STATE BUILDING CODE INTERPRETATION NO. 08-02

CODE: 2006 International Residential Code

SECTION: R602.10.11.1

QUESTION: Does the Washington State amendment to IRC Section 602.10.11.1 and its exception permit intersecting wall lines within the exempt area of 900 square feet through the changing of the wording from “one single room” in the model code to “an area” in the amendment? If so, are there any restrictions/allowances in conjunction with this application?

ANSWER: Yes, the amendment would allow intersecting walls within the 900 square foot area. The intent was not to exempt a 900 square foot area or home from bracing requirement, but to provide some design flexibility. The code does not specifically set forth any restriction, but this exception is only applicable if the intersecting walls within the exempt space comply with all other provisions of this code. In addition, the wall layout for the rest of the floor must comply with the requirements at the lesser spacing.

SUPERSEDES: None

REQUESTED BY: Grays Harbor County