

**INITIAL STATEMENT OF REASONS
FOR
PROPOSED BUILDING STANDARDS
OF THE
OFFICE OF STATEWIDE HEALTH PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT**

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

ADOPTION OF THE 2009 UNIFORM MECHANICAL CODE

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:

OVERVIEW

The Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development (OSHPD) is mandated to adopt the most recent edition of model code, as amended by Office, pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 18928. This proposed rulemaking represents OSHPD's proposal to adopt the 2009 Uniform Mechanical Code (UMC) published by International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials (IAPMO) and carry forward existing California amendments into the 2010 California Mechanical Code (CMC). It was also necessary to propose a few editorial and minor technical modifications to the existing requirements for clarification and consistency within the code as identified below:

STATEMENT OF SPECIFIC PURPOSE AND RATIONALE:

California Chapter 1 and Appendix Chapter 1

"California Chapter 1, General Code Provisions" is being retitled to "Chapter 1, California Administration, Division I". "Appendix Chapter 1, Administration", is being retitled as "Administration, Division II" and is being moved from the back of the code publication to the front and will follow Chapter 1, California Administration, Division I. These changes are meant to provide a more user-friendly format.

Section 203.0 -A- Definitions

"Air relief" - Editorial amendment.

"Authority Having Jurisdiction" – Editorial amendment.

Section 204.0 -B- Definitions

"Building Code"- Editorial amendment.

"Building Official"- Editorial amendment.

Section 210.0 -H- Definitions

"Health Facilities [OSHPD 1, 2, 3 & 4] - Editorial amendment.

Section 217.0 -O- Definitions

"Occupancy Classification"- This amendment is being repealed. OSHPD is adopting model code language to provide consistency and coordination with the Occupancy Classifications in Title 24, Part 2, California Building Code.

Section 303.2 Room Large in Comparison to Size of Equipment

Section 304.2 of the 2007 CMC is being moved to Section 303.2 in the 2010 CMC. This modification is necessary to make the section number consistent with the 2009 UMC format.

Section 312.0 Water Supply

Editorial amendment.

Section 315.1 Requirements for Hospitals and Optional Services Provided in Correctional Treatment Centers

These amendments are consistent with the nationally recognized standard ANSI/ASHRAE/ASHE Standard 170-2008, Ventilation of Health Care Facilities.

Table 315.0 Heating, Cooling and Relative Humidity Requirements for Sensitive Areas or Rooms

The amendments to this table are consistent with the nationally recognized standard ANSI/ASHRAE/ASHE Standard 170-2008, Ventilation of Health Care Facilities. Footnote 4 is for clarity and coordination with Title 24, Part 2, California Building Code.

Section 316.0 and 316.5 Essential Mechanical Provisions

The purpose of this modification is to provide clarification and consistency with Title 24, Part 3, California Electrical Code.

Section 407.5.1 Variable Air Volume Systems

This amendment provides a less restrictive requirement for hospitals using Variable Air Volume Systems (VAV) for rooms that have no requirement for continuous directional control.

Section 410.1 Laboratory Ventilating Systems and Hoods

2006 AIA Guidelines for Design and Construction of Health Care Facilities. The amendments clarify existing requirements and coordinates with requirements in Title 24, Part 2, California Building Code.

Section 416.1 Alarms – Airborne Infection Isolation Rooms and Protective Environment Rooms.

This amendment is consistent with the nationally recognized standard ANSI/ASHRAE/ASHE Standard 170-2008, Ventilation of Health Care Facilities.

Section 1106.3.1 Refrigerant Service Ports

This amendment requires refrigerant service ports be fitted with locking-type tamper-resistant caps. The existing model code does not address the issue of accessibility to potentially dangerous chemical Chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs/Freon) by untrained and unlicensed individuals. Because Freon is easily accessible, "huffing", which refers to the inhalation of Freon and other chemicals, has been on the rise over the past few years not only among pre-teens and teenagers but among adults as well. The National Institute on Drug Abuse reports that one in five American teens have used inhalants to get high. This amendment will have a positive impact on the safety and health of our citizens, especially our youth. It will reduce the number of deaths associated with Inhalant abuse.

Section 1131.1

This OSHPD amendment is being repealed because the requirement has been added to Section 1131.0 of the 2009 Uniform Mechanical Code.

Table 11-1 Refrigerant Groups, Properties and Allowable Quantities

Table 11-1, Footnote No. 13 is being repealed because OSHPD is adopting model code as appropriate requirements.

Table 11-2 Permissible Refrigerant Systems

The amendments to this table add Occupancy I- 2.1 to coordinate with occupancy groups and divisions in Title 24, Part 2, California Building Code.

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

There are no documents to identify.

CONSIDERATION OF REASONABLE ALTERNATIVES

No reasonable alternatives exist.

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

No adverse impact on small business.

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

No adverse impact on business.

DUPLICATION OR CONFLICTS WITH FEDERAL REGULATIONS

Not applicable.