

ACCESSING CALIFORNIA STATE LAWS, REGULATIONS AND LEGISLATION ONLINE



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C A L I F O R N I A
BUILDING STANDARDS COMMISSION

Acknowledgements

Governor Gavin Newsom

Secretary of the Government Operations Agency, Yolanda Richardson

Director of the Department of General Services, Daniel C. Kim

Members of the California Building Standards Commission

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Vice Chair, Rajesh Patel

Commissioners:

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Erick Mikiten

Elley Klausbruckner

Peter Santillan

Juvilyn Alegre

Aaron Stockwell

Laura Rambin

Licensed Contractor (vacant)

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Deputy Executive Director, Michael Nearman

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Accessing California State Laws, Regulations and Legislation Online

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Part 1: Introduction

This educational publication is intended to assist users of the California Building Standards Code, Title 24 of the California Code of Regulations (Title 24) who may need to access state laws, regulations and legislation online. Users such as state and local government officials, those who work in the building trades and interested members of the public may need to review state laws relating to the design, construction and use of buildings, the development of building standards in Title 24, or the mandates for enforcement by local government.

Laws and Regulations: What's the difference?

For those who don't work in government or who may not be familiar with the process, it can be challenging to understand the difference between laws and regulations. Following is a brief explanation.

California state regulations contained in the California Code of Regulations (CCR) implement, interpret or make specific the laws enforced or administered by them, and include building standards. State laws authorize the adoption, creation and enforcement of regulations, and are enacted by the legislative process involving the legislative and executive branches of state government. The legislative branch consists of the two houses of the state legislature—the Senate and Assembly. The executive branch is under the leadership of the governor, who signs or vetoes bills passed by the legislature, or allows legislation to become law without action.

There are 29 separate codes that make up the body of California state law:

Business and Professions Code	Fish and Game Code
Civil Code	Food and Agricultural Code
Code of Civil Procedures	Government Code
Commercial Code	Harbors and Navigation Code
Corporations Code	Health and Safety Code
Education Code	Insurance Code
Elections Code	Labor Code
Evidence Code	Military and Veterans Code
Family Code	Penal Code
Financial Code	Probate Code

Public Contract Code
Public Resources Code
Public Utility Code
Revenue and Taxation Code
Streets and Highways Code

Unemployment Insurance Code
Vehicle Code
Water Code
Welfare and Institutions Code

When a bill becomes law, it is added to one of these 29 codes. Then, regulations will be developed by the appropriate state agency(ies) to implement the intent of the law. The regulations will be published in one or more of the 28 titles of the California Code of Regulations (CCR). Title 24 of the CCR is the California Building Standards Code and is reserved for building standards.

The 28 titles within the California Code of Regulations are:

Title 1	General Provisions	Title 15	Crime Prevention & Corrections
Title 2	Administration	Title 16	Professional & Vocational
Title 3	Food & Agriculture	Title 17	Public Health
Title 4	Business Regulations	Title 18	Public Revenues
Title 5	Education	Title 19	Public Safety
Title 6	Vacant	Title 20	Public Utilities & Energy
Title 7	Harbors & Navigation	Title 21	Public Works
Title 8	Industrial Relations	Title 22	Social Security
Title 9	Rehabilitative & Developmental Services	Title 23	Waters
Title 10	Investment	Title 24	Building Standards Code
Title 11	Law	Title 25	Housing & Community Devel.
Title 12	Military & Veterans Affairs	Title 26	Toxics
Title 13	Motor Vehicles	Title 27	Environmental Protection
Title 14	Natural Resources	Title 28	Managed Health Care

How are laws and regulations similar?

- Laws and regulations are similar in that they specify and organize behaviors and standards expected from the constituents of the jurisdiction (a city, county, state or country). Laws and regulations are basically rules that are established to create conformity within a jurisdiction.

- According to statutes governing the creation of laws and regulations, public meetings or hearings must be held to allow public testimony or comments to be heard before an entity decides to adopt, change or eliminate a law or regulation.
- Laws and regulations are enforced to the extent allowed by law.

How are laws and regulations different?

- Laws go through the legislative process before being enacted (established as law). Proposed laws, known as “bills,” begin as an idea. A sponsor of the idea—who is a senate or assembly member—“authors” the bill and sends it to the Legislative Counsel, where it is drafted into an official bill that will be printed and introduced to the appropriate legislative house. After a 30-day waiting period, the bill is presented to various committees, read and debated, and subjected to fiscal hearings. Throughout the process, bills are posted on the [Legislative Information website](http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov) at leginfo.legislature.ca.gov where the public can give input at any time. Finally, if the bill has not died during the above process, it will be voted on. A new law (or change to or repeal of an existing law) must pass through both houses of the state legislature (senate and assembly) before going to the governor to be signed into law, vetoed or allowed to become law without action.
- Regulations, also known as codes, are created by state agencies to implement laws. Individual state agencies have specific areas of authority for which they prepare regulations. For example, the Department of Housing and Community Development writes regulations that affect California’s homes and communities, including building standards for residential occupancies; the State Fire Marshal writes regulations that apply to fire and panic safety, among other topics. Each state agency is required to solicit public input as they develop regulations to ensure that they meet the intent of the law.
- Laws apply to everyone equally, while regulations affect those who work or live where the regulations apply. Although everyone interacts with the built environment, the segments of society that deal most with building standards are designers, architects, engineers, those in the building trades and building officials who enforce the regulations.

All information regarding the legislative process is available to the public online. Any interested party can follow a bill through the process of public input to the governor's action making the bill law, and then follow the creation of regulations to implement the law by accessing the appropriate state agency website(s).

The next section will help you search for laws that are the basis of state regulations.

Part 2: Accessing California State Laws Online

California State Laws Related to Building Standards

Eight of the 29 California codes contain provisions relating to buildings, or specific areas or features of buildings: the Business and Professions Code, Education Code, Food and Agricultural Code, Government Code, Health and Safety Code, Penal Code, Public Resources Code and the Water Code. These state laws provide the methods and authority for various state agencies to develop or adopt building standards (regulations) that are found in the California Building Standards Code, Title 24 of the California Code of Regulations (Title 24). Notable state laws include:

- **Health and Safety Code, Division 13, Part 2.5, Sections 18901 to 18949.31.** This body of state law is known as the California Building Standards Law. It establishes the California Building Standards Commission (CBSC), the process for adopting Title 24 and many mandates for local government regarding buildings.
- **Health and Safety Code, Division 13, Part 1.5, Sections 17910 to 17998.3,** known as the State Housing Law, require the Department of Housing and Community Development and the Office of the State Fire Marshal to develop building standards for Title 24 to regulate housing occupancies. This law also includes many mandates to be carried out by local government.
- **Government Code Sections 11340 through 11361** contain what is known as the Administrative Procedure Act (APA). This body of law establishes the Office of Administrative Law, which ensures fairness, uniformity and public access to the rulemaking process. Section 11340.6 specifically allows any interested person to petition a state agency to request adoption, amendment, or repeal of a regulation. Sections 11346 through 11348 mandate public participation in the state agencies' process of developing and adopting regulations (not just building standards).
- **Government Code Sections 12955 through 12955.1.1** establish accessibility requirements in multifamily dwellings, and the requirement for the Department of Housing and Community Development to develop building standards for accessibility in and about privately funded multifamily dwellings, and for the Division of the State Architect to develop building standards for accessibility in and about publicly funded housing.
- **Government Code Sections 4450 through 4461** establish accessibility requirements in public buildings and for sidewalks, and require the Division of the State Architect to develop the building standards for such buildings and sidewalks.

