

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

**REGARDING THE CALIFORNIA ELECTRICAL CODE
CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 24, PART 3**

Adoption of the 2014 National Electrical Code

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 3. The OSHPD is proposing building standards related to the adoption of the 2014 National Electrical Code (NEC).

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

A public hearing has not been scheduled; however, written comments will be accepted from **October 9, 2015**, until **5:00 PM** on **November 23, 2015**. Please address your comments to:

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

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

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.

The public will have an opportunity to provide both written and/or oral comments regarding the proposed action on building standards at a public meeting to be conducted by the California Building Standards Commission to be scheduled at a date near the end of the current adoption cycle. A meeting notice will be issued announcing the date, time and location of the public meeting.

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 1226, 1275,

and 129790. The OSHPD is proposing this regulatory action based on Health and Safety Sections 1226, 1275, 18928, 129790 and 129850 and Government Code Section 11152.5.

INFORMATIVE DIGEST

Summary of Existing Laws

Health and Safety Code Section 1226 authorizes the Office to prescribe, in consultation with the Community Clinics Advisory Committee, minimum building standards for the physical plant of clinics, for adoption in the California Building Standards Code.

Health and Safety Code Section 1275 authorizes the Office to adopt and enforce building standards for the physical plant of health facilities including hospitals, skilled nursing facilities and correctional treatment centers.

Health and Safety Code Section 18928 authorizes state agencies to adopt the most recent edition of model code, as amended or proposed to be amended by the agency, within one year of the publication date of the model code.

Health and Safety Code Section 129790 authorizes the Office to propose building standards for correctional treatment centers in cooperation with the Department of Corrections, Board of Corrections and Department of Youth Authority.

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.

Government Code Section 11152.5 authorizes a state department to adopt regulations pursuant to the Government Code. Regulations which are building standards, must be adopted pursuant to State Building Standards Law of the Health and Safety Code (commencing with 18901).

Summary of Existing Regulations

Title 24, Part 3, 2013 California Electrical Code (CEC) contains regulations pertaining to electrical system requirements for hospitals, skilled nursing and intermediate care facilities, licensed clinics and correctional treatment centers.

Summary of Effect

The OSHPD is adopting the 2014 National Electrical Code which will be the basis for the 2016 California Electrical Code and is proposing amendments that will provide clarification and consistency within the code. Articles 352.12, 517.19(B), and 517.33(A)(7) are being repealed because these amendments are no longer necessary due to changes in the model code. The definitions for "General Care Area" and "Critical Care Area" are being amended to clarify changes in the model code definitions for these areas. Adding a requirement to prohibit transfer switches from being installed in the same room with the normal service equipment, where the service equipment is rated over 150 volts to ground and equal to or greater than 1000 amps. This is in compliance with the national standards of NFPA 110 for life safety branch. Additional amendments will update references to NFPA standards and make editorial and minor technical changes for clarity.

Comparable Federal Statute or Regulations

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

Policy Statement Overview

The OSHPD develops and promulgates building standards for hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, clinics and correctional treatment centers. The Office's proposed action adopts the most recent model code, as mandated by statute. It also repeals outdated language and requirements that are no longer necessary. Additional amendments are in alignment with the national standards and will provide consistency within the code.

Evaluation of consistency

The proposed regulation is not inconsistent or incompatible with existing state regulations.

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

There are no other matters prescribed by statute that are applicable to OSHPD, specific regulation or class of regulations.

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

- 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

This proposal will repeal outdated requirements that are no longer applicable and will amend requirements for clarity within the code. The OSHPD has determined there was no record of facts, evidence, documents, testimony, or other evidence that the agency relied upon to support its initial determination of no effect.

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

The OSHPD has made an assessment of the proposal regarding the economic impact of recordkeeping and reporting requirements and has determined that a report pursuant to Government Code Section 11346.3(d) is not required.

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 regulations will not create or eliminate jobs within the State of California.

- **The creation of new businesses or the elimination of existing businesses within the State of California.**
The proposed regulations will not create new businesses, or eliminate existing businesses within the State of California.
- **The expansion of businesses currently doing business with the State of California.**
The proposed regulations will not cause expansion of businesses currently doing business with the State of California.
- **The benefits of the regulation to the health and welfare of California residents, worker safety, and the state's environment.**
The OSHPD promulgates building standards regarding the design and construction of licensed health facilities to ensure the protection of the public's health and safety in the facilities. The proposed regulations are necessary for the continued preservation of the health, safety, and welfare of California residents through updated amendments. The regulations will not affect worker safety, or the state's environment.

ESTIMATED COST OF COMPLIANCE OF STANDARDS THAT WOULD IMPACT HOUSING

The proposed action relates to health facility construction and will not have a cost impact on housing.

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, or would be more cost-effective to affected private persons and equally effective in implementing the statutory policy or other provisions of law.

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.

Government Code Section 11346.5(a)(21) states that OSHPD shall provide, upon request, a description of proposed changes included in the proposed action, in the manner provided by Section 11346.6, to accommodate a person with a visual or other disability for which effective communication is required under state or federal law and that providing the description of proposed changes may require extending the period of public comment for the proposed action.

CBSC CONTACT PERSON FOR PROCEDURAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE QUESTIONS

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

Laurie O'Brien, Architectural Associate or back-up person Enrique Rodriguez
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:

Glenn S.A. Gall, AIA, Supervisor, Health Facilities Review
Office of Statewide Health and Development
Facilities Development Division
400 R Street, Suite 200
Sacramento, CA 95811

regsunit@oshpd.ca.gov
Phone (916) 440-8300
FAX (916) 324-9188