



California Regulatory Notice Register

REGISTER 2026, NUMBER 13-Z

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY THE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW

MARCH 27, 2026

PROPOSED ACTION ON REGULATIONS

TITLE 2. FAIR POLITICAL PRACTICES COMMISSION

Conflict-of-Interest Code — Notice File Number Z2026-0317-03 385

AMENDMENT

MULTI-COUNTY: Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

TITLE 5. COMMISSION ON TEACHER CREDENTIALING

Emergency Career Substitute Teaching Permit — Notice File Number Z2026-0317-04 386

TITLE 9. DEPARTMENT OF STATE HOSPITALS

State Hospital Visitation Process — Notice File Number Z2026-0317-05 389

TITLE 18. DEPARTMENT OF TAX AND FEE ADMINISTRATION

Relief From Liability — Notice File Number Z2026-0316-08 392

TITLE 22. DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Conflict-of-Interest Code — Notice File Number Z2026-0316-02 396

TITLE 24. BUILDING STANDARDS COMMISSION

2025 California Green Buildings Standards Code (BSC 03/25) — Notice File Number Z2026-0316-03 396

TITLE 24. BUILDING STANDARDS COMMISSION/DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH ACCESS AND INFORMATION (OFFICE OF STATEWIDE HOSPITAL PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT)

2025 California Electrical Code (OSHDP 04/25) — Notice File Number Z2026-0317-01 400

TITLE 24. BUILDING STANDARDS COMMISSION/DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE ACCESS AND INFORMATION (OFFICE OF STATEWIDE HOSPITAL PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT)

2025 California Mechanical Code (OSHDP 05/25) — Notice File Number Z2026-0316-07 403

(Continued on next page)

Time-Dated Material

TITLE 24. BUILDING STANDARDS COMMISSION/DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE ACCESS AND INFORMATION (OFFICE OF STATEWIDE HOSPITAL PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT) <i>2025 California Plumbing Code (OSHPD 06/25) — Notice File Number Z2026–0317–02</i>	407
TITLE 24. BUILDING STANDARDS COMMISSION/DIVISION OF THE STATE ARCHITECT <i>2025 California Green Buildings Standards Code (DSA–SS 04/25) — Notice File Number Z2026–0316–05</i>	410
TITLE 24. BUILDING STANDARDS COMMISSION/DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT <i>2025 California Green Buildings Standards Code (HCD 01/25) — Notice File Number Z2026–0316–04</i>	414
TITLE 24. BUILDING STANDARDS COMMISSION/STATE FIRE MARSHAL <i>2025 California Mechanical Code (SFM 02/25) — Notice File Number Z2026–0316–06</i>	418
GENERAL PUBLIC INTEREST	
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE <i>Bonita School Road Bridge Replacement Project, 2080–2026–003–05, Santa Barbara</i>	422
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE <i>Waterman Gap Fish Passage Project, Consistency Determination Number 1653–2025–181–001–R3, Santa Cruz County</i>	423
NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION <i>Notice of Correction</i>	425
RULEMAKING PETITION DECISIONS	
DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES <i>Decision on Petition from Dustin Thomas Lewis Concerning Weight Limits</i>	425
PRIVACY PROTECTION AGENCY <i>Decision on Petition from K.U. Concerning Tiered Consent and Minimum Functional Mode for Essential Consumer Devices</i>	426
SUMMARY OF REGULATORY ACTIONS	
Regulations filed with Secretary of State	428
2026 RULEMAKING CALENDAR — INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE	
<i>Special Note</i>	430

The *California Regulatory Notice Register* is an official state publication of the Office of Administrative Law containing notices of proposed regulatory actions by state regulatory agencies to adopt, amend or repeal regulations contained in the California Code of Regulations. The effective period of a notice of proposed regulatory action by a state agency in the *California Regulatory Notice Register* shall not exceed one year [Government Code § 11346.4(b)]. It is suggested, therefore, that issues of the *California Regulatory Notice Register* be retained for a minimum of 18 months.

CALIFORNIA REGULATORY NOTICE REGISTER is published weekly by the Office of Administrative Law, 300 Capitol Mall, Suite 1250, Sacramento, CA 95814-4339. The Register is printed by Barclays, a subsidiary of West, a Thomson Reuters Business, and is offered by subscription for \$409.00 (annual price). To order or make changes to current subscriptions, please call (800) 328–4880. The Register can also be accessed at <https://oal.ca.gov>.

PROPOSED ACTION ON REGULATIONS

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TITLE 2. FAIR POLITICAL PRACTICES COMMISSION

CONFLICT-OF-INTEREST CODES

AMENDMENT

MULTI-COUNTY: Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Fair Political Practices Commission, pursuant to the authority vested in it by Sections 82011, 87303, and 87304 of the Government Code to review proposed conflict-of-interest codes, will review the proposed/amended conflict-of-interest codes of the following:

A written comment period has been established commencing on March 27, 2026, and closing on May 11, 2026. Written comments should be directed to the Fair Political Practices Commission, Attention: Andrea Spiller Hernandez, 1102 Q Street, Suite 3050, Sacramento, California 95811.

At the end of the 45-day comment period, the proposed conflict-of-interest code will be submitted to the Commission’s Executive Director for their review, unless any interested person or their duly authorized representative requests, no later than 15 days prior to the close of the written comment period, a public hearing before the full Commission. If a public hearing is requested, the proposed code will be submitted to the Commission for review.

The Executive Director of the Commission will review the above-referenced conflict-of-interest code, proposed pursuant to Government Code Section 87300, which designate, pursuant to Government Code Section 87302, employees who must disclose certain investments, interests in real property and income.

The Executive Director of the Commission, upon their own motion or at the request of any interested person, will approve, or revise and approve, or return the proposed code to the agency for revision and re-submission within 60 days without further notice.

Any interested person may present statements, arguments, or comments, in writing to the Executive Director of the Commission, relative to review of the proposed conflict-of-interest code. Any written comments must be received no later than May 11, 2026. If a public hearing is to be held, oral comments may be presented to the Commission at the hearing.

COST TO LOCAL AGENCIES

There shall be no reimbursement for any new or increased costs to local government which may result from compliance with these codes because these are not new programs mandated on local agencies by the codes since the requirements described herein were mandated by the Political Reform Act of 1974. Therefore, they are not “costs mandated by the state” as defined in Government Code Section 17514.

EFFECT ON HOUSING COSTS AND BUSINESSES

Compliance with the codes has no potential effect on housing costs or on private persons, businesses, or small businesses.

AUTHORITY

Government Code Sections 82011, 87303 and 87304 provide that the Fair Political Practices Commission as the code-reviewing body for the above conflict-of-interest codes shall approve codes as submitted, revise the proposed code, and approve it as revised, or return the proposed code for revision and re-submission.

REFERENCE

Government Code Sections 87300 and 87306 provide that agencies shall adopt and promulgate conflict-of-interest codes pursuant to the Political Reform Act and amend their codes when change is necessitated by changed circumstances.

CONTACT

Any inquiries concerning the proposed conflict-of-interest code should be made to Andrea Spiller Hernandez, Fair Political Practices Commission, 1102 Q Street, Suite 3050, Sacramento, California 95811, or email aspiller-hernandez@fppc.ca.gov.

AVAILABILITY OF PROPOSED CONFLICT-OF-INTEREST CODES

Copies of the proposed conflict-of-interest codes may be obtained from the Commission offices or the

respective agency. Requests for copies from the Commission should be made to Andrea Spiller Hernandez, Fair Political Practices Commission, 1102 Q Street, Suite 3050, Sacramento, California 95811, or email aspiller-herandez@fppc.ca.gov.

TITLE 5. COMMISSION ON TEACHER CREDENTIALING

PROPOSED REGULATORY AMENDMENTS PERTAINING TO § 80025.1. EMERGENCY CAREER SUBSTITUTE TEACHING PERMIT AND § 80025.3. DAY TO DAY SUBSTITUTE TEACHING

The Commission on Teacher Credentialing (Commission) proposes to take the regulatory action described below after considering all comments, objections, and recommendations regarding the proposed action. A copy of the proposed regulations is included with the added text underlined and the deleted text lined out.

The Commission has not scheduled a public hearing on this proposed action. However, the Commission will hold a hearing if it receives a written request for a public hearing from any interested person, or their authorized representative, no later than 15 days before the close of the comment period.