- **Health and Safety Code, Division 13, Parts 5.3 and 5.5, Sections 19952 through 19959.5** establish accessibility requirements in privately funded buildings open to the public, and for commercial facilities, and require the Division of the State Architect to develop the building standards for such buildings and associated surroundings.
- **Health and Safety Code, Division 12, Part 2, Sections 13100 through 13263** establish fire and panic safety requirements, and require the Office of the State Fire Marshal to develop building standards and other regulations for fire safety in buildings.

State laws that authorize or require the adoption, development and/or enforcement of building standards are listed as “Authority” and “Reference” citations within the regulations in all parts of Title 24.

Accessing California Laws Online

Existing California state laws are accessible on the [California Legislative Information website](http://leginfo.ca.gov) at leginfo.legislature.ca.gov. Select the *California Law* tab to see a list of the 29 California Codes.

The screenshot shows the California Legislative Information website interface. At the top right, there are links for "skip to content", "home", and "a:". Below the header is a navigation menu with tabs: "Home", "Bill Information", "California Law", "Publications", "Other Resources", "My Subscriptions", and "My Favorites". Under the "California Law" tab, there is a "Code Search" link. Below the navigation is a search bar with "Code: [S]". The main content area has two tabs: "Code Search" (selected) and "Text Search". Under "Code Search", there is a list of California codes arranged in three columns. An orange arrow points to "Health and Safety Code - HSC" in the middle column.

California Constitution - CONS		
Business and Professions Code - BPC	Financial Code - FIN	Probate Code - PROB
Civil Code - CIV	Fish and Game Code - FGC	Public Contract Code - PCC
Code of Civil Procedure - CCP	Food and Agricultural Code - FAC	Public Resources Code - PRC
Commercial Code - COM	Government Code - GOV	Public Utilities Code - PUC
Corporations Code - CORP	Harbors and Navigation Code - HNC	Revenue and Taxation Code - RTC
Education Code - EDC	Health and Safety Code - HSC	Streets and Highways Code - SHC
Elections Code - ELEC	Insurance Code - INS	Unemployment Insurance Code - UIC
Evidence Code - EVID	Labor Code - LAB	Vehicle Code - VEH
Family Code - FAM	Military and Veterans Code - MVC	Water Code - WAT
	Penal Code - PEN	Welfare and Institutions Code - WIC

Many laws mandating the development of building standards are contained in the Health and Safety Code. Selecting “Health and Safety Code – HSC” from the list results in a page showing all of the divisions of the HSC.

Health and Safety Code - HSC

GENERAL PROVISIONS

DIVISION 1. ADMINISTRATION OF PUBLIC HEALTH [135 - 1179.102]

DIVISION 1.5. USE OF SECLUSION AND BEHAVIORAL RESTRAINTS IN FACILITIES [1180 - 1180.6]

DIVISION 2. LICENSING PROVISIONS [1200 - 1797.8]

DIVISION 2.5. EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES [1797 - 1799.207]

DIVISION 3. PEST ABATEMENT [2000 - 2910]

DIVISION 5. SANITATION [4600 - 6127]

DIVISION 6. SANITARY DISTRICTS [6400 - 6982]

DIVISION 7. DEAD BODIES [7000 - 8030]

DIVISION 8. CEMETERIES [8100 - 9703]

DIVISION 10. UNIFORM CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES ACT [11000 - 11651]

DIVISION 10.2. DRUG DEALER LIABILITY ACT [11700 - 11717]

DIVISION 10.5. ALCOHOL AND DRUG PROGRAMS [11750 - 11975]

DIVISION 10.6. DRUG AND ALCOHOL ABUSE MASTER PLANS [11998 - 11998.4]

DIVISION 10.7. ILLEGAL USE OF DRUGS AND ALCOHOL [11999 - 11999.3]

DIVISION 10.8. SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FUNDING [11999.4 - 11999.13]

DIVISION 10.9. SUBSTANCE ABUSE TESTING AND TREATMENT ACCOUNTABILITY PROGRAM [11999.20 - 11999.25]

DIVISION 11. EXPLOSIVES [12000 - 12761]

DIVISION 12. FIRES AND FIRE PROTECTION [13000 - 14959]

DIVISION 12.5. BUILDINGS USED BY THE PUBLIC [16000 - 16604]

→ DIVISION 13. HOUSING [17000 - 19997]

Division 13 is devoted to housing laws, and Part 2.5 is reserved for state building standards. Sections 18901 – 18949.31 of Part 2.5 are laws specific to the California Building Standards Commission and its activities. In all, Part 2.5 has seven chapters that contain state laws governing CBSC and other laws related to building standards.

→ **PART 2.5. STATE BUILDING STANDARDS**.....18901-18949.31

CHAPTER 1. General Provisions and Definitions.....18901-18919

ARTICLE 1. Title.....18901-18902

ARTICLE 2. Definitions.....18905-18919

CHAPTER 2. Organization.....18920-18929.1

ARTICLE 1. The California Building Standards Commission.....18920-18924

ARTICLE 2. The Executive Director of the State Building Standards Commission.....18925

ARTICLE 3. The Coordinating Council and Advisory Panels.....18926-18929.1

CHAPTER 3. Powers of the Commission.....18930-18934.9

CHAPTER 4. The California Building Standards Code.....18935-18944.18

CHAPTER 4.5. Guidelines for Straw-Bale Structures.....18944.30-18944.41

ARTICLE 1. General Provisions and Definitions.....18944.30-18944.33

ARTICLE 2. Guidelines for Materials.....18944.35

ARTICLE 3. Construction Guidelines.....18944.40-18944.41

CHAPTER 5. Appeals and Enforcement.....18945-18949

CHAPTER 6. Regulations.....18949.1-18949.7

CHAPTER 7. Construction Inspectors, Plans Examiners, and Building Officials.....18949.25-18949.31

Specific sections of the law can be accessed from this menu by clicking on the title of the section and scrolling through the content.

18941. All building standards shall be administered and enforced and, whenever practicable, written on a performance basis consistent with state and nationally recognized standards for building construction in view of the use and occupancy of each structure to preserve and protect the public health and safety.
(Amended by Stats. 1992, Ch. 897, Sec. 32. Effective January 1, 1993.)

