



## South Carolina Building Codes Council

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### Request for Statewide Code Modification

**Jurisdiction or Organization:** Spartanburg County Building/Fire Codes Dept.

**Representative:** Jerry Glover **Title:** Building Official

**Address:** 366 N. Church St. Rm. 500 Spartanburg, S.C. 29303

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**Signature:**  **Date:** 4-24-2018

**Code:** IBC,IFC **Edition:** 2018 **Section:** 903.2.1.2

**Check One:**  Delete and substitute the following  Delete without substitution  Add the following  Modify the following  
Type or print proposed modification. Use additional pages if necessary. Underline New language. Line Through Deleted Language.

903.2.1.2 Group A-2  
An automatic sprinkler system shall be provided for fire areas containing Group A-2 occupancies and intervening floors of the building where one of the following conditions exists:

- 1- The fire area exceeds 5,000 square feet.
- 2- The fire area has an occupant load of 100 or more.
- 2.1-Agritourism barn events intended for food or drink consumption with a fire area occupant load more than 99 but less than 200 an automatic fire and smoke detection system must be installed in accordance with section 907 and NFPA 72. Fire area occupant load 200 or more an automatic sprinkler system must be installed.
- 3- The fire area is located on a floor other than a level of exit discharge serving such occupancies.

**Reason:**  Unusually Restrictive  Impractical  Threat to Human Injury or Life Safety  
Type or print the reason for the proposed modification. Use additional pages if necessary.

Agritourism barn events capitalize on people's yearning for farm experiences and is one method of keeping a farm economically viable as farming shrinks yearly in S.C. The majority of barn venues are periodic, less than 5 hours long, and host less than 150 occupants per event. No one wants to reduce life safety requirements for A-2 assemblies on family farms but suggest allowing an early warning smoke and fire detection system if the occupant load determined by sq.ft. is between 99 and 199 persons before requiring sprinkler suppression.

Farm venue barns are usually several hundred feet from the road entrance and public water easements. The cost maybe more than the farm owner can under take for a smaller size venue after meeting all requirements of the IBC and IFC for A-2 assembly. This includes hiring an Architect to design for structural upgrades, accessibility requirements, minimum restroom facilities, exits and emergency lighting.