

(A) BEFORE ADOPTING THE MARYLAND BUILDING PERFORMANCE STANDARDS OR ANY SUBSEQUENT VERSIONS OF THE STANDARDS, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL:

(1) REVIEW THE BOCA NATIONAL BUILDING CODE TO DETERMINE WHETHER MODIFICATIONS SHOULD BE INCORPORATED IN THE MARYLAND BUILDING PERFORMANCE STANDARDS;

(2) ACCEPT WRITTEN COMMENTS AND HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING ON ANY PROPOSED MODIFICATION; AND

(3) TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION COMMENTS RECEIVED BEFORE ADOPTING THE MARYLAND BUILDING PERFORMANCE STANDARDS.

(B) THE DEPARTMENT MAY NOT ADOPT, AS PART OF THE MARYLAND BUILDING PERFORMANCE STANDARDS, A MODIFICATION OF A BUILDING CODE REQUIREMENT THAT IS MORE STRINGENT THAN THE REQUIREMENT IN THE BOCA NATIONAL BUILDING CODE.

6-404.

(A) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL:

(1) ESTABLISH AND MAINTAIN A CENTRAL AUTOMATED DATA BASE THAT, AT A MINIMUM, CONTAINS:

(I) THE MARYLAND BUILDING PERFORMANCE STANDARDS;

(II) LOCAL AMENDMENTS TO THE MARYLAND BUILDING PERFORMANCE STANDARDS;

(III) THE STATE FIRE PREVENTION CODE AND ANY AMENDMENTS TO THE CODE PROMULGATED BY THE STATE FIRE PREVENTION COMMISSION;

(IV) FIRE CODES ADOPTED BY COUNTIES AND MUNICIPALITIES AND ANY AMENDMENTS; AND

(V) INFORMATION COMPILED BY THE DEPARTMENT UNDER § 6-405(B)(1) OF THIS SUBTITLE;

(2) MAKE INFORMATION FROM THE DATA BASE AVAILABLE TO ANY COUNTY, MUNICIPALITY, STATE UNIT OR OTHER INTERESTED PARTY; AND

(3) PURCHASE OR OTHERWISE PROVIDE A LOCAL JURISDICTION WITH THE NECESSARY HARDWARE OR SOFTWARE TO ENABLE THE LOCAL JURISDICTION TO ACCESS THE INFORMATION IN THE CENTRAL AUTOMATED DATA BASE.

(B) (1) THE DEPARTMENT MAY CHARGE A FEE FOR INFORMATION PROVIDED FROM THE DATA BASE EXCEPT THAT A FEE MAY NOT BE CHARGED TO STATE UNITS, COUNTIES, OR MUNICIPALITIES. IF ANY FEES ARE UNEXPENDED AT