18941.5. (a) (1) Amendments, additions, and deletions to the California Building Standards Code, including, but not limited to, green building standards, adopted by a city, county, or city and county pursuant to Section 18941.5 or pursuant to Section 17958.7, together with all applicable portions of the California Building Standards Code, shall become effective 180 days after publication of the California Building Standards Code by the commission, or at a later date after publication established by the commission.
 (2) The publication date established by the commission shall be no earlier than the date the California Building Standards Code is available for purchase by the public.
 (b) Neither the State Building Standards Law contained in this part, nor the application of building standards contained in this section, shall limit the authority of a city, county, or city and county to establish more restrictive building standards, including, but not limited to, green building standards, reasonably necessary because of local climatic, geological, or topographical conditions. The governing body shall make the finding required by Section 17958.7 and the other requirements imposed by Section 17958.7 shall apply to that finding. Nothing in this section shall limit the authority of fire protection districts pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 13869.7. Further, nothing in this section shall require findings required by Section 17958.7 beyond those currently required for more restrictive building standards related to housing.
(Amended by Stats. 2009, Ch. 89, Sec. 2. (AB 210) Effective January 1, 2010.)

18941.6. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of this part, ordinances and programs adopted on or before January 1, 1993, that contain standards to strengthen potentially hazardous buildings pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 8875.2 of the Government Code, shall incorporate the building standards in Appendix Chapter 1 of the Uniform Code for Building Conservation of the International Conference of Building Officials published in the California Building Standards Code, except for standards found by local ordinance to be inapplicable based on local conditions, as defined in subdivision (b), or based on an approved study pursuant to subdivision (c), or both. Ordinances and programs shall be updated in a timely manner to reflect changes in the model code, and more frequently if deemed necessary by local jurisdictions.
 (b) For the purpose of subdivision (a), and notwithstanding the meaning of "local conditions" as used elsewhere in this part and Part 2.5 (commencing with Section 18901), the term "local conditions" shall be limited to those conditions that affect the implementation of seismic strengthening standards on the following only:
 (1) The preservation of qualified historic structures as governed by the State Historical Building Code (Part 2.7 (commencing with Section 18950)).
 (2) Historic preservation programs, including, but not limited to, the California Mainstreet Program.
 (3) The preservation of affordable housing.
 (c) Any ordinance or program adopted on or before January 1, 1993, may include exceptions for local conditions not defined in subdivision (b) if the jurisdiction has approved a study on or before January 1, 1993, describing the effects of the exceptions. The study shall include a seismic hazards assessment, seismic retrofit cost comparisons, and earthquake damage estimates for a major earthquake, including the differences in costs, deaths, and injuries between full compliance with Appendix Chapter 1 of the Uniform Code for Building Conservation and the ordinance or program. No study shall be required pursuant to this subdivision if the exceptions for local conditions not defined in subdivision (b) result in standards or requirements that are more stringent than those in Appendix Chapter 1 of the Uniform Code for Building Conservation.

When the exact code name and section number are known, select the code abbreviation from the drop-down menu and enter the section number. Then, click on the *Search* button to navigate to the section entered.

State law can also be located by using the *Text Search* feature to search for words or phrases within a selected code. Enter key words in the boxes provided, select the box to the left of the code to search, then click the *Search* button.

The screenshot shows the California Legislative Information website's search interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for Home, Bill Information, California Law, Publications, Other Resources, My Subscriptions, and My Favorites. A 'Quick Search' box is also present. Below the navigation bar, the 'Text Search' tab is selected. The search criteria are set to 'building' AND 'egress'. The 'Select Codes' section shows that the 'Health and Safety Code - HSC' is selected, while all other codes are unselected. A 'Search' button is visible at the bottom of the search results area.

Searching for the words “building” and “egress” within the Health and Safety Code provides the results shown below:

The screenshot shows the search results page for the Health and Safety Code. The page displays a list of sections returned, including Article 6.6, Article 3, Article 4, Chapter 4, and Article 4, all related to building standards and regulations. The results are paginated, showing 'Page 1 of 2 pages'. The search criteria are 'building' and 'egress'. The results are filtered to show only the HSC section.

Scroll down through the page(s) of results to find the section of law desired, since sometimes a search will result in numerous pages where the words or phrases exist. The process can require some time to find the section of state law required, but this method will work when the section number is unknown.

For information on how to navigate through and apply various codes, whether printed or online, read CBSC's [Code Book Fundamentals](#), which includes detailed information regarding how codes are organized into different hierarchies, and how to understand application limitations and exceptions.

Part 3: California State Regulations

State regulations are detailed rules needed to **implement, interpret, or make specific** the provisions of state law. State regulations are adopted by state agencies in the executive branch of state government that are charged with the responsibility to implement a program or requirement established by state law. Whenever a state law requires or authorizes a state agency to establish regulations, those regulations are adopted into the California Code of Regulations (CCR) which is divided into 28 separate titles.

Title 1	General Provisions	Title 15	Crime Prevention & Corrections
Title 2	Administration	Title 16	Professional & Vocational
Title 3	Food & Agriculture	Title 17	Public Health
Title 4	Business Regulations	Title 18	Public Revenues
Title 5	Education	Title 19	Public Safety
Title 6	Vacant	Title 20	Public Utilities and Energy
Title 7	Harbors & Navigation	Title 21	Public Works
Title 8	Industrial Relations	Title 22	Social Security
Title 9	Rehabilitative & Developmental Services	Title 23	Waters
Title 10	Investment	Title 24	Building Standards Code
Title 11	Law	Title 25	Housing & Community Development
Title 12	Military & Veterans Affairs	Title 26	Toxics
Title 13	Motor Vehicles	Title 27	Environmental Protection
Title 14	Natural Resources	Title 28	Managed Health Care

A title is either designated for a single subject or a state agency's regulations, and the enforcement of state regulations may be assigned to either state or local government.

Whenever a state regulation establishes a building standard as defined in Health and Safety Code Section 18909 (state law), the building standard is adopted into the California Building Standards Code, Title 24 of the California Code of Regulations (Title 24). Title 24 contains all building standards for the design and construction of buildings in California. Building standards are developed by state agencies having authority in state law to establish building standards for specific types of buildings or features of a building. The California Building Standards Commission (CBSC) is the state agency that oversees and coordinates the work of the state agencies responsible for building standards to be

