

**NOTICE OF PROPOSED ACTION
TO
BUILDING STANDARDS
OF THE
OFFICE OF STATEWIDE HEALTH PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT**

**REGARDING THE 2007 CALIFORNIA BUILDING STANDARDS ADMINISTRATIVE CODE
CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 24, PART 1, CHAPTER 7**

HEALTH FACILITIES CONSTRUCTION

Notice is hereby given that the California Building Standards Commission (CBSC) on behalf of Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development (OSHPD) proposes to adopt, approve, codify, and publish changes to building standards contained in the California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 24, Part 1, Chapter 7. The OSHPD is proposing building standards related to health facilities construction.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

The California Building Standards Commission on behalf of Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development will hold a public hearing at [TIME], on [DATE] at [ADDRESS], during which time any person may present statements or arguments relevant to the proposed regulatory action summarized below.

Written comments will be accepted by the California Building Standards Commission regarding the proposed changes from [DATE] until [TIME] on [DATE].

Please address your comments to:

California Building Standards Commission
2525 Natomas Park Drive, Suite 130
Sacramento, CA 95833
Attention: Dave Walls, Executive Director

Written Comments may also be faxed to (916) 263-0959 or E-mailed to CBSC@dgs.ca.gov.

OR

A public hearing has not been scheduled; however, written comments will be accepted from [DATE], until [TIME] on [DATE]. Please address your comments to:

California Building Standards Commission
2525 Natomas Park Drive, Suite 130
Sacramento, CA 95833
Attention: Dave Walls, Executive Director

Written Comments may also be faxed to (916) 263-0959 or E-mailed to CBSC@dgs.ca.gov.

Pursuant to Government Code Section 11346.5 (a) 17, any interested person or his or her duly authorized representative may request, no later than 15 days prior to the close of the written comment period, that a public hearing be held.

POST-HEARING MODIFICATIONS TO THE TEXT OF THE REGULATIONS

Following the public comment period, the CBSC may adopt the proposed building standards substantially as proposed in this notice or with modifications that are sufficiently related to the original proposed text and notice of proposed changes. If modifications are made, the full text of the proposed modifications, clearly indicated, will be made available to the public for at least 15 days prior to the date on which the CBSC adopts, amends, or repeals the regulation(s). CBSC will accept written comments on the modified building standards during the 15-day period.

NOTE: To be notified of any modifications, you must submit written/oral comments or request that you be notified of any modifications.

AUTHORITY AND REFERENCE

The California Building Standards Commission proposes to adopt these building standards under the authority granted by Health and Safety Code Section 18949.3. The purpose of these building standards is to implement, interpret, and make specific the provisions of Health and Safety Code Sections 129765, 129785, 129825, 129850 & 129880. The OSHPD is proposing this regulatory action based on Health and Safety Sections 18929 & 129850.

INFORMATIVE DIGEST

Summary of Existing Laws

Health and Safety Code Section 18929 mandates that building standards or administrative regulations that directly apply to the implementation or enforcement of building standards must be submitted by the adopting agency to the California Building Standards Commission for the Commission's approval and must be adopted pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 18930 and the Government Code (commencing with Section 11346).

Health and Safety Code Section 129765 requires that an application for approval of health facility design plans be submitted with the complete plans and accurate specifications and structural design computations. It also provides that plans may be submitted to the Office electronically. SB 306 (*Chapter 642, Statutes of 2007*) (*Effective 1/1/08*) amended this section and authorizes OSHPD to enter into a written agreement with the hospital governing authority for phased submittal and approval of facility design plans. OSHPD will charge a fee for the review and approval of plans submitted under this section.

Health and Safety Code Section 129785 authorizes the Office to develop regulations specifying fees to cover the cost of administering the Alfred E. Alquist Hospital Facilities Seismic Safety Act. Additionally, it requires that the Office specify circumstances under which the Office will issue a fee refund, for fees paid for health facility construction projects.

Health and Safety Code Section 129825 requires the hospital governing board or authority to provide competent adequate inspection during the construction or alteration of a hospital construction project. The inspector(s) must be satisfactory to the architect or engineer, or both, and the Office. Additionally, as part of the approval of an inspector, the Office is required to test inspectors and certify those who successfully pass the examination(s). The Office is authorized to develop regulations for testing and approval of inspectors.

Health and Safety Code Section 129850 authorizes the Office to propose building standards, as necessary, in order to carry out the requirements of the Alfred E. Alquist Hospital Facilities Seismic Safety Act. The Office is also authorized to submit to the California Building Standards Commission for approval and adoption of building standards related to the seismic safety of hospital buildings.

Health and Safety Code Section 129880 authorizes OSHPD to exempt from its plan review process a construction project that is \$50,000 or less if specific criteria are met.

Summary of Existing Regulations

Title 24, Part 1, Chapter 7 contains administrative regulations pertaining to plan review and construction of health facilities regulated by OSHPD, which includes hospitals, skilled nursing and intermediate-care facilities, licensed clinics, and correctional treatment centers. Existing administrative regulations include requirements pertaining to the review and approval of plans and specifications; stamping and signature requirements; deferred submittals; time limitations for approval; incremental design, bidding, and construction; fees; construction; inspection; change orders; and certification and approval of hospital inspectors.

