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AN ORDINANCE  
Of the  
CITY OF  
MINNEAPOLIS

By: Samuels

**Amending Title 12, Chapter 244 of the Minneapolis Code of Ordinances relating to Housing: Maintenance Code.**

The City Council of the City of Minneapolis do ordain as follows:

Section 1. That Section 244.550 of the above-entitled ordinance be amended to read as follows:

**244.550. Stairways and porches.** (a) *[Construction and maintenance generally; live load.]* Every inside and all outside stairways ~~attached to a dwelling~~, every porch and every appurtenance thereto shall be so constructed as to be safe to use and capable of supporting the load that normal use may cause to be placed thereon; and shall be kept in a professional state of maintenance and repair. Normal use live load shall be the uniform load as set out in the state building code, one hundred (100) pounds per square foot.

(b) *[Handrails.]* Every inside and all outside stairways ~~attached to a dwelling~~ that have four (4) or more risers shall have at least one handrail, and all such stairways which are forty-four (44) inches or more in width, or which are open on both sides, shall have a handrail on each side. If a stairway is open on one side, the required handrail shall be placed on the open side, when required by the director of inspections. Stairways required to be more than eighty-eight (88) inches in width shall be provided with an intermediate handrail. However, only one handrail shall be required when such an outside stairway serves a one- or two-family dwelling and the stairway is not more than forty-two (42) inches above the adjacent surface. All handrails shall be not less than thirty (30) inches nor more than thirty-four (34) inches vertically above the nose of the stair treads or stairway platforms.

(c) *Exception:* Outside stairways attached to owner-occupied single-family dwellings are exempt from the handrail requirements of this section unless such outside stairways are more than forty-two (42) inches above the adjacent surface or are remodeled pursuant to a permit as required by Chapter 89 of this Code of Ordinances.

(d) *[To be kept clean of snow, etc.]* Required means of egress that are exposed to the elements shall be kept clear at all times of rubbish, snow, ice or other obstructions when such egress serves a multiple dwelling.