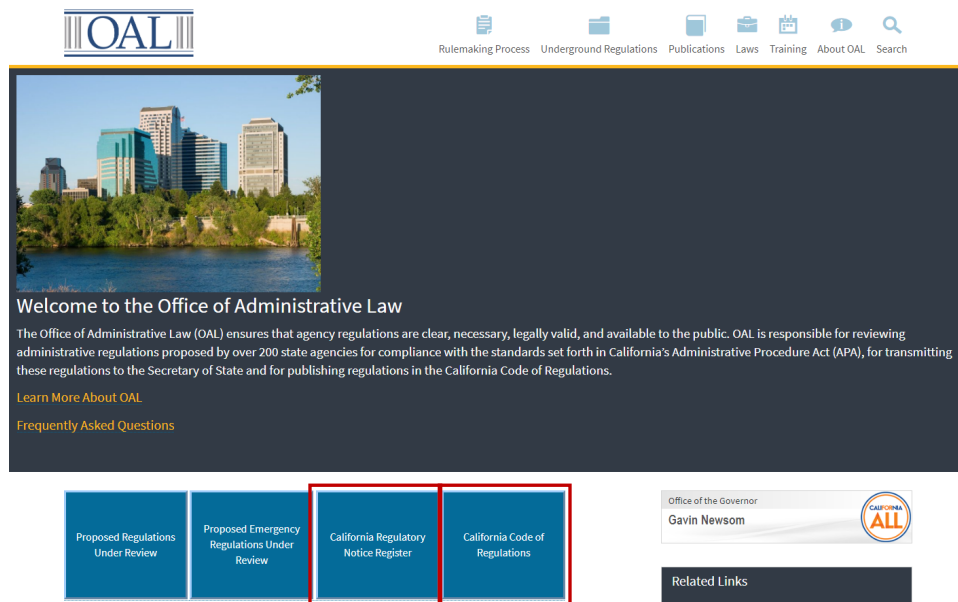
published in Title 24. CBSC also has authority to develop building standards for specific types of buildings.

In addition to Title 24, there are other regulations in the CCR relating to buildings that are not building standards as defined in Health and Safety Code Section 18909. Those regulations are located in titles other than Title 24. They are:

- Title 8, Division 1, Chapter 4, Subchapter 6, Group I through IV, commencing with Section 3000, regarding elevators, escalators, dumbwaiters, stairway chairlifts and other forms of conveyance adopted by the Department of Industrial Relations.
- Title 17, Division 1, Chapter 5, Subchapter 1, Articles 1 and 2, regarding protection of water systems, including backflow prevention and cross-connection control regulations adopted by the State Water Resources Control Board.
- Title 19, Division 1, Chapters 1 through 16, with adoptions by the Office of the State Fire Marshal regarding general fire and panic safety, fire alarms, extinguishers, tents, awnings and more.
- Title 20, Division 2, Chapter 4, regarding insulation, appliance efficiency, load management, California Home Energy Rating System Program, and building energy use data benchmarking regulations adopted by the California Energy Commission.
- Title 21, Division 1, Chapter 1, with six subchapters of adoptions by the Division of the State Architect on the subjects of access to public buildings, excess flow gas shut off valves, the Certified Access Specialist program, construction of public schools and more.
- Title 22, Division 4, Chapter 3, Articles 1 through 5, with adoptions by the State Water Resources Control Board regarding recycled water use criteria for dual plumbed recycled water systems.
- Title 25, Division 1, Chapters 1 through 7, adopted by the Department of Housing and Community Development on the subjects of the State Housing Law, Employee Housing Act, Mobilehome Parts Act, Manufactured Housing Act of 1980 and more.

Accessing State Regulations Online

The Office of Administrative Law (OAL) is responsible for overseeing the adoption of most of the CCR, with the exception of Title 24, and for maintaining public internet access via the [OAL website](http://oal.ca.gov), oal.ca.gov. Title 24 is available on [CBSC's website](http://dgs.ca.gov/BSC/Codes), dgs.ca.gov/BSC/Codes.



There's a considerable amount of information about state regulations and the code adoption process, also known as rulemaking, available on the [OAL website](http://oal.ca.gov). Additionally, there are links to the California Regulatory Notice Register (announcements of proposed regulations), publications and training. Visit the various links on this webpage to become familiar with the many services offered by OAL.

For information about following the creation of building standards via the code development process for Title 24, also known as rulemaking, read CBSC's [Public Guide to the Building Standards Adoption Process](#) which is designed for the general public, or the [Guide for Creating Proposed Building Standards](#), written for state agencies involved in the code development process. Both are available on [CBSC's Resources webpage](#).

Clicking on the California Code of Regulations box on the [OAL homepage](http://oal.ca.gov) directs users to Thomson Reuters Westlaw website which hosts the California Code of Regulations. Use the search function to find regulations by one of four options: Search for Words, Search within Specific Title(s), Search for a Specific Regulatory Section, or Find a Specific

Regulatory Agency. Note that searching Title 24 will produce zero results, since Title 24 is not hosted by OAL, however the link goes to [CBSC's website for Title 24](#).

The screenshot shows the 'California Code of Regulations' page on the Thomson Reuters Westlaw platform. The page features a dark header with the Westlaw logo and navigation links for Home, Updates, Search, and Help. Below the header, the page title 'California Code of Regulations' is displayed. A welcome message states that the site has been upgraded and is maintained by Thomson Reuters. A note indicates that cookies must be enabled for access. The main content area contains a list of 28 titles, each with a blue hyperlink. The titles are: Title 1. General Provisions, Title 2. Administration, Title 3. Food and Agriculture, Title 4. Business Regulations, Title 5. Education, Title 7. Harbors and Navigation, Title 8. Industrial Relations, Title 9. Rehabilitative and Developmental Services, Title 10. Investment, Title 11. Law, Title 12. Military and Veterans Affairs, Title 13. Motor Vehicles, Title 14. Natural Resources, Title 15. Crime Prevention and Corrections, Title 16. Professional and Vocational Regulations, Title 17. Public Health, Title 18. Public Revenues, Title 19. Public Safety, Title 20. Public Utilities and Energy, Title 21. Public Works, Title 22. Social Security, Title 23. Waters, Title 24. Building Standards Code (with an external link icon), Title 25. Housing and Community Development, Title 26. Toxics, Title 27. Environmental Protection, and Title 28. Managed Health Care.

To search for Section 16 of Title 25, enter the title and section numbers in the appropriate boxes.

The screenshot shows the search interface on the California Code of Regulations website. It features a 'Search' header with four tabs: 'Search for Words', 'Search within Specific Title(s)', 'Search for a Specific Regulatory Section', and 'Find a Specific Regulatory Agency'. The 'Search for a Specific Regulatory Section' tab is selected. Below the tabs, there are two input fields: 'Title' with the value '25' and 'Section' with the value '16'. A green 'Search' button is located at the bottom of the form.

The above search will result in a page with a link to the text of the regulation(s).

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Home Updates Search Help

1 Search Results for: 'advanced: ci(25 ca adc s 16)'

1. 25 CCR § 16
Barclays Official California Code of Regulations Title 25. Housing and Community Development Division 1. Housing and Community Development Chapter 1. State Housing Law Regulations and Earthquake Protection Law Regulations Subchapter 1. State Housing Law Regulations Article 3. Administration and Enforcement, § 16. Permits to Construct.

[Edit Search](#)

THOMSON REUTERS
WESTLAW California Code of Regulations

Home Updates Search Help

[Home](#) > [Table of Contents](#)

§ 16. Permits to Construct.
25 CA ADC § 16
BARCLAYS OFFICIAL CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS

Term >

Barclays Official California Code of Regulations [Currentness](#)
Title 25. Housing and Community Development
Division 1. Housing and Community Development
Chapter 1. State Housing Law Regulations and Earthquake Protection Law Regulations
Subchapter 1. State Housing Law Regulations
Article 3. Administration and Enforcement

25 CCR § 16

§ 16. Permits to Construct.