WRITTEN COMMENT PERIOD

Any interested person, or his or her authorized representative, may submit written comments relevant to the proposed action by fax, through the mail, or by email. The written comment period closes on May 4, 2026. Comments must be received by that time or may be submitted at the public hearing, should one be requested. Interested parties may fax their response to (916) 327–3165; write to the Commission on Teacher Credentialing, Attention: Christina Villanueva, Commission on Teacher Credentialing, 651 Bannon Street, Suite 601, Sacramento, CA 95811; by phone at (916) 327–2967 or submit an email to Regulations@ctc.ca.gov.

Alternatively contact Ann Harris at (916) 327–2967 or by email at Regulations@ctc.ca.gov.

Any written comments received by the closing of the public comment period will be reproduced by the Commission’s staff for each member of the Commission as a courtesy to the person submitting the comments and will be included in the written agenda prepared for and presented to the full Commission.

AUTHORITY

Education Code sections 44225(d) and 44225(q) authorizes the Commission to adopt the proposed regulations and amendments.

REFERENCE

Education Codes sections 44225(d) and (e), 44252(b), 44258.9, 44300.5, 44339, 44340 and 44341.

INFORMATION DIGEST/POLICY STATEMENT OVERVIEW

Summary of Existing Laws and Effect of the Proposed Action

California continues to experience shortages of fully credentialed teachers, with the extent of these shortages varying by region and credential area. These shortages have increased reliance on substitute educators to maintain classroom coverage during extended absences and vacancies, while a fully credentialed teacher can be recruited. During the COVID–19 emergency, the state temporarily expanded substitute–teaching flexibility to address widespread staffing disruptions during a global public health crisis. The 2021 Education Omnibus Budget Trailer Bill (AB 167, 2021) authorized credentialed and permitted substitute teachers to serve for up to sixty cumulative instructional days in both general education and special education assignments through June 30, 2022, to address the crisis. In early 2022, Executive Order N–3–22 extended substitute service in general education classrooms to 120 days through March 31, 2022. As staffing challenges continued, subsequent legislation further extended the temporary sixty–day authorization. AB 181 (2022) continued the authorization through July 1, 2023, and SB 141 (2023) extended it again through July 1, 2024. These measures were limited to the COVID period and the immediate years that followed and were explicitly temporary. Additionally, statewide data indicate that California’s academic recovery from pandemic–related disruptions remains fragile, with persistent gaps for high–need student groups and continued sensitivity to staffing instability. With the conclusion of the pandemic and the return to full in–person learning, the Legislature and Governor discontinued all emergency substitute extensions indefinitely and returned to pre–pandemic substitute service limits.

With the expiration of the extensions of COVID period flexibilities, Assembly Bill (AB) 1224, authored by Assemblymember Valencia, was introduced in 2025 to again authorize up to sixty cumulative instructional days of substitute service for individuals holding a Commission–issued substitute permit or credential

authorizing day-to-day substitute teaching in both general and special education classrooms. Ultimately, the Governor declined to sign this bill and released a veto message directing the Commission to “*utilize its existing authority to engage stakeholders and expeditiously reexamine and amend its short-term staffing pathways to support continuity of instruction, and to address the minimum levels of preparation and support required.*”

During the December 2025 Commission meeting, Commission staff presented a set of recommendations developed through stakeholder engagement for the Commission to review (please see <https://meetings.ctc.ca.gov/Details/222> for full details). The recommendations addressed challenges in the assignment of substitute teachers. Initial conversations with human resources leaders, educator organizations, and a student-focused civil rights representative revealed several consistent themes based around how extended absences and vacancies affect school operations, instructional continuity, and student learning. It was found that the current assignment limits require rotation practices that undermine stability, while extended assignments require levels of preparation and support that the existing short-term structure does not provide.

California’s short-term staffing system is built around a set of substitute and temporary teaching permits that were created at different times to address specific operational needs. Each authorization has its own purpose, day limits, preparation expectations, and renewal rules. Together they provide options for day-to-day substitute coverage and full-year emergency service, but they do not create a coherent pathway for vacancies or temporary leave assignments that extend beyond 30 days in general education. In analyzing the various teaching permits, Commission staff noted that the Emergency Career Substitute Permit offers a viable option for extended service in general education. For experienced substitutes, the Emergency Career Substitute Teaching Permit (5 CCR 80025.1) allows the permit holder to serve as a day-to-day substitute for up to 60 days in a general education classroom.

There is a need for a statewide option that allows a single individual to remain with a general education classroom for a defined, limited period when a vacancy or extended leave occurs, without defaulting to rotation practices that disrupt routines and undermine continuity for students. Such an option must be time-limited and clearly temporary, preserving the expectation that fully credentialed teachers remain the long-term goal for every classroom.

Commission staff determined that there is a need to move toward the development of a mid-range staffing option that is limited in duration, structured in prepa-

ration and support, transparent in use, and aligned with statutory and instructional requirements.

Following discussion, the Commission directed staff to return with a refined proposal to support implementation of the recommendations presented in the item. The Commission’s direction reflected its ongoing commitment to ensure that credentialing policies and requirements remain aligned with statutory authority and the needs of the educator workforce.

As directed by the Commission at the December 2025 meeting, staff undertook refinement of the supported recommendations and developed draft regulatory language reflecting the refined proposal for general education substitute assignments. This work included re-evaluation of stakeholder feedback and development of regulatory text for Commission consideration. Although Commission staff presented proposals regarding both general and special education assignments, due to the statutory limitations in Education Code 56061, Commission staff moved forward with focusing on a proposal to address only the general education assignments.

In February 2026, Commission staff presented the Commission with recommendations that reflected revisions that were made based on the range of concerns raised in December 2025, focusing on general education assignments. There was a broad consensus among education partners regarding expanding the 30-Day substitute teaching limitation for fully credentialed teachers and establishing an alternate pathway for the Emergency Career Substitute Teaching Permit. The proposed amendments represent the refined proposal in the form of draft regulatory language, providing specificity for assessment of the proposed standards, requirements, and expectations.

Anticipated Benefits of the Proposed Regulations

The proposed modifications amend the current regulations for the Emergency Career Substitute Teaching Permit (section 80025.1) to offer an additional route for issuance, and Day to Day Substitute Teaching (section 80025.3) for placement of a fully credentialed teacher as a substitute in a general education classroom.

Credentialed teachers are the individuals best prepared to maintain continuity when short-term limits are exceeded. They have completed a state-approved preparation program that includes supervised clinical practice and coursework in curriculum and instruction, pedagogy, human development, literacy, and the needs of diverse learners. Expanding their substitute authorization provides a low-risk and high-stability option without compromising instructional quality.

The additional route to earn the Emergency Career Substitute Teaching Permit, which includes pre-service preparation and mentorship with school site-based certificated staff, will improve the welfare of California residents by ensuring educators have

sufficient and appropriate preparation and support to sustain instructional continuity and uphold required services.

Determination of Inconsistency/Incompatibility with Existing State Regulations

The Commission has determined that the proposed regulation amendments are not inconsistent or incompatible with existing regulations. After conducting a review of any regulations that would relate to or affect this area, the Commission has concluded that these are the only regulations that concern the Emergency Career Substitute Teaching Permit.

DISCLOSURES REGARDING THE PROPOSED ACTIONS/FISCAL IMPACT

The Commission has made the following initial determinations.

Mandate on Local Agencies or School Districts:

None.

Fiscal Impact:

Costs to any local agency or school district which must be reimbursed in accordance with Government Code sections 17500 through 17630:

None.

Cost or Savings to Any State Agency:

None.

Other Non-Discretionary Costs or Savings Imposed upon Local Agencies:

None.

Cost or Savings in Federal Funding to the State:

None.

Significant Effect on Housing Costs:

None.

Significant Statewide Adverse Economic Impact Directly Affecting Businesses, Including the Ability of California Businesses to Compete with Businesses in Other States:

None.

Cost Impacts on a Representative Private Person or Business:

The Commission is not aware of any cost impacts that a representative private person or business would necessarily incur in reasonable compliance with the proposed action.

STATEMENT OF THE RESULTS OF THE ECONOMIC IMPACT ASSESSMENT

In accordance with Government Code section 11346.3(b), the Commission has made the following assessments regarding the proposed regulations:

The Commission concludes that it is unlikely that the proposal will (1) create or eliminate any jobs, (2) create any new businesses, or (3) eliminate any ex-

isting businesses or result in the expansion of businesses currently doing business within the state. The proposed amendments to Title 5 of the CCR reflect the Commission's ongoing commitment to ensure that credentialing policies and requirements remain aligned with statutory authority and needs of the educator workforce. Therefore, it will not eliminate jobs.

