

**NOTICE OF PROPOSED ACTION  
TO BUILDING STANDARDS OF THE  
OFFICE OF STATEWIDE HEALTH PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT  
REGARDING THE 2019 CALIFORNIA MECHANICAL CODE  
CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 24, PART 4  
(OSHDP 05/19)**

Note to agencies: The laws associated with the instructions in this form are found primarily in Government Code Section 11346.5 et sequentes. For clarity during the administrative review process, do not remove the headings or statutory references to applicable sections being completed.

Notice is hereby given that the California Building Standards Commission (CBSC) on behalf of OFFICE OF STATEWIDE HEALTH PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT (OSHDP) proposes to adopt, approve, codify, and publish changes to building standards contained in the California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 24, PART 4-CALIFORNIA MECHANICAL CODE and the 2019 Uniform Mechanical Code. OSHDP is proposing building standards related to the construction of hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, licensed clinics, and correctional treatment centers.

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

Reference: Government Code Section 11346.5(a)(17).

A public hearing has not been scheduled; however, written comments will be accepted from **April 10, 2020**, until 5:00 P.M. on **May 26, 2020**.

Please address your comments to:

**California Building Standards Commission**  
Attention: Mia Marvelli, Executive Director  
2525 Natomas Park Drive, Suite 130  
Sacramento, CA 95833

Written comments may also be emailed to [CBSC@dgs.ca.gov](mailto:CBSC@dgs.ca.gov).

Any interested person, or his or her duly authorized representative, may request no later than 15 days prior to the close of the written comment period that a public hearing be held.

The public will have an opportunity to provide both written and/or oral comments regarding the proposed action on building standards at a public meeting to be conducted by the CBSC to be scheduled at a date near the end of the current adoption cycle. A meeting notice will be issued announcing the date, time and location of the public meeting.

**POST-HEARING MODIFICATIONS TO THE TEXT OF THE REGULATIONS**

Reference: Government Code Section 11346.5(a)(18).

Following the public comment period, CBSC may adopt the proposed building standards substantially as proposed in this notice or with modifications that are sufficiently related to the original proposed text and notice of proposed changes. If modifications are made, the full text of the proposed modifications, clearly indicated, will be made available to the public for at least 15 days prior to the date on which the CBSC adopts, amends, or repeals the regulation(s). CBSC will accept written comments on the modified building standards during the 15-day period.

NOTE: To be notified of any modifications, you must submit written/oral comments or request that you be notified of any modifications.

## **AUTHORITY AND REFERENCE**

Reference: Government Code Section 11346.5(a)(2).

The CBSC proposes to adopt these building standards under the authority granted by Health and Safety Code Section 18949.3. The purpose of these building standards is to implement, interpret, or make specific the provisions of Health and Safety Code Sections 1275, 18928, 129790 and 129850.

The Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development (OSHPD) is proposing this regulatory action based on Health and Safety Code, Section 129850.

## **INFORMATIVE DIGEST**

Reference: Government Code Section 11346.5(a)(3).

### **Summary of Existing Laws**

Health and Safety Code, Section 1275, authorizes OSHPD to adopt and enforce building standards for the physical plant of health facilities including hospitals, skilled nursing facilities and correctional treatment centers.

Health and Safety Code, Section 18928, requires OSHPD to adopt and reference the most recent edition of a model code. The model code, with amendments or proposed changes, shall be adopted within one year after the publication date.

Health and Safety Code, Section 129790, authorizes OSHPD to propose building standards for correctional treatment centers in cooperation with the Board of Corrections, the Department of Corrections, and the Department of Youth Authority.

Health and Safety Code, Section 129850, authorizes OSHPD to propose building standards, as necessary, in order to carry out the requirements of the Alfred E. Alquist Hospital Facilities Seismic Safety Act. OSHPD is also authorized and responsible to submit building standards related to the seismic safety of hospital buildings to the California Building Standards Commission.

### **Summary of Existing Regulations**

Title 24, Part 4, 2019 California Mechanical Code (CMC), is based on the 2018 Uniform Mechanical Code with California amendments. The CMC contains mechanical system requirements for design and construction hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, licensed clinics and correctional treatment centers.

