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JON M. DAVINE
STATE FIRE MARSHAL

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
Board of Fire Prevention Regulations
Massachusetts Electrical Code
527 CMR 12.00**

In accordance with M.G.L. c. 22D, s. 4; c. 148, s.10; c.30A, s.2 and s.3 and c. 143, s. 3L, notice is hereby given of a public hearing to be held by the Board of Fire Prevention Regulations (BFPR) at the Department of Fire Services, State Road, Stow, MA., in A-117 on Monday, March 30, 2026 at 10:00 a.m. for the purpose of hearing public comment on proposed amendments to the Massachusetts Electrical Code (527 CMR 12.00), including the adoption of the National Electrical Code (NFPA 70, 2026 Edition), with amendments particular to Massachusetts. 527 CMR 12.00 establishes standards for the installation, maintenance and repair of electrical wires, fixtures, equipment and related items throughout the Commonwealth. The proposed regulation adopts nationally recognized standards and assures that the Commonwealth promulgates regulations that keep up with industry advancements and assures the highest level of public safety. Written or oral comments may be submitted at the time and place of the hearing. One may also submit written comments by mailing or e-mailing comments to Mary Ann Smith, Executive Director of the Board of Fire Prevention Regulations (MaryAnn.E.Smith@mass.gov) P.O. Box 1025, State Rd, Stow, MA 01775 (Tel. 978-567-3713). To be considered by the Board, mailed or emailed comments must be received no later than 4:00 p.m., Friday, March 27, 2026. Copies of the proposed regulations can be provided by emailing Mary Ann Smith or at <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/massachusetts-electrical-code>

Small Business Impact Statement

(As required by M.G.L. c. 30A §§ 2, 3 & 5)

CMR No: 527 CMR 12.00, Massachusetts Electrical Code

- **Will small businesses have to create, file, or issue additional reports?**
Yes. To the extent there is incompatibility under Article 210, information must be reported to the Department of Fire Services. However, this incompatibility has been significantly reduced in this cycle, and is scheduled to be entirely eliminated at the end of the cycle.
- **Will small businesses have to implement additional recordkeeping procedures?**
No. additional requirements for this proposal.
- **Will small businesses have to provide additional administrative oversight?**
No additional administrative requirements for this proposal.
- **Will small businesses have to hire additional employees in order to comply with the proposed regulation?**
No new or additional requirements for this proposal.
- **Does compliance with the regulation require small businesses to hire other professionals (e.g. a lawyer, accountant, engineer, etc.)?**
No new or additional requirements for this proposal.
- **Does the regulation require small businesses to purchase a product or make any other capital investments in order to comply with the regulation?**
No. The code applies to all new electrical installations throughout the Commonwealth and does not focus, with particularity on any one or set of small business categories.
- **Are performance standards more appropriate than design/operational standards to accomplish the regulatory objective?**
(Performance standards express requirements in terms of outcomes, giving the regulated party flexibility to achieve regulatory objectives and design/operational standards specify exactly what actions regulated parties must take.)
No. Due to the Massachusetts statutes in this regard and the technical nature of this amendment and related subject matter, the proposed amendments represent the best and proven method to achieve the desired public safety objective.
- **Do any other regulations duplicate or conflict with the proposed regulation?**
No. The proposed amendments to the code are the product of specialized committees, at both the national and state level, representing a cross section of individuals from the building and specialized code trades.
- **Does the regulation require small businesses to cooperate with audits, inspections or other regulatory enforcement activities?**
No. This amendment requires no new or additional requirements to the current code. It should be noted that the code does not impact, focus or target any industry, business or group in particular, since the scope and applicability of the regulation applies to all new electrical related installations conducted throughout the state.
- **Does the regulation require small businesses to provide educational services to keep up to date with regulatory requirements?**
No. This amendments add no new or additional educational requirements.
- **Is the regulation likely to *deter* the formation of small businesses in Massachusetts?**
No. Since the proposed revised 527 CMR 12.00 is based on the National Electrical Code which is adopted on a national basis, the proposed amendment is likely to be adopted by out of state persons dealing with the same issues.
- **Is the regulation likely to *encourage* the formation of small businesses in Massachusetts?**
Yes. Since 527 CMR 12.00 is based on the National Electrical Code which is applied on a national basis, the regulation and the associated proposed amendments are familiar to those out of state persons and/or entities who may be considering conducting business in the Commonwealth. Using the National Code in Massachusetts allows for more predictable considerations while making business decision which tends to encourage and foster the growth of new small businesses in the Commonwealth.
- **Does the regulation provide for less stringent compliance or reporting requirements for small businesses?**
No. The proposed amendment does not add additional requirements to the current code. It should be noted that the code does not impact, focus or target any industry, business or group in particular, since the scope and applicability of the regulation applies to all new electrical related installations conducted throughout the state.
- **Does the regulation establish less stringent schedules or deadlines for compliance or reporting requirements for small businesses?**
No. The proposed regulation does not establish less stringent schedules or deadlines for compliance or reporting requirements for small businesses from those already established in the present code.
- **Did the agency consolidate or simplify compliance or reporting requirements for small businesses?**

No. The agency did not consolidate or simplify compliance or reporting requirements for small businesses. The code and associated proposed amendments are the minimal standards based upon industry practice and technology and its compliance and enforcement methods are established by state law.

- **Can performance standards for small businesses replace design or operational standards without hindering delivery of the regulatory objective?**

No. Due to the related Massachusetts statutes and the technical and specific nature of the subject matter of the code, there is minimal opportunity for performance-based standards.

- **Are there alternative regulatory methods that would minimize the adverse impact on small businesses?**

No. There are no known methods that would minimize impact without jeopardizing public safety.