

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

**REGARDING THE CALIFORNIA MECHANICAL CODE  
CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 24, PART 4**

**Adoption of 2015 Uniform Mechanical Code**

Notice is hereby given that the California Building Standards Commission (CBSC) on behalf of the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development (OSHDP) proposes to adopt, approve, codify, and publish changes to building standards contained in the California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 24, Part 4. The OSHDP is proposing building standards related to the adoption of the 2015 Uniform Mechanical Code.

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

(Government Code Section 11346.5(a)(1)) (Government Code Section 11346.5(a)(17))

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](mailto: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**

(Government Code Section 11346.5(a)(18)), (Government Code Section 11346.8(c))

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 Section 1226, 1275, 129790 & 129850. OSHDP is proposing this regulatory action based on Health and Safety Code Sections 1226, 1275, 18928, 129790 & 129850 and Governmental Code Section 11152.5.

## **INFORMATIVE DIGEST**

An informative digest drafted in plain English in a format similar to the Legislative Counsel's Digest shall include the following:

### **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 Buildings 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 that model code.

Health and Safety Code Section 18949.3 mandates that the responsibilities of the Office to adopt building standards, including but not limited to, the responsibilities specified under the Alfred E. Alquist Hospital Facilities Seismic Safety Act (commencing with Section 129765) be transferred to the California Building Standards Commission.

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 4, 2013 California Mechanical Code (CMC), is based on the 2012 Uniform Mechanical Code with California amendments. The CMC contains mechanical system requirements for design and construction hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, licensed clinics and correctional treatment centers.

### **Summary of Effect**

The proposed action is to adopt the 2015 Uniform Mechanical Code for incorporation, by reference, into the 2016 California Mechanical Code and to carry forward existing California amendments related to the design and construction of hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, licensed clinics, and correctional treatment centers.

Additionally, the proposal makes minor editorial and technical modifications for clarification, repeals outdated unnecessary requirements, and provides consistency within Title 24.

### **Comparable Federal Statute or Regulations**

There is no federal statute or regulation related to this proposed action.

### **Policy Statement Overview**

OSHPD is responsible for the development of regulations regarding the physical plant for hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, licensed clinics and correctional treatment centers. The intent of this proposal

is to adopt the most recent model code requirements for health facility construction, pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 18928 and propose amendments that will provide editorial and minor technical modifications for clarification and consistency with the code.

**Evaluation of consistency**

The proposed action is consistent and compatible 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 to identify.

**MANDATE ON LOCAL AGENCIES OR SCHOOL DISTRICTS**

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**
- Estimate: N/A

**INITIAL DETERMINATION OF NO SIGNIFICANT STATEWIDE ADVERSE ECONOMIC IMPACT ON BUSINESSES**

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**

OSHPD has not relied on any other facts, evidence, documents, testimony or other evidence to make its final determination of no statewide adverse economic impact. The scope of the proposed action is to adopt the most recent model code pursuant to statutory requirements and to carry forward existing California amendments from the 2013 California Mechanical Code and to make necessary technical modifications.

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

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**

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 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.**

The proposed regulations are necessary for the continued preservation of the health, safety, and welfare of California residents through updated amendments associated with the design and construction of health facilities that reflect current construction practice and current practice of medicine. The regulations will not affect worker safety, or the state's environment.

### **ESTIMATED COST OF COMPLIANCE OF STANDARDS THAT WOULD IMPACT HOUSING**

These regulations will have not result in any cost of compliance that would impact 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, Associate Construction Analyst

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, Supervisor, Building Standards Unit  
Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development  
Facilities Development Division  
400 R Street, Suite 200  
Sacramento, CA 95811

(916) 440-8300

FAX (916) 324-9188

[regsunit@oshpd.ca.gov](mailto:regsunit@oshpd.ca.gov)