



BUREAU OF CONSTRUCTION CODES
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WILLIAM G. MILLIKEN, Governor

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

C. PATRICK BABCOCK, Director

MEMORANDUM

July 7, 1980

TO: Construction Code Commission

FROM: Henry L. Green, Building Division *HLG*

SUBJECT: Building Code Interpretation; Section 612.5.1

Below you will find for your information and consideration is an interpretation of Section 612.5.1 of the Michigan Building Code as determined by the Interpretations Committee of the Bureau of Construction Codes.

QUESTION: Does Section 612.5.1, Door Hardware; restrict the use of a key lock on the egress side of door.

ANSWER: Yes, except in use group I-1 (institutional, restrained).

COMMENT: Section 612.5 states "All egress doors shall be readily opened from the side from which egress is to be made without the use of a key or special knowledge or effort except for special institutional uses as indicated in Section 612.5.3."

Section 612.5.3 allows for the use of this type of locking device in Use Group I-1 (institutional, restrained) when "occupied as places of detention, approved releasing devices with remote control shall be provided for emergency use unless otherwise specifically approved."

Section 612.5 further requires "Except for dwelling units, draw bolts, hooks and other similar devices shall be prohibited on all egress doors, unless there is a readily visible durable sign on the door stating "This door to remain unlocked during occupancy" and that the sign be "in letters not less than one (1) inch high on a contrasting background." This section goes on to require that "the locking device must be of a type that will be readily distinguishable as locked. The use of manually operated flush bolts or surface bolts is prohibited.

Section 612.5.1 further prohibits the use of "Double cylinder dead bolts requiring use of a key on both sides, on required means of egress in use group (restricted) occupancies."

HLG:cs

