

BUILDING STANDARDS COMMISSION

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BUILDING STANDARDS INFORMATION BULLETIN 17-05

DATE: DECEMBER 14, 2017

TO: CBSC INTERESTED PARTIES
LOCAL BUILDING DEPARTMENTS
STATE AGENCIES AND DEPARTMENTS

SUBJECT: 2017 LEGISLATIVE CHANGES

This information bulletin summarizes the 2017 legislative changes to state laws related to the California Building Standards Commission (CBSC) and state building standards. The statutory changes summarized in this bulletin become effective on January 1, 2018, unless otherwise specified in statute. Detailed information on each bill can be viewed by selecting the hyperlink embedded in the bill heading.

[AB 546, Chiu \(Chapter 380, Statutes of 2017\)—Land use: local ordinances: energy systems.](#)

This bill requires, on or before September 30, 2018, for a city, including a charter city, county, or city and county with a population of 200,000 or more residents, or January 31, 2019, for a city, including a charter city, county, or city and county with a population of less than 200,000 residents, the city, county, or city and county to make all documentation and forms associated with the permitting of advanced energy storage, as defined, available on a publicly accessible Internet website, as specified. The bill would require a city, county, or city and county to allow for the electronic submittal of a permit application and associated documentation, except as specified. The bill authorizes the Governor's Office of Planning and Research to consult with specified stakeholders and provide guidance on energy storage permitting, including streamlining, best practices, and potential factors for consideration by local government in establishing fees for permitting and inspection.

[AB 908, Dababneh \(Chapter 350, Statutes of 2017\)—Hospitals: seismic safety.](#)

This bill authorizes a hospital in the Tarzana neighborhood in the City of Los Angeles that has received specified extensions to request an additional extension, as specified, until October 1, 2022, in order to obtain a certificate of occupancy from the office for a replacement building.

[AB 1127, Calderon \(Chapter 755, Statutes of 2017\)—Baby diaper changing stations.](#)

This bill requires new construction or renovation of a public building, as specified, that is owned by a state or a local agency, or a portion of a building that is owned by a state or local agency and includes at least one restroom that is open to the public, to provide at

least one safe, sanitary, convenient, and publicly accessible baby diaper changing station, as specified. The bill requires each station to be maintained, repaired, and replaced as necessary to ensure safety and ease of use, and to be cleaned with the same frequency as the restroom in which it is located. By imposing a higher level of service on local agencies, the bill imposes a state-mandated local program.

[AB 1379, Thurmond \(Chapter 667, Statute of 2017\)—Certified access specialist program: funding.](#)

To increase the availability of state Certified Access Specialist (CAsp) services and improve compliance with state and federal construction-related accessibility standards, this bill increases funding for the CAsp Program by expanding the CAsp fees added on business licenses to now include building permits, as specified.

[AB 1671, Caballero \(Chapter 533, Statutes of 2017\)—Backflow protection and cross-connection controls: standards.](#)

This bill requires the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) to adopt standards for backflow protection and cross-connection control on or before January 1, 2020. This bill authorizes the State Board to implement the standards through the adoption of a policy handbook that is not subject to the requirements of the Administrative Procedure Act or review by the Office of Administrative Law. This bill necessitates CBSC monitor and participate in the development of the policy handbook to ensure that any appropriate changes to the California Building Standards Code (Cal. Code Regs., Title 24) are made and no building standards are adopted into the handbook outside of Title 24.

[AB 1714, Committee on Housing and Community Development \(Chapter 418, Statutes of 2017\)—Income taxes: credits: low-income housing: farmworker housing: building standards: housing and home finance.[†]](#)

This bill is the 2017 housing omnibus bill, which contains various non-controversial changes to state law. A portion of these amendments include the following changes to California Building Standards Law ([HS Code, §§ 18901 – 18949.31.](#)):

- Replaces an outdated reference to the California Integrated Waste Management Board with the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery.
- Updates a section containing outdated references to several model codes that are no longer adopted into the California Building Standards Code or provided through the same publisher with current information.
- Corrects an inaccurate statutory location reference to the Administrative Procedure Act
- Updates additional outdated references to several model codes and clarifies that only the portions of the model codes adopted by reference and any other building

[†] Please contact the Department of Housing and Community Development for further information on bills that have an impact on housing:

standards adopted into the California Building Standards Code, shall apply to all occupancies throughout the state as specified.

[SB 330, Berryhill \(Chapter 281, Statutes of 2017\)—Building permit fees: waiver.](#)[†]

This bill authorizes a city, county, or city and county to waive or reduce all building permit fees for improvements to the home of a veteran with a qualifying disability that are made to accommodate that disability.

[SB 442, Newman \(Chapter 670, Statutes of 2017\)—Public health: pools: drownings.](#)

Among changes to other sections of law, this bill amends the Swimming Pool Safety Act ([HS Code, §§ 115920 - 115929.](#))—the text of which CBSC is required to publish within the California Residential Code (Cal. Code Regs., Title 24, Part 2.5) pursuant to [Health and Safety Code Section 18942, subdivision \(b\).](#) CBSC also publishes this text within the California Building Code (Cal. Code Regs., Title 24, Part 2) for convenience.

This bill makes the following changes to the Swimming Pool Safety Act:

- Increases the minimum number of specified drowning prevention safety features required for a swimming pool or spa at a private single-family home when a building permit is issued for the new construction or remodel of the swimming pool or spa.
- Revises the characteristics of some of those safety features.
- Repeals a previous exemption to the requirements of the act for political subdivisions that adopt ordinances for swimming pools as specified.

As appropriate, CBSC updates the California Building Standards Code (Cal. Code Regs., Title 24) with changes resulting from newly enacted legislation. This information bulletin is not intended to be a complete digest of all new laws affecting buildings, building standards, and CBSC. The complete text of each law can be reviewed on the California Legislative Information website at <http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/>.

Sincerely,



Mia Marvelli, Executive Director
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