Summary of Effect

The proposed changes coordinate terminology in Part 1, Title 24 with terminology in the 2007 California Building Code; reflect current practices regarding fees for preliminary reviews and projects involving imaging equipment; implement statutory requirements for phased submittals and projects exempt from the plan review process; reduce plan review and construction time by clarifying and modifying time limitation requirements and change order requirements; and simplify the hospital inspector examination process by repealing outdated regulations.

Comparable Federal Statute or Regulations

There are no comparable Federal statutes or regulations related to this proposed action.

Policy Statement Overview

Title 24, Part 1, Chapter 7, contains administrative regulations for the plan review and construction of health facilities regulated by OSHPD. The proposed changes are intended to clarify existing regulations, to implement statutory requirements, to repeal outdated regulations, reflect current practices, and to coordinate California amendments with model code language.

OTHER MATTERS PRESCRIBED BY STATUTE APPLICABLE TO THE AGENCY OR TO ANY SPECIFIC REGULATION OR CLASS OF REGULATIONS

There are no other matters to be identified.

MANDATE ON LOCAL AGENCIES OR SCHOOL DISTRICTS

The OSHPD has determined that the proposed regulatory action would not impose a mandate on local agencies or school districts.

ESTIMATE OF COST OR SAVINGS

(An estimate, prepared in accordance with instructions adopted by Department of Finance, of cost or savings to any state agency, local agency, or school district. Provide a copy of the "Economic and Fiscal Impact Statement" (Form 399))

- A. Cost or Savings to any state agency: **NO**
- B. Cost to any local agency required to be reimbursed under Part 7(commencing with Section 17500) of Division 4: **NO**
- C. Cost to any school district required to be reimbursed under Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division 4: **NO**
- D. Other nondiscretionary cost or savings imposed on local agencies: **NO**
- E. Cost or savings in federal funding to the state: **NO**

INITIAL DETERMINATION OF NO SIGNIFICANT STATEWIDE ADVERSE ECONOMIC IMPACT ON BUSINESSES

The OSHPD has made an initial determination that the adoption/amendment/repeal of this regulation will not have a significant statewide adverse economic impact on businesses, including the ability of California businesses to compete with business in other states.

DECLARATION OF EVIDENCE

The OSHPD has not relied on any other facts evidence, documents, testimony or other evidence to make its initial determination of no statewide adverse economic impact. The proposed regulations are technical and editorial amendments that will provide clarification and consistency with nationally recognized standards and statute.

FINDING OF NECESSITY FOR THE PUBLIC'S HEALTH, SAFETY, OR WELFARE

A report pursuant to Government Code § 11346.3(c) is not required by the proposed regulations.

COST IMPACT ON REPRESENTATIVE PRIVATE PERSON OR BUSINESS

The OSHPD is not aware of any cost impacts that a representative private person or business would necessarily incur in reasonable compliance with the proposed action.

ASSESSMENT OF EFFECT OF REGULATIONS UPON JOBS AND BUSINESS EXPANSION, ELIMINATION OR CREATION

The OSHPD has assessed whether or not and to what extent this proposal will affect the following:

The creation or elimination of jobs within the State of California.

The proposed action would not have an effect on the creation or elimination of jobs within the State of California.

The creation of new businesses or the elimination of existing businesses within the State of California.

The proposed action would not have an effect on the creation of new businesses or elimination of existing businesses within the State of California.

The expansion of businesses currently doing business with the State of California.

The proposed action would not have an effect on the expansion of businesses currently doing business with the State of California.

INITIAL DETERMINATION OF SIGNIFICANT EFFECT ON HOUSING COSTS

The OSHPD has made an initial determination that this proposal would not have a significant effect on housing costs.

CONSIDERATION OF ALTERNATIVES

The OSHPD must determine that no reasonable alternative considered by the state agency or that has otherwise been identified and brought to the attention of the agency would be more effective in carrying out the purpose for which the action is proposed or would be as effective and less burdensome to affected private persons than the proposed action.

AVAILABILITY OF RULEMAKING DOCUMENTS

All of the information upon which the proposed regulations are based is contained in the rulemaking file, which is available for public review, by contacting the person named below. This notice, the express terms and initial statement of reasons can be accessed from the California Building Standards Commission website:

<http://www.bsc.ca.gov/>

Interested parties may obtain a copy of the final statement of reasons once it has been prepared, by making a written request to the contact person named below or at the California Building Standards Commission website.

CBSC CONTACT PERSON FOR PROCEDURAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE QUESTIONS

General questions regarding procedural and administrative issues should be addressed to:

**[Insert name of assigned CBSC staff person and back-up person]
2525 Natomas Park Drive, Suite 130
Sacramento, CA 95833**

**Telephone No.: (916) 263-0916
Facsimile No.: (916) 263-0959**

PROPOSING STATE AGENCY CONTACT PERSON FOR SUBSTANTIVE AND/OR TECHNICAL QUESTIONS ON THE PROPOSED CHANGES TO BUILDING STANDARDS

Specific questions regarding the substantive and/or technical aspects of the proposed changes to the building standards should be addressed to:

Duane F. Borba, Supervisor, Health Facilities Review
Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development
Facilities Development Division
1600 Ninth Street, Room 420
Sacramento, CA 95814
regsunit@oshpd.ca.gov
Telephone No.: (916) 654-3139
Facsimile No.: (916) 653-2973