Benefits of the Regulation to the Health and Welfare of California Residents, Worker Safety, and the State's Environment:

As stated above under *Anticipated Benefits of the Proposed Regulations*, the proposed regulations will offer an additional route for issuance, and Day to Day Substitute Teaching (section 80025.3) for placement of a fully credentialed teacher as a substitute in a general education classroom and will improve the welfare of California residents by ensuring educators have sufficient and appropriate preparation and support to sustain instructional continuity and uphold required services.

The proposed regulations are not expected to affect the health of California residents, worker safety, or the state's environment.

Small Business Determination:

The proposed regulations will not affect small businesses. These regulations establish procedures for educators seeking to obtain an Emergency Career Substitute Teaching Permit and Day to Day Substitute Teaching, not small businesses.

CONSIDERATION OF ALTERNATIVES

In accordance with Government Code section 11346.5, subdivision (a)(13), the Commission must determine that no reasonable alternative it considered, or that has otherwise been identified and brought to its attention, would be more effective in carrying out the purpose for which the action is proposed, would be as effective and less burdensome to affected private person than the proposed action, or would be more cost-effective to affected private persons and equally effective in implementing the statutory policy or other provision of law. While the Commission considered an expansion of service for special education classrooms as well, concern was raised regarding the legal feasibility of expansion of assignments for such classrooms. As such, the proposed amendments do not include special education classrooms.

The Commission invites interested persons to present statements or arguments with respect to alternatives to the proposed regulations during the written comment period.

CONTACT PERSONS

Inquiries concerning the proposed rulemaking action may be directed to:

Christina Villanueva
 Commission on Teacher Credentialing
 651 Bannon Street, Suite 601
 Sacramento, CA 95811
 (916) 327–2967
 Email: Regulations@ctc.ca.gov

The backup for these inquiries is:

Ann Harris
 Commission on Teacher Credentialing
 651 Bannon Street, Suite 601
 Sacramento, CA 95811
 (916) 327–2967
 Email: Regulations@ctc.ca.gov

AVAILABILITY OF STATEMENT OF REASONS, TEXT OF PROPOSED REGULATIONS, AND RULEMAKING FILE

The Commission will make the entire rulemaking file available for inspection and copying throughout the rulemaking process at the Commission office at the above address. As of the date this notice is published in the Notice of Register, the rulemaking file consists of the Notice of Proposed Action, the proposed text of regulations, the Initial Statement of Reasons, Agenda items from Commission Meetings, and the Economic and Fiscal Impact Statement. Please direct requests to inspect or copy the rulemaking file to the contact person listed above, Christina Villanueva.

AVAILABILITY OF CHANGED OR MODIFIED TEXT

After considering all timely and relevant comments received, the Commission may adopt the proposed regulations substantially as described in this notice. If the Commission makes modifications that are sufficiently related to the originally proposed text, it will make the modified text (with the changes clearly indicated) available to the public for at least 15 days before adopting the regulations as revised. Please direct requests for copies of any modified regulations to the contact person listed above. If substantive modifications are made, the Commission will accept written comments on the modified regulations for the duration of the period of public availability.

AVAILABILITY OF FINAL STATEMENT OF REASONS

Upon its completion, the Commission will make copies of the Final Statement of Reasons available. Please direct requests for copies to the contact person listed above.

AVAILABILITY OF DOCUMENTS ON THE INTERNET

Copies of the Notice of Proposed Action, the Initial Statement of Reasons, the text of the regulations with modifications highlighted, as well as the Final Statement of Reasons, when completed, and modified text and notices thereof, if any, may be accessed via the Commission’s website at <http://www.ctc.ca.gov/notices/rulemaking.html>.

TITLE 9. DEPARTMENT OF STATE HOSPITALS

STATE HOSPITAL VISITATION PROCESS

The Department of State Hospitals (Department) hereby gives notice of the proposed regulatory action(s) described in this document:

PUBLIC HEARING

DATE: May 12, 2026
TIME: 10:00 a.m.–11:00 a.m.
LOCATION: Microsoft Teams

To request a reasonable accommodation, please contact Rachele Sack at DSH.Regulations@dsh.ca.gov or (916) 654–2478 by April 27, 2026.

Those who seek to participate in this hearing virtually may do so by registering with an email for the hearing at this link:

<https://events.gcc.teams.microsoft.com/event/7b-1fae0f-c382-4c9c-909f-fd1b86cb4eb8@807536a6-a6b1-4893-a013-70509c59ebbb>.

If you wish to participate in this virtual hearing by phone, please use the information below:

+1 916–382–0340,,897768609# United States,
 Sacramento
[Find a local number](#)
 Phone conference ID: 897 768 609#

During the hearing, participants will be given instructions on how the hearing will be facilitated and other expectations. Any person, or representative of that person, may present statements orally or in writing relevant to the proposed action described in the

informative digest for the regulation. Per Government Code section 11346.8, the Department may impose any reasonable limitation on oral presentations. The Department requests, but does not require, that persons who make oral comments at the hearing also submit a written copy of their testimony via email.

WRITTEN COMMENT PERIOD AND SUBMITTAL OF COMMENTS

California Department of State Hospitals
Regulations and Policy Oversight Unit
RE: State Hospital Visitation Process
45–Day Public Notice and Comment Period
1215 O Street, MS–20
Sacramento, CA 95814
Email: DSH.Regulations@dsh.ca.gov

The written comment period begins on March 27, 2026.

Statements or arguments relevant to the proposed regulatory action may be submitted to the Department in writing or by email to the address listed above. All comments must be received by May 11, 2026.

Comments sent to persons or addresses other than those specified in this document, or received after the date and time specified above, may be included in the record of this proposed regulatory action, but may not be summarized or responded to regardless of the manner of transmission.

AUTHORITY AND REFERENCE

These regulatory actions are proposed under the authority granted in sections 4005.1, 4011, 4027, 4100, 4101, and 4109 of the Welfare and Institutions Code. These actions implement, interpret, and make specific sections, 4312, 5325, and 7295 of the Welfare and Institutions Code.

INFORMATIVE DIGEST AND POLICY OVERVIEW

Summary of Effect of the Amended and Proposed Actions:

These regulations will provide a uniform process on visitation within the Secure Visiting Center of each State Hospital operated by the department to ensure the welfare of the staff, patients, and members of the public. The Department has developed a standard of patient and visitor conduct as well as procedures that help govern the visitation process pursuant to these regulations.

Summary of Existing Laws and Regulations:

The California Code of Regulations (CCR) currently authorizes the Department to oversee visits for in-

dividual patients pursuant to title 9, section 4300. This existing regulation allows the Department to determine and schedule facility visitation hours, provide private areas for attorney consultations, modify visitation hours as needed for facility safety and security, and prohibit conjugal visits. Current regulations do not comprehensively outline visitation guidelines, registration process, health or security screenings, standards of conduct, visitor rule violations, or minor visitation at State Hospital Secure Visiting Centers. The Department seeks to both amend and adopt new regulations as authorized by Welfare and Institutions Code sections 4005.1, 4011, 4027, 4100, 4101, and 4109. In doing so, the Department seeks to amend the provisions of CCR title 9, section 4300, as well as adopt CCR title 9 sections 4301, 4302, 4303, and 4304.

Policy Statement Overview/Broad Objectives:

Individuals committed to the Department for care and treatment have the right to engage in visitation while residing on hospital grounds. To ensure the safety and security of all staff, patients, and members of the public while visitation is being conducted within the Secure Visiting Center, it is the policy of the Department that patients and their visitors must go through the necessary processing steps. These regulations will provide guidance on the various rules and operations held by the hospital concerning visitation within the Secure Visiting Center. This includes procedures on submitting a visitation application, health and security screening, visitor and patient conduct, visitor rule violation processes, and minor visitation. The objective of the proposed regulations is to implement, interpret, or make specific Welfare and Institutions Code sections 4005.1, 4027, and 5325(c) under the regulatory and jurisdictional authority of Welfare and Institutions Code sections 4005.1, 4011, 4027, 4101, and 4312 by authorizing the Department to oversee visitation within the Secure Visiting Center to actively maintain the safety, health, and security of the staff, patients, and members of the public.

