

ORDINANCE NO. 16,413

AN ORDINANCE to amend the Municipal Code of the City of Des Moines, Iowa, 2000, adopted by Ordinance No. 13,827, passed June 5, 2000, as heretofore amended, by amending Sections 60-105 and 60-115, relating to pest infestation and natural light.

Be It Ordained by the City Council of the City of Des Moines, Iowa:

Section 1. That the Municipal Code of the City of Des Moines, Iowa, 2000, adopted by Ordinance No. 13,827, passed June 5, 2000, heretofore amended, by amending 60-105 and 60-115, as follows:

Sec. 60-105. Infestation.

All Structures shall be kept free from insect and rodent Infestation. Where insects or rodents are found, they shall promptly be exterminated by processes that will not be injurious to health or property. After Pest Elimination, proper precautions shall be taken to prevent reinfestation.

- (a) *Owner.* The Owner(s) of any Structure shall be responsible for Pest Elimination within the Structure and Premises except as noted in subsection (b) of this section.
- (b) *Single Occupant.* The Occupant of a single-family dwelling shall be responsible for Extermination. However, in the event the Infestation is a direct result of the Owner(s) failure to maintain the property in accordance with this Chapter, the Owner shall be responsible for Extermination.

Sec. 60-115. Light.

- (1) Every Habitable Space shall have at least one window of approved size as required by Sec. 60-116 facing directly to the Exterior Property allowing sufficient supply of natural light into the space. The minimum total glazed area for every Habitable Space shall be eight (8) percent of the floor area of such room. Wherever walls or other portions of a Structure face a window of any room and such obstructions are located less than three (3) feet from the window and extend to a level above that of the ceiling of the room, such window shall not be deemed to face directly to the Exterior Property and shall not be included as contributing to the required minimum total window area for the room.

Exception: Where natural light for rooms or spaces without exterior glazing areas is provided through an adjoining room the unobstructed opening to the adjoining room shall be at least eight (8) percent of the floor area of the interior room or space, but not less than twenty-five (25) square feet. The exterior glazing area shall be based on the total area being served.

- (2) Every common hall and stairway in Residential occupancies, other than in one- and two-unit dwellings, shall be lighted at all times with at least one 60-watt standard incandescent light bulb for each 200 square feet of floor area or equivalent illumination, provided that the spacing between lights shall not be greater than 30 feet.

- (3) Other spaces shall be provided with natural or artificial light sufficient to permit the maintenance of sanitary conditions, and the safe Occupancy of the space and utilization of the appliances, Equipment and fixtures.

Section 2. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect beginning on February 1, 2025. All enforcement actions, court cases, notices of violation pending, or rental licenses issued, prior to the effective date hereof shall continue to be governed by the provisions of Chapter 60 in effect at the time the violation upon which such enforcement action, court case, or notice of violation is based occurred or such rental license was issued.

FORM APPROVED: Gary D. Goudelock Jr., Assistant City Attorney

Connie Boesen, Mayor

Attest: I, Laura Baumgartner, City Clerk of the City of Des Moines, Iowa, hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true copy of an Ordinance (Roll Call No. 24-1766), passed by the City Council of said City at the meeting held on December 23, 2024 and signed by the Mayor on December 23, 2024 and published and provided by law in the Business Record on January 10, 2025. Authorized by Publication Order No. 12880.

Laura Baumgartner, City Clerk