

**INITIAL STATEMENT OF REASONS
FOR
PROPOSED BUILDING STANDARDS
OF THE
CALIFORNIA BUILDING STANDARDS COMMISSION (CBSC)
REGARDING AMENDMENTS TO THE 2010 CALIFORNIA BUILDING CODE (CBC),
CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS (CCR), TITLE 24, PART 2**

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 AND RATIONALE:

This proposed action by the CBSC amends the 2010 edition of the California Building Code (CBC). Amendments to the 2010 CBC will update interior environment provisions for attic ventilation and structural provisions for retaining walls in the most recent edition for use by individuals, businesses and state agencies.

CHAPTER 12 – INTERIOR ENVIRONMENT

Section 1203.2 Attic spaces.

CBSC proposes to amend this section on attic ventilation to allow an exception locally for atmospheric or climatic conditions where the requirements are not deemed necessary by the building official. In many cases it is not possible to provide cross ventilation. Additionally, attic ventilation, which removes moisture due to condensation, is not warranted in all climate zones where temperature gradients between conditioned and unconditioned spaces are relatively small.

This change has been approved for the 2012 International Building Code. This proposal will not increase construction costs.

CHAPTER 18 – SOILS AND FOUNDATIONS

Section 1803.5.12 Seismic Design Category D, E or F.

CBSC proposes to amend this section to delete a current requirement for retaining walls that is onerous. The Division of the State Architect and the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development recognized this several years ago and limit its application to retaining walls higher than 12 ft. for projects under their respective authorities, primarily public schools and hospitals.

This change was approved for the 2012 International Building Code and was brought to the Structural Design/Lateral Forces Code Advisory Committee that advises CBSC in the last code cycle. At that time, the agencies were unable to act on it, though the code advisory committee recommended its adoption. This proposed change will not increase construction costs, and should decrease cost.

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

There were no formal studies or reports used as the basis for the proposed amendment to the California Building Code.

CONSIDERATION OF REASONABLE ALTERNATIVES

CBSC has not identified reasonable alternatives to this proposed action.

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

No alternatives were identified to lessen the adverse impact on small businesses, since no adverse impact is anticipated from these minor changes.

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

No facts, evidence, documents, testimony, or other evidence of any significant adverse economic impact on business have been identified.

DUPLICATION OR CONFLICTS WITH FEDERAL REGULATIONS

There are no federal regulations related to this proposed action.