Anticipated Benefits of the Proposed Regulation:

The regulations would implement uniform safety precautions and ensure the Department's ability to comply with Welfare and Institutions Code sections 4005.1, 4011, 4027, and 5325(c)'s mandate to protect the interests of the hospital, carry out the necessary duties of employees of the hospital, and maintain effective control of visitation on hospital grounds within the Secure Visiting Center. The Department will have the authority to govern visitation as codified in the CCR. These regulations will provide uniform regulatory guidance on the visitation process and transparency on the procedures to staff, patients, and members of the public. The Department's hospitals do not currently have regulated language that covers all vital aspects of in-person visitation within the Secure Vis-

iting Center. As a result, some of the hospitals function differently than others when it comes to visitation conduct and procedure. These regulations will allow hospitals procedural uniformity when it comes to processing visitors and governing visitation within the Secure Visiting Center. The ability to oversee all steps of visitor processing and admittance reduces the risk of staff, patients, and members of the public exposure to mental, physical, or emotional distress. These regulations propose methods of lawfully guided visitation to ensure safe interactions between patients and visitors and allow patients the opportunity to be in contact with and interact more with their family members and loved ones.

Evaluation of Inconsistency or Incompatibility with Existing State Regulations:

During the development of this proposed regulatory action, the Department reviewed any existing regulations on this topic and concluded that the proposed regulation is neither inconsistent nor incompatible with existing state regulations or statutes. In arriving at this conclusion, the Department reviewed the Welfare and Institutions Code, Penal Code, and its own regulations in title 9 of the California Code of Regulations.

FORMS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

There are no forms or other items incorporated by reference in these regulations.

LOCAL MANDATE STATEMENT

The Department has determined that the proposed regulations would not impose a mandate on any local agency or school district that requires reimbursement by the state under Government Code, Division 4, Part 7 (commencing with section 17500).

FISCAL IMPACTS

Cost to any Local Agency or School District Which Must Be Reimbursed in Accordance with Government Code Sections 17500 Through 17630: None.

Cost or Savings to any State Agency: None.

Other Nondiscretionary Cost or Savings Imposed on Local Agencies: None.

Cost or Savings in Federal Funding to the State: None.

HOUSING COSTS

The adoption of the proposed regulations will have no effect on housing costs.

SIGNIFICANT, STATEWIDE
ADVERSE ECONOMIC IMPACT
DIRECTLY AFFECTING
BUSINESS AND INDIVIDUALS

The Department is not aware of any significant, statewide adverse economic impact directly affecting businesses, including the ability of California businesses to compete with businesses in other states.

STATEMENT OF RESULTS OF
ECONOMIC IMPACT ASSESSMENT

The Department concludes that it is unlikely that the proposed regulations will (1) create or eliminate jobs within the State of California, (2) create new businesses or eliminate existing businesses currently doing business within the State of California, and (3) affect the expansion of businesses currently doing business within the State of California. These proposed regulations allow the Department to lawfully govern visitation between patients and visitors within the Secure Visiting Center. The Department aims to ensure a safer environment for everyone in state hospitals by targeting in-person visitation risks and operations that pose threats to the health and safety of staff, patients, and members of the public.

The proposed regulation will protect staff, patients, and members of the public from potential harm and help maintain the integrity and security of hospital facilities. Ultimately, these measures are intended to foster a healthier, more secure atmosphere that prioritizes the well-being of all individuals within the hospital community. As a result, the proposed changes positively impact on the health and welfare of California residents and worker safety. The proposed changes do not address specific environmental concerns, so they will not affect the State's environment.

Benefits of the regulation to the health and welfare of California residents, worker safety, and the state's environment:

These regulations will allow the Department to ensure a uniform system of visitation is implemented throughout all hospitals. Regulating visitation, particularly patient and visitor conduct, will improve the health and safety of the staff, patients, and members of the public at state hospitals.

STATEMENT OF POTENTIAL
COST IMPACT ON PRIVATE
PERSONS OR BUSINESS

The Department is not aware of any cost impacts that a representative private person or business would necessarily incur in reasonable compliance with the proposed action.

SMALL BUSINESS DETERMINATION

The Department has determined that the proposed regulations do not affect small businesses because the regulations oversee the operations of State-run hospitals and not private small businesses.

COST IMPACTS TO A REPRESENTATIVE PRIVATE PERSON OR BUSINESS

The Department is not aware of any cost impacts that a representative private person or business would necessarily incur in reasonable compliance with the proposed action.

STATEMENT OF ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

The Department must determine that no reasonable alternative it considered or that has otherwise been identified and brought to its attention would be more effective in carrying out the purpose for which the action is proposed, 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 provision of law.

The Department invites interested persons to submit statements or arguments with respect to alternatives to the proposed regulation during the comment period.

CONTACT PERSONS

The primary contact for this regulatory action is Anna Libonati, and the backup contact is Rachelle Sack. They can be reached by telephone at (916) 654-2478 or email at DSH.Regulations@dsh.ca.gov.

AVAILABILITY STATEMENTS

The Department has prepared an Initial Statement of Reasons (ISOR) for the proposed regulatory action, which includes a summary of the economic impacts of the proposal and all the information upon which the proposal is based, and the proposed text (the “express terms”) of the regulation. Copies of the proposed regulation text and ISOR may be accessed on the Department’s website, listed below, or may be obtained from the Department using the contact information provided in this document.

Further, non-substantive inquiries concerning the proposed regulatory action may be directed to the contact person named in this document at (916) 654-2478. The Department has compiled a record of this rulemaking action, which includes all the infor-

mation upon which the proposal is based and is available for inspection upon request to the contact persons.

Following the close of the public comment period or date of the public hearing the Department may adopt the proposed regulations substantially as described in this notice or may modify the proposed regulation if the modifications are sufficiently related to the original text. Except for non-substantive, technical, or grammatical changes, the full text of any modified proposal will be made available for 15 days prior to its adoption to all persons who submit written or oral comments at the hearing; submit written comments during the comment period; and all persons who request notification of such modifications. Please address requests for regulations as modified to the contact person identified in this document.

AVAILABILITY OF THE FINAL STATEMENT OF REASONS

Upon its completion, the Final Statement of Reasons (FSOR) shall be available. Copies may be requested from the contact person in this notice or may be accessed on the Department’s website listed below.

AVAILABILITY OF DOCUMENTS ON THE INTERNET

This notice, the ISOR, the proposed regulation text, and all subsequent regulatory documents, including the FSOR, when completed, are available on the Department website at <https://www.dsh.ca.gov/Publications/Regulations.html>.

TITLE 18. DEPARTMENT OF TAX AND FEE ADMINISTRATION

RELIEF FROM LIABILITY

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the California Department of Tax and Fee Administration (Department), pursuant to the authority in Revenue and Taxation Code (RTC) section 30451, proposes to adopt amendments to California Code of Regulations (CCR), title 18, section (Regulation) 4098, Relief from Liability. The proposed amendments cross reference and provide further notice regarding the provisions of Regulation 4902, Relief from Liability.

AUTHORITY

RTC section 30451.

REFERENCE

RTC section 30284.

INFORMATIVE DIGEST/POLICY
STATEMENT OVERVIEW*Proposed Amendments to Regulation 4098**Background and Current Law*

Regulation 4098 became effective in 2002. The Board adopted Regulation 4098 to implement, interpret, and make specific RTC section 30284, which provides that a person may be relieved of taxes imposed under the Cigarette and Tobacco Products Tax Law (CTPTL) (commencing with RTC section 30001) and interest or penalties added to those taxes, if the Board finds that the person's failure to make a timely report, return, or payment is due to the person's reasonable reliance on written advice from the Board.

Regulation 4902, Relief from Liability, became effective in 2003. The Board adopted Regulation 4902 to implement, interpret, and make specific several similar statutes, including RTC section 30284 (discussed above) and RTC section 41098, which currently provides that a person may be relieved of surcharges imposed under the Emergency Telephone Users Surcharge (ETUS) Act (commencing with RTC section 41001) and interest or penalties added to those surcharges, if the Department finds that the person's failure to make a timely return or payment is due to the person's reasonable reliance on written advice from the Department. Also, the substantive provisions of Regulations 4098 and 4902 were almost identical until 2014 when the Board amended Regulation 4902 to permit "a person with shared accounting and common ownership with [an] audited person" to rely on written advice given by the Board in a prior audit of the audited person under specified circumstances.

