

**NFPA 70® -2017 Edition
National Electrical Code®**

TIA Log No.: 1293

Reference: 700.10(D)

Comment Closing Date: September 14, 2017

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1. *Revise 700.10(D) to read as follows:*

700.10 Wiring, Emergency System.

(D) Fire Protection. Emergency systems shall meet the additional requirements in (D)(1) through (D)(3) in the following occupancies:

- (1) Assembly occupancies for not less than 1000 persons
- (2) Buildings above 23 m (75 ft) in height
- ~~(3) Health care occupancies where persons are not capable of self preservation~~
- ~~(4)~~(3) Educational occupancies with more than 300 occupants

Substantiation: Article 700.10 (D) (3) “Health care occupancies where persons are not capable of self preservation” conflicts with the current (2015) version of NFPA 99:

“ **6.5.2.2.1.4** For the purposes of this code Article 700 shall only be applied to the life safety branch.

6.5.2.2.1.5 The following portions of Article 700 of NFPA 70 shall be amended as follows:

(B) 700.10(D) (1) through (3) shall not apply.”

Summary: The 2015 version of NFPA 99 states that the requirements of NFPA 70 (D) (1) through (3) do not apply to the life safety branch of healthcare facility electrical systems. Accordingly, the 2017 version of NFPA 70 should not have specifically added list item (3) to 700.10(D) because NFPA 99 has purview over the performance requirements of healthcare facilities. Note that the subject NFPA 99 text is retained for the proposed 2018 version, but with revised paragraph numbers.

Emergency Nature: The standard contains a conflict within the NFPA Standard or within another NFPA Standard.

The conflict between NFPA documents 70, 700.10 (D) (3), and 99, 6.5.2.2.1.5, may result in AHJs being unable to determine which of the code statements takes precedence. State health departments typically adopt NFPA 99 and will claim the cited NEC paragraph does not apply, local electrical inspectors will claim that the NEC takes precedence.

Anyone may submit a comment by the closing date indicated above. To submit a comment, please identify the number of the TIA and forward to the [Secretary, Standards Council](#), 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02169-7471.