### **Summary of Effect**

The proposed action makes editorial and minor technical modifications to various mechanical system requirements for hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, licensed clinics and correctional treatment centers.

Additionally, the proposal makes minor editorial and technical modifications for clarification, repeals outdated unnecessary requirements, and provides consistency within Title 24 and is in alignment with nationally recognized standards.

The proposed action allows for more spaces in medical facilities to be ventilated per ASHRAE 62.1, and makes technical modifications to provide consistency with ASHRAE 170 and USP 800.

### **Comparable Federal Statute or Regulations**

There is no federal statute or regulation related to this proposed action.

### **Policy Statement Overview**

OSHPD is responsible for the development of regulations regarding the physical plant for hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, licensed clinics and correctional treatment centers. The intent of this proposal is to provide editorial and minor technical modifications for clarification and consistency within the code and alignment with ASHRAE 170.

### **Evaluation of Consistency**

The proposed action is consistent and compatible with existing state regulations.

## **OTHER MATTERS PRESCRIBED BY STATUTE APPLICABLE TO THE AGENCY OR TO ANY SPECIFIC REGULATION OR CLASS OF REGULATIONS**

Reference: Government Code Section 11346.5(a)(4).

There are no other matters prescribed by statute that are applicable to OSHPD, specific regulation or class of regulations.

## **MANDATE ON LOCAL AGENCIES OR SCHOOL DISTRICTS**

Reference: Government Code Section 11346.5(a)(5).

OSHPD does not have authority to impose building standards or regulations on school districts; the proposed regulatory action will not impose a mandate on local agencies or school districts.

## **ESTIMATE OF COST OR SAVINGS**

Reference: Government Code Section 11346.5(a)(6).

An estimate, prepared in accordance with instructions adopted by Department of Finance, of cost or savings to any state agency, local agency, or school district.

- A. Cost or Savings to any state agency: **NO**
- B. Cost to any local agency required to be reimbursed under Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division 4: **NO**
- C. Cost to any school district required to be reimbursed under Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division 4: **NO**
- D. Other nondiscretionary cost or savings imposed on local agencies: **NO**
- E. Cost or savings in federal funding to the state: **NO**

Estimate: **N/A**

## **INITIAL DETERMINATION OF NO SIGNIFICANT STATEWIDE ADVERSE ECONOMIC IMPACT ON BUSINESSES**

Reference: Government Code Section 11346.5(a)(8).

If the agency makes an initial determination that the adoption/amendment/repeal of this regulation will not have a significant, statewide adverse economic impact directly affecting business, including the ability of California businesses to compete with businesses in other states, it shall make a declaration to that effect.

OSHPD has made an initial determination that the amendment of this regulation will not have a significant statewide adverse economic impact on businesses, including the ability of California businesses to compete with businesses in other states.

### **DECLARATION OF EVIDENCE**

Reference: Government Code Section 11346.5(a)(8).

In making the declaration, the agency shall provide in the record of facts, evidence, documents, testimony, or other evidence that the agency relies upon to support its initial determination of no effect.

OSHPD has not relied on any other facts, evidence, documents, testimony or other evidence to make its final determination of no statewide adverse economic impact. The scope of the proposed action is to make necessary technical modifications to the existing code that are in alignment with health facility licensing requirements, the California Building Code and with national standards.

### **FINDING OF NECESSITY FOR THE PUBLIC'S HEALTH, SAFETY, OR WELFARE**

Reference: Government Code Section 11346.5(a)(11).

Any regulation that requires a report shall not apply to businesses, unless the agency makes a finding that it is necessary for the health, safety, or welfare of the public that the regulations apply to businesses.

OSHPD has made an assessment and has determined that a report pursuant to Government Code Section 11346.3(d) is not required.

### **COST IMPACT ON REPRESENTATIVE PRIVATE PERSON OR BUSINESS**

Reference: Government Code Section 11346.5(a)(9).