In addition, Government Code (GC) 15570.22 transferred the administration of several tax, fee, and surcharge laws from the Board to the Department, operative July 1, 2017, including the administration of the CTPTL and ETUS Act. Also, references to the "Board" in those Department-administered tax, fee, and surcharge laws and the regulations adopted thereunder including Regulation 4098, mean the "Department" pursuant to GC section 15570.24 and RTC section 20, unless the context requires otherwise.

Furthermore, the Department recently adopted Regulation 2444 to implement, interpret, and make specific RTC section 41098 (discussed above). Regulation 2444 cross references Regulation 4902 and provides additional notice that "A person may be relieved from liability for the payment of the 911 and 988 surcharges [imposed under the ETUS Act], including any penalties and interest added to the surcharges, when that liability resulted from the failure to make a timely return or a payment and such failure is found by the Department to be due to reasonable reliance on written advice given by the Department under the conditions set forth in Regulation 4902."

The Department determined that there is an issue (or problem within the meaning of GC section 11346.2, subdivision (b)) with Regulation 4098 because Regulations 4098 and 4902 implement, interpret, and make specific RTC section 30284, but Regulation 4098 has been inconsistent with Regulation 4902 since 2014. The Department also determined that there is an issue (or problem) with Regulation 4098 because it refers to the Board, rather than the Department. Therefore, the Department determined that it is reasonably necessary to propose to amend Regulation 4098 so that it only cross references and provides further notice regarding the provisions of Regulation 4902 in the same manner as Regulation 2444 and it is no longer inconsistent with Regulation 4902 to have the effect and accomplish the objective of addressing the first issue (or problem). The Department also determined that it is reasonably necessary to propose to amend Regulation 4098 so that it refers to the Department, rather than the Board, to have the effect and accomplish the objective of addressing the second issue (or problem).

The proposed amendments provide that a person may be relieved from the liability for the payment of cigarette and tobacco products taxes, including any penalties and interest added to those taxes, when that liability resulted from the failure to make a timely return or a payment and such failure was found by the "Department to be due to reasonable reliance on written advice given by the Department under the conditions set forth in Regulation 4902." The proposed amendments also delete the rest of the text from Regulation 4098.

The Department anticipates that the proposed amendments to Regulation 4098 will promote fairness and benefit taxpayers and the Department by eliminating the inconsistency between Regulation 4098 and Regulation 4902 and providing further notice regarding the provisions of Regulation 4902.

The Department has performed an evaluation of whether the proposed amendments to Regulation 4098 are inconsistent or incompatible with existing state regulations and determined that they are not inconsistent or incompatible with existing state regulations. This is because Regulations 4098, 4902, and 35050 are the only state regulations that implement, interpret, and make specific RTC section 30284, Regulation 35050 is already consistent with Regulation 4902, and the proposed amendments make Regulation 4098 consistent with Regulation 4902. The Department has also determined that there are no existing federal regulations or statutes that are comparable to the proposed amendments to Regulation 4098.

**NO MANDATE ON LOCAL
AGENCIES AND SCHOOL DISTRICTS**

The Department has determined that the adoption of the proposed amendments to Regulation 4098 will not impose a mandate on local agencies or school districts, including a mandate that requires state reimbursement under part 7 (commencing with section 17500) of division 4 of title 2 of the GC.

**ONE-TIME COST TO THE DEPARTMENT,
BUT NO OTHER COST OR SAVINGS TO
STATE AGENCIES, LOCAL AGENCIES,
AND SCHOOL DISTRICTS**

The Department has determined that the adoption of the proposed amendments to Regulation 4098 will result in an absorbable \$577 one-time cost for the Department to update its website after the proposed regulatory action is completed. The Department has determined that the adoption of the proposed amendments to Regulation 4098 will not result in any other direct or indirect cost or savings to any state agency, no cost to any local agency or school district that is required to be reimbursed under part 7 (commencing with section 17500) of division 4 of title 2 of the GC, no other non-discretionary cost or savings imposed on local agencies, and no cost or savings in federal funding to the State of California.

**NO SIGNIFICANT STATEWIDE
ADVERSE ECONOMIC IMPACT
DIRECTLY AFFECTING BUSINESS**

The Department has made an initial determination that the adoption of the proposed amendments to Regulation 4098 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.

EFFECT ON SMALL BUSINESS

The Department has determined that the adoption of the proposed amendments to Regulation 4098 may affect small business.

**NO COST IMPACTS TO PRIVATE
PERSONS OR BUSINESSES**

The Department is not aware of any cost impacts that a representative private person or business would necessarily incur in reasonable compliance with the proposed action.

**RESULTS OF THE ECONOMIC
IMPACT ASSESSMENT REQUIRED
BY GOVERNMENT CODE
SECTION 11346.3, SUBDIVISION (B)**

The Department assessed the economic impact of adopting the proposed amendments to Regulation 4098 on California businesses and individuals and determined that the proposed regulatory action is not a major regulation, as defined in GC section 11342.548 and CCR, title 1, section 2000. Therefore, the Department prepared the economic impact assessment required by GC section 11346.3, subdivision (b)(1), and included it in the initial statement of reasons. In the economic impact assessment, the Department determined that the proposed amendments to Regulation 4098 will neither create nor eliminate jobs in the State of California nor result in the creation of new businesses or the elimination of existing businesses within the state and will not affect the expansion of businesses currently doing business within the State of California. Furthermore, the Department determined that the proposed amendments to Regulation 4098 will not affect the benefits of the regulation to the health and welfare of California residents, worker safety, or the state's environment.

**NO SIGNIFICANT EFFECT
ON HOUSING COSTS**

The adoption of the proposed amendments to Regulation 4098 will not have a significant effect on housing costs.

**DETERMINATION
REGARDING ALTERNATIVES**

The Department must determine that no reasonable alternative considered by it or that has otherwise been identified and brought to its attention would be more effective in carrying out the purpose for which the action is proposed, 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 provision of law than the proposed action.

CONTACT PERSONS

Questions regarding the substance the proposed amendments to Regulation 4098 should be directed to Sarah Smith, Business Taxes Administrator II, by telephone at (916) 309-5292, by email at Sarah.Smith@cdtfa.ca.gov, or by mail at California Department of Tax and Fee Administration, Atten-

tion: Sarah Smith, MIC:50, 651 Bannon Street, Suite 100, Sacramento, CA 95811-0299.

Written comments for the Department's consideration, written requests to hold a public hearing, notices of intent to present testimony or witnesses at the public hearing, and other inquiries concerning the proposed regulatory action should be directed to Kim DeArte, Regulations Coordinator, by telephone at (916) 309-5227, by fax at (916) 322-2958, by email at CDTFA-Regulations@cdtfa.ca.gov, or by mail to: California Department of Tax and Fee Administration, Attention: Kim DeArte, MIC:50, 651 Bannon Street, Suite 100, Sacramento, CA 95811-0299. Kim DeArte is the designated backup contact person to Sarah Smith.

WRITTEN COMMENT PERIOD

The written comment period ends on May 11, 2026. The Department will consider the statements, arguments, and/or contentions contained in written comments received by Kim DeArte at the postal address, email address, or fax number provided above, prior to the close of the written comment period, before the Department decides whether to adopt the proposed amendments to Regulation 4098. The Department will only consider written comments received by that time.

However, if a public hearing is held, written comments may also be submitted during the day of and at the public hearing and the Department will consider the statements, arguments, and/or contentions contained in written comments submitted during the day of or at the public hearing before the Department decides whether to adopt the proposed amendments to Regulation 4098.

AVAILABILITY OF INITIAL STATEMENT OF REASONS AND TEXT OF PROPOSED REGULATION

The Department has prepared copies of the text of the proposed amendments to Regulation 4098 illustrating the express terms of the proposed action. The Department has also prepared an initial statement of reasons for the proposed amendments to Regulation 4098, which includes the economic impact assessment required by GC section 11346.3, subdivision (b)(1). These documents and all the information on which the proposed regulatory action is based are available to the public upon request. The rulemaking file is available for public inspection at 651 Bannon Street, Suite 100, Sacramento, California. The express terms of the proposed amendments to Regulation 4098, and the initial statement of reasons are also available on the Department's website at www.cdtfa.ca.gov/taxes-and-fees/regscont.htm.

PUBLIC HEARING

The Department has not scheduled a public hearing to discuss the proposed amendments to Regulation 4098. However, any interested person or their authorized representative may submit a written request for a public hearing no later than 15 days before the close of the written comment period, and the Department will hold a public hearing if it receives a timely written request.

