AN ACT to amend and reenact section ten, article three, chapter eight-a of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, relating to ordinance procedure and the adoption of comprehensive or technical codes by reference.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That section ten, article three, chapter eight-a of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, be amended and reenacted to read as follows:

Article 3. Home Rule Charter; Ordinances.

Section 10. Ordinance Procedure.—The governing body shall enact an ordinance in the cases specified in
section nine of this article in accordance with the following requirements:

(1) An ordinance shall be read at not less than two meetings with at least one week intervening between each meeting;

(2) At least five days before the meeting at which such ordinance is finally adopted the governing body shall cause notice of the proposed adoption of said ordinance to be published in at least one newspaper of general circulation in said city for at least one publication, stating the subject matter of such ordinance and the time and place of the proposed final vote on adoption, and the place or places within the city where such ordinance may be inspected by the public;

(3) An ordinance shall not be finally passed until after three days from the date of the publication and until all interested parties have been given an opportunity to attend a meeting of the council and be heard with respect to such ordinance.

(4) An ordinance shall not be materially amended at the same meeting at which finally passed.
The governing body of any municipality may adopt building codes, housing codes, plumbing codes, sanitary codes, electrical codes, fire prevention codes, or any other technical codes dealing with general public health, safety or welfare, or a combination of the same, by ordinance, in the manner here prescribed. Before any such code shall be adopted, it shall be either printed or typewritten and shall be presented in pamphlet form to the governing body of the municipality at a regular meeting, and copies shall be made available for public inspection. The ordinance adopting such code shall not set out said code in full, but shall merely identify the same. The vote on passage of said ordinance shall be the same as on any other ordinance. After its adoption, such code or codes shall be certified to by the chief executive officer and shall be filed as a permanent record in the office of the clerk, who shall not be required to transcribe and record the same in the ordinance book as other ordinances. It shall not be necessary that such ordinance adopting such code or the code itself be published in full, but before final passage of such ordinance, notice of the proposed adoption of
such code shall be given by publication as herein provided
for other ordinances, which notice shall state where,
within the city, the code or codes will be available for
public inspection.

A home rule charter may prescribe a procedure for the
enactment of ordinances in greater detail than prescribed
by this section, but the provisions of this section shall
be required. A governing body may enact an ordinance
under suspension of the rules prescribed by this section
only in the case of a pressing public emergency making a
procedure in accordance with the section dangerous to the
public health, safety, or morals, and by affirmative vote
of two thirds of the members elected to the governing
body. The nature of the emergency shall be set out in
full in the ordinance.
The Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that the foregoing bill is correctly enrolled.

Chairman Senate Committee

Chairman House Committee

Originated in the House.

Takes effect from passage.

Clerk of the Senate

Clerk of the House of Delegates

President of the Senate

Speaker House of Delegates

The within approved this the 19th day of March, 1965.

Governor