fourth Edition. Note: One copy will be given to purchasers of the Basic Code at no extra charge.

These codes are subject to change by amendment. These amendments are effective when published in the bi-weekly MASSACHUSETTS REGISTER unless otherwise stated by the promulgating agency. All code purchasers will be notified by the State. Bookstore when amendments have been made and are available.

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