SUBSTANTIALLY RELATED CHANGES PURSUANT TO GC SECTION 11346.8

The Department may adopt the proposed amendments to Regulation 4098 with changes that are non-substantial or solely grammatical in nature, or sufficiently related to the original proposed text that the public was adequately placed on notice that the changes could result from the originally proposed regulatory action. If a sufficiently related change is made pursuant to GC section 11346.8, the Department will make the full text of the resulting regulation, with the change clearly indicated, available to the public for at least 15 days before adoption. The text of the resulting regulation will be mailed to those interested parties who commented on the original proposed regulation orally or in writing or who asked to be informed of such changes. The text of the resulting regulation will also be available to the public from Kim DeArte. The Department will consider timely written comments it receives regarding a sufficiently related change.

AVAILABILITY OF FINAL STATEMENT OF REASONS

If the Department adopts the proposed amendments to Regulation 4098, the Department will prepare a final statement of reasons. Upon its completion, the final statement of reasons will be made available for inspection at 651 Bannon Street, Suite 100, Sacramento, California, and available upon request by contacting the contact person(s) named above.

AVAILABILITY OF DOCUMENTS ON THE INTERNET

Copies of the notice, initial statement of reasons, and the text of the proposed amendments to Regulation 4098 are available on the Department's website at www.cdtfa.ca.gov/taxes-and-fees/regscont.htm. If the Department publishes other related documents, they will also be available at that website.

TITLE 22. DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

AMEND CONFLICT-OF-INTEREST CODE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the California Department of Public Health, pursuant to the authority vested in it by section 87306 of the Government Code, proposes amendments to its conflict-of-interest code. A comment period has been established commencing on **March 27, 2026** and closing on **May 5, 2026**. All inquiries should be directed to the contact listed below.

The California Department of Public Health proposes to amend its conflict-of-interest code to include employee positions that involve the making or participation in the making of decisions that may foreseeably have a material effect on any financial interest, as set forth in subdivision (a) of section 87302 of the Government Code. The amendment carries out the purposes of the law and no other alternative would do so and be less burdensome to affected persons.

Changes to the conflict-of-interest code include: This rulemaking will add the positions of Deputy Director of Legislative and Governmental Affairs, State Dental Director, Research Scientist Supervisor I, Research Scientist Supervisor II, Senior Management Auditor, Staff Management Auditor, Staff Services Managers serving as Legislative Coordinators, and Supervising Management Auditors to the Conflict of Interest Code for the California Department of Public Health. This rulemaking also establishes disclosure categories for each of the newly added positions identified and makes other technical changes.

The proposed amendment and explanation of the reasons can be obtained from the agency's contact. (See below.)

Any interested person may submit written comments relating to the proposed amendment by submitting them no later than **5 p.m. on May 5, 2026**, or at the conclusion of the public hearing, if requested, whichever comes later. At this time, no public hearing is scheduled. A person may request a hearing no later than **April 27, 2026**.

The California Department of Public Health has determined that the proposed amendments:

1. Impose no mandate on local agencies or school districts.
2. Impose no costs or savings on any state agency.
3. Impose no costs on any local agency or school district that are required to be reimbursed under Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division 4 of Title 2 of the Government Code.
4. Will not result in any nondiscretionary costs or savings to local agencies.

5. Will not result in any costs or savings in federal funding to the state.
6. Will not have any potential cost impact on private persons, businesses or small businesses.

All inquiries concerning this proposed amendment and any communication required by this notice should be directed to:

Hannah Strom-Martin
Office of Regulations
1415 L Street, Suite 500
Phone: (279) 217-0764
hannah.strom-martin@cdph.ca.gov

TITLE 24. BUILDING STANDARDS COMMISSION

BUILDING STANDARDS OF THE CALIFORNIA BUILDING STANDARDS COMMISSION REGARDING THE 2025 CALIFORNIA GREEN BUILDING STANDARDS CODE, CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 24, PART 11 (BSC 03/25)

Notice is hereby given that the California Building Standards Commission (BSC) proposes to adopt, approve, codify, and publish changes to building standards contained in the California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 24, Part 11. The BSC is proposing building standards related to 2025 California Green Building Standards Code.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Reference: Government Code Sections 11346.5(a)(1), 11346.5(a)(15) and 11346.5(a)(17).

A public hearing has not been scheduled; however, written comments will be accepted from **March 27, 2026**, until midnight on **May 11, 2026**.

Comments may be submitted to CBSC via:

Email: cbsc@dgs.ca.gov

U.S. Mail postmarked no later than **May 11, 2026**:

California Building Standards Commission
Attention: Public Comments
2525 Natomas Park Drive, Suite 130
Sacramento, CA 95833

All written comments received are considered part of the public record and will be made available for public inspection via [CBSC's website](#). Public comments may include personally identifiable information (PII) such as name, email address or mailing address.

Interested persons are not required to submit their PII to comment on this rulemaking. However, any PII submitted is subject to posting on the publicly accessible [CBSC website](#) without redaction. Also, only comments received in an accessible format will be viewable on CBSC’s website. Non-accessible comments will be listed on the website and made available upon request. 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 written and oral comments regarding the proposed action on building standards at a public meeting to be conducted by 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 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).

BSC proposes to adopt these building standards under the authority granted by Health and Safety Code Section 18930.5, 18931(c), 18941.10 and 18944.19.

The purpose of these building standards is to implement, interpret, or make specific provisions of Health and Safety Code Section 18930.5, 18931(c), 18941.10, 18944.19 and Water Code Sections 10608.12 and 10608.14.

INFORMATIVE DIGEST

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

Summary of Existing Laws

Health and Safety Code (HSC) Section 18930.5 grants BSC the authority, if no state agency has the authority or expertise to propose green building standards applicable to a particular occupancy, to adopt, approve, codify, update, and publish green building standards for those occupancies.

HSC Section 18931(c) authorizes BSC to resolve conflict, duplication, and overlap in building standards in the code.

HSC Section 18941.10 authorizes BSC to adopt, approve, codify, and publish mandatory building standards for the installation of future electric vehicle charging infrastructure for parking spaces in nonresidential developments.

HSC Section 18944.19 mandates BSC to research, develop, and propose for adoption revised mandatory building standards for short-term and long-term bicycle parking in nonresidential buildings upon the next triennial update of the CALGreen that occurs on or after January 1, 2023. In developing the standards, BSC is required to develop minimum mandatory bicycle parking standards using a method that is independent of the number of vehicle parking spaces.

Water Code (WAT) Section 10608.12 provides definitions of nonfunctional turf and functional turf.

WAT Section 10608.14 mandates that the use of potable water for the irrigation of nonfunctional turf located on commercial, industrial, and institutional properties, other than a cemetery, and on properties of homeowners’ associations, common interest developments, and community service organizations or similar entities is prohibited.

Summary of Existing Regulations

The California Green Building Standards Code, Part 11 of Title 24 of the California Code of Regulations (CCR), also known as the CALGreen Code, contains mandatory and voluntary green building standards for residential and nonresidential facilities.

Summary of Effect

This proposed action will implement the proposed modifications to the California Green Building Standards Code for buildings within BSC authority. This proposal makes clarifying changes only to the existing code language. The Initial Statement of Reasons (ISOR) provides rationale for each specific proposed change and their effect. Once filed with Secretary of State, the updated building standards will be codified and published by January 1, 2027, and will become effective July 1, 2027.

Comparable Federal Statute or Regulations

There are no federal statutes or regulations that are comparable to the proposed updates to the CALGreen Code.

Policy Statement Overview

The broad objective of the proposed action is to maintain building regulations in conformance with existing state laws and regulations. This proposal will achieve that by proposing editorial changes which will provide clarity and regulatory consistency for the code user. BSC is responsible for the development of green building standards for nonresidential occupancies for which no other state agency has authority or expertise. The proposed amendments have clarifying, conforming, or coordinating changes that do not materially alter the substance or intent of the existing code provisions.

Evaluation of Consistency

BSC has determined that the proposed regulations are not inconsistent or incompatible 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).

BSC has determined that there are no other matters prescribed by statute applicable to the agency or to any specific regulation or class of regulations..

**MANDATE ON LOCAL AGENCIES OR
SCHOOL DISTRICTS**

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

BSC has determined that the proposed regulatory action would not impose a mandate on local agencies or school districts. BSC does not have authority to propose building standards for schools. Additionally, the proposed amendments have clarifying, conforming, or coordinating changes that do not materially alter the substance or intent of the existing code provisions.

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.

BSC 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 relied upon to support its initial determination of no effect.