No person shall erect, construct, enlarge, convert, alter, repair, move, remove, or demolish any building or structure subject to the provisions of this subchapter without first obtaining a written construction permit from the enforcing agency unless such work is exempted, as specified in the California Building Standards Code, California Code of Regulations Title 24, this subchapter, or the other rules and regulations promulgated pursuant to Section 17921 of the California Health and Safety Code. Exemption from permit requirements shall not be deemed to grant authorization for any work to be done in violation of the provisions of the California Building Standards Code, this subchapter, other state laws, or ordinances lawfully enacted by the local enforcing agency.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 17003.5, 17921, 50061.5 and 50559, Health and Safety Code. Reference: Sections 17921 and 17922, Health and Safety Code.

HISTORY

1. Amendment of section and Note filed 11-8-2006; operative 12-8-2006 (Register 2006, No. 45).

This database is current through 11/16/18 Register 2018, No. 46

25 CCR § 16, << 25 CA ADC § 16 >>

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If the title or section number is not known, search by keywords within all of the CCR or within selected titles, using the names of the titles to narrow the search to the subject of interest. Then, continue drilling down through the menus of contents to find the appropriate regulation.

Search

[Search for Words](#) **Search within Specific Title(s)**

Titles

- TITLE 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS
- TITLE 2. ADMINISTRATION
- TITLE 3. FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
- TITLE 4. BUSINESS REGULATIONS
- TITLE 5. EDUCATION
- TITLE 7. HARBORS AND NAVIGATION
- TITLE 8. INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS
- TITLE 9. REHABILITATIVE AND DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES
- TITLE 10. INVESTMENT

Search Terms

Restrict search to the most recent regulation updates

Search

Remember, Title 24 is not searchable on OAL's site.

To find Title 24 regulations, visit the [Codes tab](#) of CBSC's website. CBSC posts links to the websites of the publishers of Title 24. Due to copyright limitations, these codes are not available for download or printing without purchasing them from the publisher. CBSC staff is happy to assist users with finding regulations for many non-residential applications. Staff can also refer callers to the state agencies with jurisdiction over other parts of Title 24 such as the residential, fire or energy codes. Users can also access a listing of state agencies and their regulatory jurisdictions on the [Contact tab](#) of CBSC's website.

The screenshot displays the Building Standards Commission website. The top navigation bar includes links for Home, Codes, Rulemaking, Forms, Resources, News, Calendars, About, and Contact. A search bar is located on the right. The main content area is titled 'Codes' and features several sections:

- LOCAL AMENDMENTS TO BUILDING STANDARDS - ORDINANCES**: Includes a link for 'ORDINANCES'.
- APPEALS INFORMATION**: Includes a link for 'APPEALS'.
- CALIFORNIA BUILDING STANDARDS CODE (CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 24)**: Provides an overview of the code, stating it is a compilation of three types of building standards: adopted by state agencies, adopted and adapted from national model codes, and authorized by the California legislature.

A modal window titled '2019 TRIENNIAL EDITION OF TITLE 24' is open, listing the following parts of the code:

- PART 1 - CALIFORNIA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE**
 - Errata (non-substantive corrections): TBD
 - Supplement: TBD
- PART 2 - CALIFORNIA BUILDING CODE**
 - Volume 1 of Part 2
 - Errata (non-substantive corrections): TBD
 - Supplement: TBD
 - Volume 2 of Part 2
 - Errata (non-substantive corrections): TBD
 - Supplement: TBD
- PART 2.5 - CALIFORNIA RESIDENTIAL CODE**
 - Errata (non-substantive corrections): TBD
 - Supplement: TBD
- PART 3 - CALIFORNIA ELECTRICAL CODE**
 - Errata (non-substantive corrections): TBD
 - Supplement: TBD
- PART 4 - CALIFORNIA MECHANICAL CODE**
 - Errata (non-substantive corrections): TBD
 - Supplement: TBD
- PART 5 - CALIFORNIA PLUMBING CODE**
 - Errata (non-substantive corrections): TBD
 - Supplement: TBD
- PART 6 - CALIFORNIA ENERGY CODE**
- PART 7 - Vacant - formerly California Elevator Safety Construction Code (see Cal. Code Regs., Title 8)**
- PART 8* - CALIFORNIA HISTORICAL BUILDING CODE**
- PART 9 - CALIFORNIA FIRE CODE**
 - Errata (non-substantive corrections): TBD
 - Supplement: TBD
- PART 10* - CALIFORNIA EXISTING BUILDING CODE**
 - Errata (non-substantive corrections): TBD
 - Supplement: TBD
- PART 11 - CALIFORNIA GREEN BUILDING STANDARDS CODE** also referred as **CALGreen**
 - Errata (non-substantive corrections): TBD
 - Supplement: TBD
- PART 12* - CALIFORNIA REFERENCED STANDARDS CODE**
 - Errata (non-substantive corrections): TBD
 - Supplement: TBD

At the bottom of the page, there is a section for the '2019-2020 18-MONTH CALENDAR' and a video player titled 'About Title 24'.

Part 4: Accessing California State Legislation Online

Legislation is the process by which bills become the laws ([Part 2 of this guide](#)) that are then clarified and implemented by regulations ([Part 3 of this guide](#)). Constituents can follow the legislative process for areas of interest by visiting the [California Legislative Information website](#).

Following are some common terms and abbreviations you will encounter when accessing legislation online.

Abbreviations and Common Terms Relating to Legislation:

AB: Assembly Bill. See Bill Identification Numbers.

Bill or Legislative Bill: A written legislative proposal introduced in either the California Assembly or Senate. A bill is a proposal to amend or repeal state law, or to enact new state law. The bill's contents are not law until the bill is passed by both the assembly and senate, then acted on by the governor, and finally, chaptered by the Secretary of State (SOS).

Bill Identification Numbers: Identification numbers are assigned to bills in the order of their introduction. If introduced in the California Assembly, the bill gets an AB number. A bill introduced in the California Senate is assigned an SB number. The assembly and senate assign bill numbers sequentially within each chamber during each legislative session, so there can be an AB 100 and an SB 100 in the same legislative session, yet proposing very different legislation. Alternatively, bills in both houses proposing similar legislation will most likely have different bill numbers.

Chaptered. Each bill that is passed by the two houses of the legislature and signed by the governor, or allowed to become law without signature, is sent to the Secretary of State's (SOS) office, where it is assigned a permanent chapter number. For example, when fictional-bill AB 100 is enacted, it is given chapter number 551 by the SOS, indicating it is the 551st bill to pass during the current legislative session. All future printings of the bill by the legislature will include both the bill identification number and the chapter number. If AB 100 passed in the 2019 legislative session, it will be referred to as AB 100, Chapter 551 of the 2019 Statutes. From this point on, even though it does happen, it is technically incorrect to refer to the bill by only its original bill number AB 100 because bill numbers are reused.

