

## **Legislative Update**

Each year many bills are introduced in the California State Legislature regarding a variety of issues. Some of these bills address matters that relate to the design or construction of buildings in California, and some deal specifically with the California Building Standards Commission. Following is a status update of some of the bills of interest to the commission, which have been introduced thus far in the 2009-2010 legislative session.

### **AB 210 (Hayashi)**

Subject: Green building standards

Status: Signed by the Governor

This bill specifies in law that the requirements and regulations a city, county, or city and county is authorized to change or modify include, but are not limited to, green building standards. Also, this bill specifies that nothing limits the authority of a city, county, or city and county to establish more restrictive green building standards because of local climatic, geological, or topographical conditions, as currently provided for in law with regard to other building standards.

### **AB 828 (Lieu)**

Subject: Green building standards

Status: Vetoed by the Governor

This bill would have required any state agency proposing green building standards to seek the input of other state agencies and consult with representatives from specified groups. In addition, the bill would have specifically authorized the Energy Resource Conservation and Development Commission to develop and submit to the California Building Standards Commission for adoption and approval voluntary energy efficiency standards.

### **AB 1020 (Emmerson)**

Subject: Public swimming pools: anti-entrapment devices and systems

Status: Signed by the Governor

This bill conforms state law to recently enacted federal pool safety standards, for the purpose of reducing injuries and deaths related to entrapment in public pools.

**AB 1539 (Hagman)**

Subject: Building standards: residential buildings

Status: In print

This bill would express legislative intent to enact legislation regarding building standards regarding the size of gas pipes relative to water heaters in residences.

**SB 183 (Lowenthal)**

Subject: Residential building safety

Status: Assembly Inactive File

This bill would require that carbon monoxide devices be installed in existing residences and would require that these devices be tested and certified, pursuant to requirements set forth in either the American National Standards Institute Underwriters' Laboratories, Inc. or by a nationally recognized testing laboratory listed in the directory of approved testing laboratories established by the Office of the State Fire Marshal. In addition, this bill would provide that if the California Building Standards Commission adopts or updates building standards relating to these devices, the owner or owner's agent, who has installed a carbon monoxide device as required shall not be required to install a new device meeting the requirements of those building standards until the owner makes application for a permit for alterations, repairs, or additions to the dwelling unit, the cost of which exceeds one thousand dollars (\$1,000).

**SB 283 (DeSaulnier)**

Subject: Department of Water Resources: recycled water systems

Status: Signed by the Governor

This bill revises the date, to December 31, 2009, by which the Department of Water Resources, in consultation with the Department of Public Health, is required to adopt and submit regulations to the California Building Standards Commission that establish a state version of Chapter 16 of the Uniform Plumbing Code. These regulations are to provide design standards to safely plumb buildings with both potable and recycled water systems. Also, the bill requires the department to annually review and update the regulations, as necessary.

**SB 407 (Padilla)**

Subject: Property transfers: plumbing fixtures replacement

Status: Signed by the Governor

This bill establishes requirements for residential and commercial real property built and available for use on or before January 1, 1994, for replacing plumbing fixtures that are not water conserving.

**SB 408 (Padilla)**

Subject: California Environmental Quality Act: LEED exemption

Status: In the Senate Environmental Quality Committee

This bill would exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act any project that has been certified at the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design platinum level or higher, pursuant to the standards and certifications adopted by the United States Green Building Council.