BSC is making clarifying, conforming, or coordinating changes that do not materially alter the substance or intent of the existing code provisions. BSC has conducted five workshops related to electric vehicles and embodied carbon reduction. During and after these workshops, no public comments have been made that provide evidence of material effect. No other facts, evidence, documents, testimony or other evidence has been relied upon to support the initial determination of no effect. The public is welcome to submit any information, facts, or documents either supporting BSC's initial determination or finding to the contrary.

**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:

BSC is not aware of any cost impacts that a representative private person or business would necessarily incur in reasonable compliance with the proposed

action. The proposed amendment has clarifying, conforming, or coordinating changes that do not materially alter the substance or intent of the existing code provisions.

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

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

The BSC has assessed whether and to what extent this proposal will affect the following:

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

These regulations will not affect the creation or elimination of jobs within the State of California.

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

These regulations will not affect the creation of new businesses or elimination of existing businesses within the State of California.

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

These regulations will not affect the expansion of businesses currently doing business within 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.

This proposal will clarify and coordinate existing regulations providing regulatory consistency for the code user, thereby benefitting the health and welfare of California residents, worker safety, and the state’s environment.

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.

N/A.

ESTIMATED COST OF
COMPLIANCE OF STANDARDS
THAT WOULD IMPACT HOUSING

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

BSC has determined that this proposal would not have a significant effect on housing costs. BSC does

not have authority to impose building standards or regulations applicable to housing.

CONSIDERATION OF ALTERNATIVES

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

BSC has determined that no reasonable alternative considered by BSC or that has otherwise been identified and brought to the attention of BSC 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. In addition, no reasonable alternative considered by BSC or that has otherwise been identified and brought to the attention of BSC would be more cost-effective to affected private persons and equally effective in implementing the statutory policy or other provisions of law.

There were no reasonable alternatives available to BSC as the proposed changes are editorial in nature and consistent with interested parties’ input. BSC conducted three CALGreen Carbon Reduction Collaborative public workshops and two Electric Vehicle public workshops to discuss the proposals. The proposed amendments are a result of the findings from the workshops.

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: 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://www.dgs.ca.gov/en/BSC>.

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

BSC 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. The statement shall note that providing the accessible 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:

Kevin Day, 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
OR TECHNICAL QUESTIONS ON
THE PROPOSED CHANGES TO
BUILDING STANDARDS**

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

Primary Contact:

Irina Brauzman, Supervising Architect
California Building Standards Commission
(916) 263-5159
Irina.brauzman@dgs.ca.gov

Back up Contact:

Tim Freeman, Associate Architect
California Building Standards Commission
(916) 263-0353
timothy.freeman@dgs.ca.gov

**TITLE 24. BUILDING STANDARDS
COMMISSION/DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH ACCESS AND INFORMATION
(OFFICE OF STATEWIDE HOSPITAL
PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT)**

2025 CALIFORNIA ELECTRICAL CODE
CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS,
TITLE 24, PART 3 (OSHPD 04/25)

Notice is hereby given that the California Building Standards Commission (CBSC) on behalf of THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE ACCESS AND INFORMATION (HCAI) proposes to adopt, approve, codify, and publish changes to building standards contained in the California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 24, Part 3. HCAI is proposing building standards related to the construction of hospitals, skilled nursing

and intermediate care facilities, licensed clinics, and correctional treatment centers.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Reference: Government Code Sections 11346.5(a)(1), 11346.5(a)(15) and 11346.5(a)(17).

A public hearing has not been scheduled; however, written comments will be accepted from **March 27, 2026**, until midnight on **May 11, 2026**.

Comments may be submitted to CBSC via:

Email: cbsc@dgs.ca.gov

U.S. Mail postmarked no later than **May 11, 2026**:

California Building Standards Commission
Attention: Public Comments
2525 Natomas Park Drive, Suite 130
Sacramento, CA 95833

All written comments received are considered part of the public record and will be made available for public inspection via [CBSC's website](#). Public comments may include personally identifiable information (PII) such as name, email address or mailing address. Interested persons are not required to submit their PII to comment on this rulemaking. However, any PII submitted is subject to posting on the publicly accessible [CBSC website](#) without redaction. Also, only comments received in an accessible format will be viewable on CBSC's website. Non-accessible comments will be listed on the website and made available upon request. 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 written and oral comments regarding the proposed action on building standards at a public meeting to be conducted by 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 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).

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 1418.22 and 129675–130079.

HCAI is proposing this regulatory action based on Health and Safety Code, Sections 1275, 18942 and 129850.

INFORMATIVE DIGEST

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

Summary of Existing Laws

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

Health and Safety Code, Section 1418.22 requires that Skilled Nursing Facilities (SNFs) have an alternative source of power to protect resident health and safety for no fewer than 96 hours for power outages that may result from a public safety power shutoff, an emergency, a natural disaster, or other cause.

Health and Safety Code, Section 18942 requires California Building Standards Commission to publish supplements as necessary during an intervening cycle. Changes adopted during the intervening period shall be limited to clarifying, conforming, or coordinating changes that do not materially alter existing code provisions.

Health and Safety Code, Section 18949.3 transfers the responsibilities of HCAI to adopt regulations relating to building standards, to the California Building Standards Commission.

Health and Safety Code, Sections 129675–130079 authorizes HCAI to provide plan review and construction observation for hospitals, skilled nursing facilities and intermediate care facilities to assure that these health facilities are compliant with the California Building Standards Code.

Health and Safety Code, Section 129850 authorizes HCAI to propose building standards, as necessary, in order to carry out the requirements of the Alfred E. Alquist Hospital Facilities Seismic Safety Act.

Summary of Existing Regulations

Title 24, Part 3, 2025 California Electrical Code (CEC), is based on the 2023 National Electrical Code with California amendments. The CEC contains regulations pertaining to electrical building standards.

Summary of Effect

The proposal makes minor editorial and technical modifications for clarification; provides consistency within Title 24. The proposed standards provide clarification, consistency and alignment with National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 99.

Comparable Federal Statute or Regulations

There are no comparable federal statutes or regulations related to this proposed action.

Policy Statement Overview

HCAI is responsible for the development of building standards for the physical plant of health facilities including hospitals, skilled nursing and intermediate care facilities, licensed clinics, and correctional treatment centers. The intent of this proposal is to provide editorial and minor technical modifications to the regulations for clarification and consistency.

Evaluation of Consistency

The proposed regulation 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 to identify.

**MANDATE ON LOCAL
AGENCIES OR SCHOOL DISTRICTS**

Reference: Government Code Section 11346.5(a)(5).
HCAI has determined that the proposed regulatory action **WOULD 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: \$0.

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.

HCAI has made an initial determination that the adoption/amendment/repeal 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 relied upon to support its initial determination of no effect.

HCAI 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 editorial and technical modifications to the existing code that are in alignment with health facility licensing requirements and national referenced standards.

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:

HCAI is not aware of any cost impacts that a representative private person or business would necessarily incur in reasonable compliance with the proposed action.

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

Reference: Government Code Section 11346.5(a)(10). HCAI has assessed whether 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 building standards and regulations regarding the design and construction of licensed health facilities ensure protection of the public's health, safety, and welfare of California residents through updated amendments. The regulations will not affect worker safety, or the state's environment.

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.

N/A.

ESTIMATED COST OF COMPLIANCE OF STANDARDS THAT WOULD IMPACT HOUSING

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

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

CONSIDERATION OF ALTERNATIVES

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

HCAI has determined that no reasonable alternative considered by HCAI or that has otherwise been identified and brought to the attention of HCAI 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. In addition, no reasonable alternative considered by HCAI or that has otherwise been identified and brought to the attention of HCAI 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: 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://www.dgs.ca.gov/en/BSC>.