Enactment or Enacted into Law. Enactment is another way to refer to the final act of a bill being chaptered and becoming law.

Enrolled. A bill that is enrolled, or marked, is a bill that has passed the two houses of the legislature and has been sent to the governor for approval or veto. The bill will become law only if signed by the governor, or if the governor takes no action after 30 days (not a popular option).

Legislative Session. A California legislative session is two years in length. New bills may be introduced in the first and second year of the session. A bill that does not pass in the first year, but remains active, may be passed in the second year.

SB. Senate Bill. See Bill Identification Numbers.

Review the *Glossary of Terms* on the legislature's website under the [Publications tab](#) for more key words and terms relating to legislation.

The screenshot shows the navigation menu of the California Legislative Information website. The 'Publications' tab is selected. Below the menu, the page title is 'Legislative Publications >> Glossary of Terms'. The main heading is 'GLOSSARY OF LEGISLATIVE TERMS' with a navigation bar for letters A through Z. The letter 'A' is selected. The definitions listed are: **ACROSS THE DESK**: The official act of introducing a bill or resolution. The measure is given to the Chief Clerk or his or her representative at the Assembly Desk in the Assembly Chamber or to the Secretary of the Senate or his or her representative in the Senate Chamber. It then receives a number, is sent to the State Printer, and becomes a public document available in the bill room. Amendments are also "put across the desk."
ACT: A bill passed by the Legislature and approved by the Governor.
ACTION: Disposition of any question before the Legislature.
ADJOURN IN MEMORY (AIM): A Member may request that the Assembly or Senate session be adjourned in the memory of a person. This request must be in writing and shall be read by the Presiding Officer prior to the adjournment of session.
ADJOURNMENT: Termination of a meeting, occurring at the close of each legislative day upon the completion of business, accomplished by a successful motion to end session, with the hour and day of the next meeting being set prior to adjournment.
ADJOURNMENT SINE DIE: Literally, "adjournment without day," meaning no days left; final termination of the two-year legislative session. Regular or special sessions of the Legislature are adjourned sine die at midnight on November 30 of each even-numbered year.
ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE ACT (APA): A statute containing required procedures for rule-making and administrative hearings. (Chapter 3.5, 4, and 5 [commencing with Section 11340] of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code.)

Accessing state legislation online

California legislative bills may be accessed in person at the state capitol, from legislative bill service companies, via industry and trade organizations, and through the California Legislature's website. Interested parties can obtain specific bill numbers by subscribing to mailing lists or newsletters, reading trade magazines or blogs, or frequenting news outlets that cover the subject matter of interest. For instance, the California Building Standards Commission (CBSC) routinely publishes a list of legislation affecting building standards in its quarterly newsletter.

Since November 2016, all legislative information from 1999 to the present is located on the [California Legislative Information website](#) at leginfo.legislature.ca.gov. Legislative activity information prior to 1999 can be found on the [legislative information archive website](#) at leginfo.ca.gov.

The current legislative information site provides access to proposed legislative bills, a subscription service for legislative alerts, and the ability to select bills for follow-up and tracking. The legislative schedule is shown on the left side of the screen, and quick links are provided on the right. A quick search feature is available on the *Home* page, or select the *Bill Information* tab to refine a search even more.

The screenshot shows the California Legislative Information website. At the top left is the California State Capitol logo and the text "California LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION". To the right are navigation links: "skip to content", "home", "accessibility", "FAQ", "feedback", and "login". Below this is a horizontal menu with tabs: "Home", "Bill Information", "California Law", "Publications", "Other Resources", "My Subscriptions", and "My Favorites".

The main content area is divided into three columns:

- Left Column:** "TODAY'S SCHEDULE" (Mon, Dec 10, 2018), "FLOOR SCHEDULE" (NO FLOOR SESSIONS ARE SCHEDULED FOR TODAY), and "COMMITTEE HEARINGS" (SEN BUDGET AND FISCAL REVIEW 8 a.m.).
- Middle Column:** "WELCOME" section with a message about website updates and a "Quick Bill Search" form with fields for "Bill Number" and "Keywords(s)", and a "Go" button.
- Right Column:** "Daily Updates" (Assembly and Senate), "Daily Files" (Assembly and Senate), and "Quick Links" (Senate Video Archive, Assembly Video Archive, Downloadable Database, CA Agency Reports, Register to Vote).

Below the "WELCOME" section is a "Quick Code Search" form with fields for "Code" (dropdown), "Code Section", and "Keywords(s)", and a "Go" button.

Search for bills by the bill number, author name, chapter number, or by using keywords or phrases, on the *Bill Information* tab.

The screenshot shows the "Bill Search" page on the California Legislative Information website. The navigation menu is the same as in the previous screenshot, but the "Bill Information" tab is selected.

The main content area has a breadcrumb trail: "Bill Information >> Bill Search". Below this are two tabs: "Bill Search" (selected) and "Text Search".

The "Bill Search" form contains the following fields:

- Bill Number:
- Session Year:
- Keyword(s):
- House:
- Author:
- Statute Year:
- Code:
- Chapter Number:
- Code Section:

At the bottom of the form are "Search" and "Clear" buttons. A note says "For a phrase: 'Surround it with Quotes'".

Entering bill number AB 684 and the session year 2019-2020 will result in the following screen (shown in part). Read or print the bill from this screen.

AB-684 Building standards: electric vehicle charging infrastructure. (2019-2020)

Text	Votes	History	Bill Analysis	Today's Law As Amended	Compare Versions	Status	Comments To Author
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SHARE THIS:  

Date Published: 09/13/2019 09:00 PM

ENROLLED SEPTEMBER 13, 2019
 PASSED IN SENATE SEPTEMBER 09, 2019
 PASSED IN ASSEMBLY SEPTEMBER 10, 2019
 AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 12, 2019
 AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 22, 2019
 AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 25, 2019

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE— 2019-2020 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL **NO. 684**

**Introduced by Assembly Member Levine
 (Coauthor: Assembly Member Boerner Horvath)**

February 15, 2019

An act to amend Section 18941.10 of the Health and Safety Code, relating to building standards.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 684, Levine, Building standards: electric vehicle charging infrastructure.
 Existing law, the California Building Standards Law, establishes the California Building Standards Commission within the Department of General Services. Existing law requires the commission to approve and adopt building standards and to codify those standards in the California Building Standards Code. Existing law requires the commission to adopt, approve, codify, and publish mandatory building standards for the installation of electric vehicle charging infrastructure for parking spaces in multifamily dwellings and nonresidential development.

The *Today's Law As Amended* tab shows all of the proposed amendments to existing law. This feature is useful because the printed or on-screen version in the *Text* tab of a legislative bill only shows the most recent amendments as a bill proceeds through the legislative process. With this feature, *all* amendments are identified regardless of when they were added to the bill.

