

**CODE CHANGE PROPOSAL FORM**

(See instructions on page 2)

**Code: IRC–12/13  
Section R807.1**

**Proponent: Charles S. Bajnai, Chesterfield County, VA, ICC Building Code Action Committee**

**Revise as follows:**

**SECTION R807  
ATTIC ACCESS**

**R807.1 Attic access.** Buildings with combustible ceiling or roof construction shall have an *attic* access opening to *attic* areas ~~that exceed 30 square feet (2.8 m<sup>2</sup>) and that~~ have a vertical height of 30 inches (762 mm) or greater over an area of not less than 30 square feet. The vertical height shall be measured from the top of the ceiling framing members or any permanent obstruction to the underside of the roof framing members or any permanent obstruction.

The rough-framed opening shall not be less than 22 inches by 30 inches (559 mm by 762 mm) and shall be located in a hallway or other readily accessible location. When located in a wall, the opening shall be a minimum of 22 inches wide by 30 inches high (559 mm wide by 762 mm high). When the access is located in a ceiling, minimum unobstructed headroom in the *attic* space shall be 30 inches (762 mm) at some point above the access measured vertically from the bottom of ceiling framing members. See Section M1305.1.3 for access requirements where mechanical *equipment* is located in *attics*.

**Reason:** This proposal is submitted by the ICC Building Code Action Committee (BCAC) The BCAC was established by the ICC Board of Directors to pursue opportunities to improve and enhance an assigned International Code or portion thereof. This includes both the technical aspects of the codes as well as the code content in terms of scope and application of referenced standards. Since its inception in July, 2011, the BCAC has held 6 open meetings and numerous workgroup calls which included members of the BCAC as well as any interested party to discuss and debate the proposed changes. Related documentation and reports are posted on the BCAC website at: <http://www.iccsafe.org/cs/BCAC/Pages/default.aspx>.

The primary reason for this change is to clarify that the volume of space required for an attic access should be measured as the actual usable space. The clearance should be measured to collar ties, insulation curbs, or other permanent obstructions, not always to the ceiling or roof framing members. The revision of the text describing the 30 square feet is an editorial revision and is not intended to change the requirement, but make it more understandable.

**Cost Impact:** ??????????????????????