



Office of the State Building Inspector

September 22, 2017

Mr. William D. Ireland, Chief Building Official
City of Norwalk
125 East Avenue
P.O. Box 5125
Norwalk, CT 06856-5125

RE: I-12-17 [Formal Request for Interpretation of the Dynamic Symbol of access adopted by Connecticut in Public Act 16-78]

Dear Mr. Ireland:

This is in response to your request for a formal interpretation in regards to the following questions:

Question #1:

Is the Connecticut new access dynamic symbol that is required by 29-269b of the CGS in violation of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Standards?

Answer:

No. The dynamic symbol of access adopted by Connecticut in Public Act 16-78, codified in Connecticut General Statutes Section 29-269b, complies with the requirements of 2010 Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Standards. Section 103 of 2010 ADA Standards provides for equivalent facilitation and states "Nothing in these requirements prevents the use of designs, products, or technologies as alternatives to those prescribed provided they result in substantially equivalent or greater accessibility and usability." The last sentence of CGS 29-269b was included to specifically address this requirement "Such symbol shall signify equivalent facilitation and accessibility as the previously used international symbol of access." As a result of this law, the 2016 Connecticut State Building Code amended Section 703.6.3.1 of ANSI A117.1 to identify the dynamic symbol as the symbol of accessibility in Connecticut.

Sincerely,

Joseph V. Cassidy, P.E.
State Building Inspector
DAS Construction Services
Office of the State Building Inspector

JVC:bags