AB-684 Building standards: electric vehicle charging infrastructure. (2019-2020)

Text	Votes	History	Bill Analysis	Today's Law As Amended	Compare Versions	Status	Comments To Author
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SECTION 1. Section 18941.10 of the Health and Safety Code is amended to read:

18941.10. (a) (1) The ~~commission shall~~ *commission*, commencing with the next triennial edition of the California Building Standards Code (Title 24 of the California Code of Regulations) adopted after January 1, 2014, *shall* adopt, approve, codify, and publish mandatory building standards for the installation of future electric vehicle charging infrastructure for parking spaces in multifamily dwellings and nonresidential development.

(2) For purposes of paragraph (1), the Department of Housing and Community Development shall propose mandatory building standards for the installation of future electric vehicle charging infrastructure for parking spaces in multifamily dwellings and submit the proposed mandatory building standards to the commission for consideration.

(b) The Department of Housing and Community Development and the commission shall research, develop, and propose for adoption building standards, including thresholds below which the standards would not apply, regarding the installation of future electric vehicle charging infrastructure for parking spaces for existing multifamily dwellings and nonresidential development in the California Building Standards Code (Title 24 of the California Code of Regulations) on or before July 1, 2022, or in the next interim code cycle, whichever is sooner.

~~(c)~~ *(c)* (1) In proposing and adopting mandatory building standards under this section, the Department of Housing and Community Development and the commission shall use Sections A4.106.6, A4.106.6.1, A4.106.6.2, A5.106.5.1, and A5.106.5.3 of the California Green Building Standards Code (Part 11 of Title 24 of the California Code of Regulations) as the starting point for the mandatory building standards and amend those standards as necessary.

(2) In proposing and adopting mandatory building standards under this section, the Department of Housing and Community Development and the commission shall actively consult with interested parties, including, but not limited to, investor-owned utilities, municipal utilities, *community choice aggregators, electric vehicle and electric vehicle supply equipment* manufacturers, local building officials, commercial building and apartment owners, and the building industry.

(3) The Department of Housing and Community Development and the commission shall review the standards for multifamily dwellings and nonresidential development every 18 months to update the standards as needed pursuant to that review.

Click on the *History* or *Status* tab of the bill to see where it is in the process. AB 684 was “Enrolled on September 13, 2019,” but checking the *History* or *Status* tab reveals that the governor vetoed this bill.

AB-684 Building standards: electric vehicle charging infrastructure. (2019-2020)

Text	Votes	History	Bill Analysis	Today's Law As Amended ⓘ	Compare Versions	Status	Comments To Author
		Date	Action				
		01/21/20	Consideration of Governor's veto stricken from file.				
		10/12/19	Vetoed by Governor.				

AB-684 Building standards: electric vehicle charging infrastructure. (2019-2020)

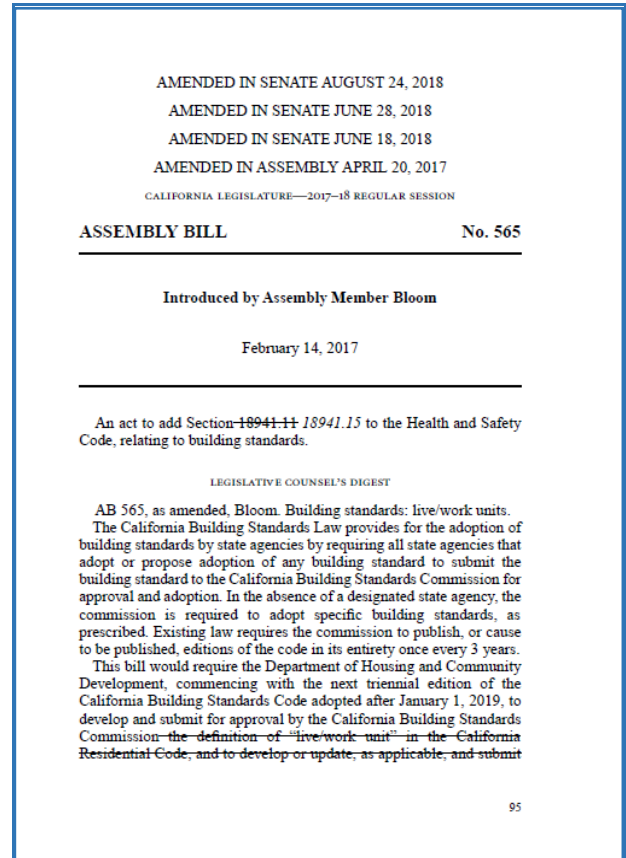
Text	Votes	History	Bill Analysis	Today's Law As Amended ⓘ	Compare Versions	Status	Comments To Author
<p>Senate: _____ 1st Cmt 2nd 3rd Pass</p> <p>Assembly: 1st Cmt 2nd 3rd Pass _____ Pass Veto</p>							

How to review a bill and its timeline

This section looks at AB 565 of the 2017-2018 legislative session.

1. The cover page of AB 565 shows that bill was introduced on February 14, 2017 by Assembly Member Bloom.
2. Also, the bill was amended four times, most recently on August 24, 2018. Each time a bill is amended it is updated and reprinted/republished for access on the legislature's website.
3. Following the introduction date, the cover page provides identification of the state law(s) to be amended, repealed or enacted by this bill. This bill proposes to add new provisions to the California Health and Safety Code.
4. The Legislative Counsel's Digest, written by the non-partisan Office of Legislative Counsel, tells what is required by the current state law relating to the proposal, and what the bill proposes to change or add.
5. Each time a bill is amended, the resulting text will illustrate the amendments to existing law with strike-out and italic font attributes. If the bill is amended again, the illustrations of the previous amendments are removed and only the new amendments are shown on the *Text* tab. View the bill on the *Today's Law As Amended* tab to see all amendments.

If the bill proposes new law, and not an amendment to existing law, the italic attribute is not used.



~~to the commission for approval the definition of "live/work unit" in the California Building Code. The bill would require the department to consider in those determinations, among other things, reflecting the types of combined live and work occupancy in commercial zoning districts and home occupation occupancy in residential zoning districts: clarifications in the California Building Code and the California Residential Code pertaining to the requirements for the construction of live/work units.~~

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 ~~SECTION 1. Section 18941.11 is added to the Health and~~
2 ~~Safety Code, to read:~~
3 ~~18941.11. (a) At~~
4 ~~SECTION 1. Section 18941.15 is added to the Health and~~
5 ~~Safety Code, to read:~~
6 *18941.15. At the next triennial building standards rulemaking*
7 *cycle that commences on or after January 1, 2019, the Department*
8 *of Housing and Community Development shall develop and submit*
9 *for approval a definition for "live/work unit" in the California*
10 *Residential Code and an updated definition of "live/work unit" in*
11 *the California Building Code. The department shall also develop*
12 *or update, as applicable, and submit for approval, a definition that*
13 *reflects the types of combined live and work occupancy and use*
14 *within residential dwelling units, including, but not limited to,*
15 *live/work units, joint live/work quarters, artist lofts,*
16 *artist-in-residence units, work/live units, home offices, home-based*
17 *studios, workshops, or other entrepreneurial spaces: clarifications*
18 *in the California Building Code and the California Residential*
19 *Code pertaining to the requirements for the construction of*
20 *live/work units.*

Each major segment of a bill proposal is identified by a section number beginning with number 1. Here, Section 1 identifies that the proposal is to add new Section 18941.15 to the Health and Safety Code. Note that these section numbers are different from the section numbers used in the actual text of the law.

