

Resolution No. 4

Date: 6/10/2023

City: Washington, DC

NAHB Resolution

Title: Ventilation Standards
Sponsor: Building Codes & Standards Subcommittee of the Construction, Codes
& Standards Committee
Submitted by: Jon Sukonik

WHEREAS, state legislative bodies and government agencies are proposing and adopting new legislation and regulations banning gas appliances;

WHEREAS, source control is an effective and important element of the strategy for addressing air pollutants in housing, including from outdoor air pollutants, moisture, formaldehyde, volatile organic compounds, pesticides, combustion spillage and radon;

WHEREAS, there is a general lack of data relating to indoor air pollutants, pollutant levels, occupant exposure, and outdoor air exchange rates to potential health-based outcomes to occupants in new homes, and the research available is from a few small-scale and short-term studies;

WHEREAS, contemporary published research indicates that the focus of interest in residential indoor environments has shifted largely away from evaluating the effects of volatile organic compounds to evaluating the effects of respirable particles;

WHEREAS, ventilation is the primary strategy for dilution and removal of volatile compounds and filtration is the primary strategy for management of respirable particles;

WHEREAS, changes to ventilation and filtration requirements in residential construction codes and standards are being proposed in the absence of comprehensive occupant health-based data;

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that NAHB support a range of strategies for kitchen ventilation including point exhaust, general kitchen exhaust, filtration, operable windows, and combinations thereof.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that NAHB support the evaluation of strategies for air filtration within the overall framework of ventilation system design.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that NAHB support a range of humidity control strategies for humid climates including the use of improved controls and advanced operational protocols that maximize the dehumidification performance of cooling systems.

Leadership Council Action:	Approved
Resolutions Committee Action:	Recommends Approval
Construction, Codes & Standards Committee Action:	Recommends Approval
Custom Home Builders Committee Action:	Recommends Approval
State and Local Government Affairs Committee Action:	Recommends Approval
Federal Governmental Affairs Committee Action:	Recommends Approval
Single Family Builders Committee Action:	Recommends Approval
Building Codes & Standards Subcommittee of the Construction, Codes & Standards Committee Action:	Recommends Approval
Energy and Green Codes and Standards Subcommittee of the Construction, Codes & Standards Committee Action:	Recommends Approval

*If approved, this resolution will incorporate and supersede the following current policies:
2018.7 No. 5 Ventilation Standards, 2012.6 No. 3 Ventilation Standards and 1995.1 No.
1 Exhaust Fan Requirements.*