

**BUILDING STANDARDS COMMISSION**

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## **BUILDING STANDARDS INFORMATION BULLETIN 13-03**

**DATE:** July 1, 2013

**TO:** LOCAL BUILDING OFFICIALS  
INTERESTED PARTIES

**SUBJECT:** 2013 California Building Standards Code

The 2013 edition of the California Building Standards Code, Title 24, California Code of Regulations (13 Parts) is published and available for purchase. This bulletin provides information concerning the effective date and application, the availability of the 2013 California Building Standards Code, and local amendment of the building standards.

### **Effective Date and Application of the 2013 Code**

January 1, 2014 is the statewide effective date established by the California Building Standards Commission for the 2013 California Building Standards Code.

As provided for in California Health and Safety Code, Section 18938.5, Building Standards Law, the 2013 building standards approved by the commission and that are effective at the local level at the time an application for a building permit is submitted, applies to the plans and specifications, for, and to the construction performed under that permit.

The 2010 California Building Standards Code remains in effect and is applicable to all plans and specifications, for, and to the construction performed under that building permit where the application for a building permit is submitted to the local jurisdiction on or before December 31, 2013.

### **Availability of the 2013 California Building Standards Code**

The 2013 Code may be purchased through the following publishers:

- International Code Council (ICC)  
Online store: [www.shop.iccsafe.org](http://www.shop.iccsafe.org)  
Email: [order@iccsafe.org](mailto:order@iccsafe.org) or [ecodes@iccsafe.org](mailto:ecodes@iccsafe.org)  
Telephone: ICC Store (800)786-4452

- International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials (IAPMO)  
Online Store: [www.iapm-membership.org](http://www.iapm-membership.org)  
Email: [publications@iapmo.org](mailto:publications@iapmo.org)  
Telephone: (909) 472-4208
- National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) / BNi Books  
Online store: [www.bnibooks.com](http://www.bnibooks.com)  
Telephone: (888) 264-2665

### **Enforcement Responsibility**

The California Building Standards Code, Title 24, is the established minimum regulations for the design and construction of buildings and structures in California. State law mandates that local government enforce these regulations, or local ordinances with qualified reasonably necessary and generally more restrictive building standards than provided for in the California Building Standards Code.

Exceptions are building standards applicable to hospitals, state buildings, public schools and colleges that are subject to enforcement by state agencies. For detailed information regarding enforcement responsibilities, refer to Chapter 1, Division 1, commencing with Section 1.1, of the 2013 California Building Code, Part 2, Volume 1 of Title 24.

[Reference Health & Safety Code (HSC) Sections 17950, 17958.7, 17960, 18938, 18941.5]

### **Amendment by Local Ordinance**

Local ordinances amending building standards approved/adopted by the Commission are subject to requirements of California law. Ordinances generally must be more restrictive standards than the building standards approved/adopted by the Commission. These amendments must be filed, as appropriate, with either the Building Standards Commission or the Department of Housing and Community Development.

Unlike California Building Standards Law, the State Housing Law (Health and Safety Code, Division 13, Part 1.5) pertaining to residential occupancies does not specify that local amendments be more restrictive.

The Commission has issued a number of information bulletins relative to local government's amendment via ordinance and the required filings. These bulletins are available on the commission's website [www.bsc.ca.gov](http://www.bsc.ca.gov) under the

“Publications” tab. The most recently issued bulletins on the subject are Building Standards Bulletin [10-03](#) and [11-01](#). Additionally, examples of successfully filed local ordinances are available at the commission’s website under the “Codes” tab and identified as [Local Filings](#) .

[Reference Health & Safety Code (HSC) Sections 17950, 17958, 17958.5, 17958.7, 18938, 18941.5]

Questions or comments regarding the subject of this bulletin should be directed to this office at either (916) 263-0916 or via e-mail at [cbisc@dgs.ca.gov](mailto:cbisc@dgs.ca.gov).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim McGowan", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Jim McGowan  
Executive Director