



IDAHO

DIVISION OF OCCUPATIONAL AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSES

BRAD LITTLE - GOVERNOR
RUSSELL S. BARRON - ADMINISTRATOR

June 29, 2021

TO: Residential Building Industry & Associated Stakeholders

FROM: Idaho Building Code Board
Division of Occupational & Professional Licenses (DOPL), formerly the *Division of Building Safety*

RE: Adoption of Temporary Omnibus Rules: 2018 IECC – R403.3.1, R403.3.6 & R403.3.7 Duct Insulation Requirements

The HVAC construction industry is experiencing an indefinite shortage of insulated flexible ductwork throughout the state due to the disruptions in the global supply chain. The industry requested that the Division of Occupational and Professional Licenses and Building Code Board consider amendments to the 2018 International Energy Conservation Code to alleviate the shortage and prevent a potential shutdown of residential construction in Idaho.

On June 28, 2021, the Board held a special board meeting to address the industry's request. The Board and stakeholders of the industry publicly discussed relaxing certain energy code requirements, without creating life safety concerns, to alleviate the constraints of the shortage on installation of duct insulation in residential heating and cooling systems. The Board voted to adopt the following temporary rule amendments to the 2018 International Energy Conservation Code:

IDAPA 24.39.30.004.04

04. International Energy Conservation Code. 2018 Edition with the following amendments:

[n. Delete Section R403.3.1 and replace with the following: R403.3.1 Duct insulation requirements. Supply and return ducts located in an attic space shall have an R-value of not less than R-8.](#)

[o. Delete Sections R403.3.6 and R403.3.7.](#)

The Board action allows the residential building industry flexibility in addressing the supply shortage and innovation to sustain production without significantly increasing the cost of construction or causing unnecessary delays.

In order to protect the public health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of Idaho and confer a benefit on its citizens, IDAPA 24.39.30, the administrative rules of the Board will be reauthorized pursuant the Governor's authority in Section 67-5226, Idaho Code. The *omnibus temporary rule chapter*, including the amendments to the 2018 International Energy Conservation Code **goes into effect July 1, 2021.**