

INITIAL STATEMENT OF REASONS
FOR
PROPOSED BUILDING STANDARDS
OF THE
OFFICE OF STATEWIDE HEALTH PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

REGARDING THE CALIFORNIA PLUMBING CODE,
CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 24, PART 5

Health Facility Design and Construction

The Administrative Procedure Act (APA) requires that an Initial Statement of Reasons be available to the public upon request when rulemaking action is being undertaken. The following information required by the APA pertains to this particular rulemaking action:

STATEMENT OF SPECIFIC PURPOSE, PROBLEM, RATIONALE and BENEFITS:

The Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development (OSHDP) is adopting the most recent edition of model code, as amended by the Office, pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 18928. This proposed rulemaking represents OSHDP's proposal to adopt the 2015 Uniform Plumbing Code published by the International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials carrying forward existing California amendments into the 2016 California Plumbing Code. It was also necessary to propose editorial and minor technical modifications to the existing requirements as identified below.

Specific amendments are as follows:

Section 310.10 – The licensing requirements for health facilities do not permit handwashing fixtures in the operating rooms and delivery rooms. This amendment is necessary to avoid conflict with the health facility licensing regulations.

Section 321.0 Essential Plumbing Provisions - This new provision will require health facilities to add the domestic booster pump, hot water circulating pumps, sewage ejector pumps, sump and drainage pumps, water heating equipment, and fuel oil pumps to the essential electrical system which will allow a facility to continue to operate and provide patient care during periods of power outages. This requirement is in coordination with California Electrical Code provisions.

Section 412.1.1 Nonwater Urinals – This amendment is being removed and will not be carried forward from the 2013 California Plumbing Code to the 2016 California Plumbing Code. This change reflects efforts to conserve water.

Section 413.2 Flushometer Valves - The 2015 Uniform Plumbing Code has renumbered various sections. The amendment is editorial and aligns with the model code numbering format.

Section 422.2 Separate Facilities, Exceptions – OSHDP does not adopt the exceptions to Section 422.2 because they are in conflict with existing requirements for health facilities.

Section 422.2.2 - The 2015 Uniform Plumbing Code has renumbered various sections. The existing OSHDP amendment is to be carried forward from the 2013 California Plumbing Code (CPC) Section 422.2.1 to Section 422.2.2 of the 2016 CPC. This is an editorial change and aligns with the model code section numbering format.

Table 4-2 Minimum Plumbing Facilities - The dialysis patient toilet handwashing fixture is located inside the toilet room and not the patient room. The reference to Footnote 2 is added to reflect that the handwashing fixture is only required to have conventional controls.

Section 604.1 Pipe, Tube, and Fittings-Exception - The removal of this exception reflects the standards of model code. CPVC has been used throughout the model code since 1991.

Section 605.1.3.2 Pressed Fittings - The removal of the prohibition of pressed fittings is to reflect the acceptance of its use in model code.

Section 605.15 Dielectric Unions - The 2015 Uniform Plumbing Code has renumbered various sections. The amendment is editorial and aligns with the model code numbering format.

Section 614.1 - The addition of PFA (*polyvinylidene fluoride*) piping for dialysis branch line use is to reduce the amount of questions received on whether this material is acceptable as an alternate method of compliance. This amendment provides clarification.

Section 701.2 Drainage Piping - The removal of the prohibition of ABS and PVC piping is to reflect the acceptance of its use in model code.

Section 903.1.3 - The removal of the prohibition of ABS and PVC piping is to reflect the acceptance of its use in model code.

Sections 1015.5 - The 2015 Uniform Plumbing Code has renumbered various sections. The existing OSHPD amendment Section 1015.6 of the 2013 California Plumbing Code is to be renumbered to 1015.5 and carried forward to 2016 California Plumbing Code. This is an editorial change and aligns with the model code section numbering format.

Section 1015.6 - The 2015 Uniform Plumbing Code has renumbered various sections. The existing OSHPD amendment Section 1015.7 of the 2013 California Plumbing Code is to be renumbered to 1015.6 and carried forward to 2016 California Plumbing Code. This is an editorial change and aligns with the model code section numbering format.

Section 1101.3.2 - The removal of the prohibition of ABS and PVC piping is to reflect the acceptance of its use in model code.

Section 1102.1.3 - The removal of the prohibition of ABS and PVC piping is to reflect the acceptance of its use in model code.

Section 1304.1.2 – The existing amendment Section 1301.2.1 of the 2013 California Plumbing Code is being carried forward to the 2016 California Plumbing Code. It is being relocated and renumbered to align with the appropriate section of the 2015 Uniform Plumbing Code.

TECHNICAL, THEORETICAL, AND EMPIRICAL STUDY, REPORT, OR SIMILAR DOCUMENTS

There are no technical, theoretical or empirical studies/reports or other documents to identify as the basis for this proposal.

STATEMENT OF JUSTIFICATION FOR PRESCRIPTIVE STANDARDS

These regulations do not mandate the use of technology or equipment and do not require any prescriptive standards.

CONSIDERATION OF REASONABLE ALTERNATIVES

There were no alternatives for consideration by the Office. The proposed amendments will provide clarification and consistency within the code and are in alignment with national standards.

REASONABLE ALTERNATIVES THE AGENCY HAS IDENTIFIED THAT WOULD LESSEN ANY ADVERSE IMPACT ON SMALL BUSINESS

Small businesses will not be adversely impacted by the proposed amendments.

FACTS, EVIDENCE, DOCUMENTS, TESTIMONY, OR OTHER EVIDENCE OF NO SIGNIFICANT ADVERSE IMPACT ON BUSINESS

The Office did not identify any cost to comply with the proposed amendments. The proposed amendments are editorial and minor technical changes that will provide clarification within the code.

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

The Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development 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.**

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, ESTIMATED POTENTIAL BENEFITS, AND RELATED ASSUMPTIONS USED FOR BUILDING STANDARDS

The new provision in Section 321.0 will require that domestic water booster pumps, hot water circulation pumps, sewage ejector pumps, sump and drainage pumps, domestic water heating equipment, and fuel oil pumps be connected to the essential electrical system in a health facility. The estimated cost of

compliance to hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, licensed clinics, and correctional treatment centers will be negligible. Connecting the plumbing equipment to the essential electrical system involves wiring the equipment to that system. Depending on the specific equipment being connected, the estimated cost is approximately \$100 to \$500 per piece of equipment that is required for the project. This new provision would apply to projects for new construction, additions, and replacements.

Health facilities will benefit from the new requirement because it will ensure that they can continue operating and providing patient care during power outages. Many professional health facility designers (architects and engineers) already incorporate this standard into the design plans.

DUPLICATION OR CONFLICTS WITH FEDERAL REGULATIONS

The proposed regulations do not duplicate or conflict with federal regulations.