In a downloaded PDF version of the bill, line numbers are shown next to the bill text. Line numbers are used during legislative hearings and written communications to quickly identify certain provisions for discussion.

Note the following font attributes for existing, removed and added law text:

- Standard (upright) font for law text that is unchanged by the amendment(s)
- Strike-out for previous law text being removed by the amendment(s)
- Italic font for new proposed law text added by the amendment(s)

AB 565 became law in September of 2018, so the heading of the bill as shown online now indicates that it has been given chapter number 573, and the dates of the amended versions have been removed. Also, the name of the state law added, amended or repealed

is shown and the final Legislative Counsel's Digest is provided. The enacted law text follows.

To see the history of amendments made to AB 565 during the legislative process, access the *Compare Versions* tab for this bill. Select a version for comparison using the dropdown menu provided, and then press the “Compare Versions” button to the right of the dropdown box.

AB-565 Building standards: live/work units. (2017-2018) PDF | Add To My Favorites | Version: 09/20/18 - Chaptered | Go

Text | Votes | History | Bill Analysis | Today's Law As Amended | **Compare Versions** | Status | Comments To Author

Current Version: 09/20/18 - Chaptered Compared to Version: 09/20/18 - Chaptered
09/20/18 - Chaptered
09/05/18 - Enrolled
09/20/18 - Chaptered
06/26/18 - Amended Senate
06/18/18 - Amended Senate
06/18/18 - Amended Senate
04/20/17 - Amended Assembly
02/14/17 - Introduced

SECTION 1. Section 18941.15 is added to the Health and Safety Code, to read:

18941.15. At the next triennial building standards rulemaking process on or after January 1, 2019, the Department of Housing and Community Development shall develop and submit for approval clarifications in the California Building Code and the California Residential Code that address the requirements for the construction of live/work units.

Changes that have been made between the two versions selected will be shown in blue (for added text) and red strikethrough (for deleted text).

Using the Legislative Index

Another way to find bills affecting specific areas of state law is to access the **Legislative Index** available on the *Publications* tab of the Legislative Information webpage. There are two versions of the *Index* available, one for the current session and one for prior sessions.

skip to content home accessibility FAQ feedback sitemap login

Quick Search: Bill Number | AB1 or ab 1 or ABX | go

Home Bill Information California Law Publications Other Resources My Subscriptions My Favorites

Legislative Publications

Assembly Daily File is produced by the Assembly containing the Officers of the respective houses, the Order of Business, the tentative schedule for the entire legislative session, the bills that are scheduled to be heard on the floor and during committee hearings. There are also Daily File publications for Assembly Extraordinary Sessions.

Senate Daily File is produced by the Senate containing the Officers of the respective houses, the Order of Business, the tentative schedule for the entire legislative session, the bills that are scheduled to be heard on the floor and during committee hearings. There are also Daily File publications for Senate Extraordinary Sessions.

Legislative Index
Vol 1
Legislative Index provides a subject matter index of all legislative measures for the current legislative session. The index indicates the subject of each bill, constitutional amendment, and concurrent or joint resolution as introduced and as amended. Entries are not removed from the index when the subject matter is deleted from the measure in the course of passage. The Legislative Index is published by the Legislative Counsel.

Table of Sections Affected
Vol 1
Table of Sections Affected provides an index of each section of the California Constitution, codes and uncodified laws affected by measures introduced. The PDF document includes links for the measure and chapter number. Though the table is updated regularly, it may not include all legislative actions as of the date indicated on the title page of the document. The Table of Sections Affected is cumulative and is published by the Legislative Counsel.

Legislative Index and Table of Sections Affected, Prior Sessions are final editions of the Legislative Index and Table of Sections Affected beginning with the 2017-18 Legislative Session.

Within the *Legislative Index*, search by keyword(s) to find relevant bills, and then click on the bill number to see its status—whether it’s been vetoed, chaptered, amended or died before becoming law. Each bill number is a live link to the bill.

The screenshot shows a web browser interface. On the left is a 'Bookmarks' sidebar with a 'Subject Index June 26, 2019' and a list of letters from A to R. On the right is a 'Find' search box containing the text 'building standard'. Below the search box are 'Previous' and 'Next' buttons, and a 'Replace with' option. The main content area displays a 'LEGISLATIVE INDEX' for 'BUILDINGS'. The index lists various bills under categories like 'commercial and nonresidential buildings', 'residential buildings', and 'standards and regulations'. Specific bills mentioned include AB 660, ACR 102, AB 206, AB 68, AB 69, AB 881, SB 13, AB 1674, AB 660, SB 280, AB 349, AB 38, AB 85, AB 1769, SB 85, SB 190, AB 507, and AB 1006. The page number '6--Index' is visible at the bottom left of the main content area.

Additional Information

Here are some points to keep in mind when reviewing legislation.

1. A bill is only a proposal until it is enacted. To be enacted, a bill must be voted on and approved by both the senate and assembly. Then the bill must go to the governor, who has 30 days to approve and sign the bill, or to veto the bill. If the governor does not act to approve or veto the bill within the 30-day period, the bill becomes law without the governor's action.
2. The legislature has 60 days to override the governor's veto. A vetoed bill requires a two-thirds vote for passage in both legislative houses in order to become law. Overrides do not occur often.
3. Bill numbers are reused each legislative session. The chapter number is the permanent identification of an enacted bill. Here are examples of the proper way to reference a bill that has become law.
 - AB 565 of the 2018 legislative session that became Chapter 573 of the 2018 Statutes
 - AB 565 (Chapter 573, Statutes of 2018)

4. When two bills enact additions or amendments to the same section of existing law, the bill chaptered last takes precedence. When two bills propose amendments to the same section of law, there will be instructions in the bill language as to which bill will take precedence if both bills are enacted. When a chaptered bill is superseded by a later-chaptered bill, the first bill has been "chaptered out."

Example: AB 100, Chapter 551 of the 2018 Statutes, and SB 200, Chapter 676 of the 2018 Statutes, both enacted new Section 12345 of the California Health and Safety Code. SB 200 was chaptered last, so it takes precedence and AB 100 is chaptered out and has no effect. *Note: The numbers used in this example are fictitious.*

Conclusion

With an understanding of the differences between legislation, laws and regulations—and a little practice—finding the information needed for a particular application or project should be quick and easy.

Contact CBSC with any questions or comments:

California Building Standards Commission
2525 Natomas Park Drive, Suite 130
Sacramento, CA 95833

Phone: (916) 263-0916

[CBSC's Email address](mailto:cbsc@dgs.ca.gov) is cbsc@dgs.ca.gov

[CBSC's Website](http://dgs.ca.gov/BSC) is dgs.ca.gov/BSC