Describe all cost impacts that a representative private person or business would necessarily incur in reasonable compliance with the proposed action. If no cost impact, provide the following statement:

OSHPD has identified a cost impact that representative businesses would incur in reasonable compliance with one requirement in the proposed action. The addition of redundant cooling systems for each technology equipment center as represented in the new Section 320.4.4 of the California Mechanical Code is expected to increase the cost of new hospitals by \$245,000 each.

### **ASSESSMENT OF EFFECT OF REGULATIONS UPON JOBS AND BUSINESS EXPANSION, ELIMINATION OR CREATION**

Reference: Government Code Section 11346.5(a)(10).

The OFFICE OF STATEWIDE HEALTH PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT has assessed whether or not and to what extent this proposal will affect the following:

#### **A. The creation or elimination of jobs within the State of California.**

The proposed regulations will not create or eliminate jobs within the State of California.

**B. The creation of new businesses or the elimination of existing businesses within the State of California.**

The proposed regulations will not create new businesses, or eliminate existing businesses within the State of California.

**C. The expansion of businesses currently doing business within the State of California.**

The proposed regulations will not cause expansion of businesses currently doing business with the State of California.

**D. The benefits of the regulation to the health and welfare of California residents, worker safety, and the state's environment.**

The proposed regulations are necessary for the continued preservation of the health, safety, and welfare of California residents through updated amendments associated with the design and construction of health facilities that reflect current construction practice and current practice of medicine. The regulations will not affect worker safety, or the state's environment.

## **ESTIMATED COST OF COMPLIANCE OF STANDARDS THAT WOULD IMPACT HOUSING**

Reference: Government Code Section 11346.5(a)(12).

These regulations will not result in any cost of compliance that would impact housing.

## **CONSIDERATION OF ALTERNATIVES**

Reference: Government Code Section 11346.5(a)(13).

OSHPD has determined that no reasonable alternative considered by OSHPD or that has otherwise been identified and brought to the attention of OSHPD would be more effective in carrying out the purpose for which the action is proposed or would be as effective and less burdensome to affected private persons than the proposed action, or would be more cost-effective to affected private persons and equally effective in implementing the statutory policy or other provisions of law.

## **AVAILABILITY OF RULEMAKING DOCUMENTS**

Reference: Government Code Sections 11346.5(a)(16) and 11346.5(a)(20).

All of the information upon which the proposed regulations are based is contained in the rulemaking file, which is available for public review, by contacting the person named below. This notice, the express terms and initial statement of reasons can be accessed from the [CBSC website](https://dgs.ca.gov/BSC): [dgs.ca.gov/BSC](https://dgs.ca.gov/BSC).

Reference: Government Code Section 11346.5(a)(19).

Interested parties may obtain a copy of the final statement of reasons, once it has been prepared, by making a written request to the contact person named below or at the [CBSC website](https://dgs.ca.gov/BSC): [dgs.ca.gov/BSC](https://dgs.ca.gov/BSC).

Reference: Government Code Section 11346.5(a)(21).

OSHPD shall provide, upon request, a description of proposed changes included in the proposed action, in the manner provided by Section 11346.6, to accommodate a person

with a visual or other disability for which effective communication is required under state or federal law and that providing the description of proposed changes may require extending the period of public comment for the proposed action.

### **CBSC CONTACT PERSON FOR PROCEDURAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE QUESTIONS**

Reference: Government Code Section 11346.5(a)(14).

General questions regarding procedural and administrative issues should be addressed to:

Michael Nearman, Deputy Executive Director  
California Building Standards Commission  
2525 Natomas Park Drive, Suite 130  
Sacramento, CA 95833  
Telephone: (916) 263-0916

### **PROPOSING STATE AGENCY CONTACT PERSON FOR SUBSTANTIVE AND/OR TECHNICAL QUESTIONS ON THE PROPOSED CHANGES TO BUILDING STANDARDS**

Specific questions regarding the substantive and/or technical aspects of the proposed changes to the building standards should be addressed to:

Richard Tannahill, Health Facilities Review, Acting Supervisor  
Lori Campbell, Building Standards Unit, Alternate Contact  
Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development  
Facilities Development Division  
(916) 440-8300  
FAX (916) 324-9118  
<mailto:regsunit@oshpd.ca.gov>