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

HCAI 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. The statement shall note that providing the accessible 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:

Kevin Day, 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
OR TECHNICAL QUESTIONS ON
THE PROPOSED CHANGES TO
BUILDING STANDARDS

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

Primary Contact:

Jamie Schnick, Senior Electrical Engineer,
Building Standards Unit
Department of Health Care Access and
Information
Office of Statewide Hospital Planning and
Development
(916) 440–8300
RegsUnit@hcai.ca.gov

Back up Contact:

Lori Campbell, Staff Services Manager I
(Specialist), Building Standards Unit
Department of Health Care Access and
Information
Office of Statewide Hospital Planning and
Development
(916) 440–8300
RegsUnit@hcai.ca.gov

**TITLE 24. BUILDING STANDARDS
COMMISSION/DEPARTMENT
OF HEALTH CARE ACCESS AND
INFORMATION (OFFICE OF
STATEWIDE HOSPITAL
PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT)**

2025 CALIFORNIA MECHANICAL CODE
CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS,
TITLE 24, PART 4 (OSHPD 05/25)

Notice is hereby given that the California Building Standards Commission (CBSC) on behalf of THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE ACCESS AND INFORMATION proposes to adopt, approve, codify, and publish changes to building standards contained in the California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 24, Part 4. HCAI is proposing building standards related to the construction of hospitals, skilled nursing and intermediate care facilities, licensed clinics, and correctional treatment centers.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Reference: Government Code Sections 11346.5(a)(1), 11346.5(a)(15) and 11346.5(a)(17).

A public hearing has not been scheduled; however, written comments will be accepted from **March 27, 2026**, until midnight on **May 11, 2026**.

Comments may be submitted to CBSC via:

Email: cbsc@dgs.ca.gov

U.S. Mail postmarked no later than **May 11, 2026**:

California Building Standards Commission
Attention: Public Comments
2525 Natomas Park Drive, Suite 130
Sacramento, CA 95833

All written comments received are considered part of the public record and will be made available for public inspection via [CBSC's website](#). Public comments may include personally identifiable information (PII) such as name, email address or mailing address. Interested persons are not required to submit their PII to comment on this rulemaking. However, any PII submitted is subject to posting on the publicly accessible [CBSC website](#) without redaction. Also, only comments received in an accessible format will be viewable on CBSC's website. Non-accessible comments will be listed on the website and made available upon request. 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 written and oral comments regarding the proposed action on building standards at a public meeting to be conducted by 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 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). 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 129675–130079.

HCAI is proposing this regulatory action based on Health and Safety Code, Sections 1275, 18942 and 129850.

INFORMATIVE DIGEST

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

Summary of Existing Laws

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

Health and Safety Code, Section 18942 requires California Building Standards Commission to publish supplements as necessary during an intervening cycle. Changes adopted during the intervening period shall be limited to clarifying, conforming, or coordinating changes that do not materially alter existing code provisions.

Health and Safety Code, Section 18949.3 transfers the responsibilities of HCAI to adopt regulations relating to building standards, to the California Building Standards Commission.

Health and Safety Code, Sections 129675–130079 authorizes HCAI to provide plan review and construction observation for hospitals, skilled nursing facilities and intermediate care facilities to assure that these health facilities are compliant with the California Building Standards Code.

Health and Safety Code, Section 129850 authorizes HCAI to propose building standards, as necessary, in order to carry out the requirements of the Alfred E. Alquist Hospital Facilities Seismic Safety Act.

Summary of Existing Regulations

Title 24, Part 4, California Mechanical Code (CMC) is based on the 2024 Uniform Mechanical Code with California amendments. The CMC contains regulations pertaining to mechanical system building standards.

Summary of Effect

The proposed action makes editorial and technical modifications to mechanical building standards. The

proposed standards provide clarification and consistency within the code, coordination with American Society of Heating, Refrigerating, and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) 170, and alignment with national standards.

Comparable Federal Statute or Regulations

There are no comparable federal statutes or regulations related to this proposed action,

Policy Statement Overview

HCAI is responsible for the development of building standards for the physical plant of health facilities including hospitals, skilled nursing and intermediate care 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; coordination with other parts of Title 24, and align the mechanical code provisions with nationally recognized standards.

Evaluation of Consistency

The proposed regulation 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 to identify.

MANDATE ON LOCAL
AGENCIES OR SCHOOL DISTRICTS

Reference: Government Code Section 11346.5(a)(5).
HCAI has determined that the proposed regulatory action **WOULD 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: \$0.

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.

HCAI has made an initial determination that the adoption/amendment/repeal 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 relied upon to support its initial determination of no effect.

HCAI 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 editorial and technical modifications to the existing code that are in alignment with health facility licensing requirements and national referenced standards.

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:

HCAI is not aware of any cost impacts that a representative private person or business would necessarily incur in reasonable compliance with the proposed action.

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

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

HCAI has assessed whether 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 building standards and regulations regarding the design and construction of licensed health facilities ensure protection of the public's health, safety, and welfare of California residents through updated amendments. The regulations will not affect worker safety, or the state's environment.

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.

N/A.

ESTIMATED COST OF COMPLIANCE OF STANDARDS THAT WOULD IMPACT HOUSING

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

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

CONSIDERATION OF ALTERNATIVES

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

HCAI has determined that no reasonable alternative considered by HCAI or that has otherwise been identified and brought to the attention of HCAI 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. In addition, no reasonable alterna-

tive considered by HCAI or that has otherwise been identified and brought to the attention of HCAI 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: [dgs.ca.gov/BSC](https://www.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://www.dgs.ca.gov/en/BSC>.

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

HCAI 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. The statement shall note that providing the accessible 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:

Kevin Day, 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 OR TECHNICAL
QUESTIONS ON THE PROPOSED
CHANGES TO BUILDING STANDARDS

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

Primary Contact:

Lawrence Enright, Senior Mechanical Engineer,
Building Standards Unit
Department of Health Care Access and
Information
Office of Statewide Hospital Planning and
Development
(916) 440–8300
RegsUnit@hcai.ca.gov

Back up Contact:

Lori Campbell, Staff Services Manager I
(Specialist), Building Standards Unit
Department of Health Care Access and
Information
Office of Statewide Hospital Planning and
Development
(916) 440–8300
RegsUnit@hcai.ca.gov

**TITLE 24. BUILDING STANDARDS
COMMISSION/DEPARTMENT
OF HEALTH CARE ACCESS AND
INFORMATION (OFFICE OF
STATEWIDE HOSPITAL PLANNING
AND DEVELOPMENT)**

2025 CALIFORNIA PLUMBING CODE
CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS,
TITLE 24, PART 5 (OSHPD 06/25)

Notice is hereby given that the California Building Standards Commission (CBSC) on behalf of THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE ACCESS AND INFORMATION proposes to adopt, approve, codify, and publish changes to building standards contained in the California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 24, Part 5. HCAI is proposing building standards related to the construction of hospitals, skilled nursing and intermediate care facilities, licensed clinics, and correctional treatment centers.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Reference: Government Code Sections 11346.5(a)(1), 11346.5(a)(15) and 11346.5(a)(17).

A public hearing has not been scheduled; however, written comments will be accepted from **March 27, 2026**, until midnight on **May 11, 2026**.

Comments may be submitted to CBSC via:

Email: cbsc@dgs.ca.gov

U.S. Mail postmarked no later than **May 11, 2026**:

California Building Standards Commission
Attention: Public Comments
2525 Natomas Park Drive, Suite 130
Sacramento, CA 95833

All written comments received are considered part of the public record and will be made available for public inspection via [CBSC's website](#). Public comments may include personally identifiable information (PII) such as name, email address or mailing address. Interested persons are not required to submit their PII to comment on this rulemaking. However, any PII submitted is subject to posting on the publicly accessible [CBSC website](#) without redaction. Also, only comments received in an accessible format will be viewable on CBSC's website. Non-accessible comments will be listed on the website and made available upon request. 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 written and oral comments regarding the proposed action on building standards at a public meeting to be conducted by 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 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).

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 129675–130079.

HCAI is proposing this regulatory action based on Health and Safety Code, Sections 1275, 18942 and 129850.

INFORMATIVE DIGEST

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

Summary of Existing Laws

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

Health and Safety Code, Section 18942 requires the California Building Standards Commission to publish supplements as necessary during an intervening cycle. Changes adopted during the intervening period shall be limited to clarifying, conforming, or coordinating changes that do not materially alter existing code provisions.

Health and Safety Code, Section 18949.3 transfers the responsibilities of HCAI to adopt regulations relating to building standards, to the California Building Standards Commission.

Health and Safety Code, Sections 129675–130079 authorizes HCAI to provide plan review and construction observation for hospitals, skilled nursing facilities and intermediate care facilities to assure that these health facilities are compliant with the California Building Standards Code.

Health and Safety Code, Section 129850 authorizes HCAI to propose building standards, as necessary, in order to carry out the requirements of the Alfred E. Alquist Hospital Facilities Seismic Safety Act.

Summary of Existing Regulations

Title 24, Part 5, California Plumbing Code (CPC) is based on the 2024 Uniform Plumbing Code with California amendments. The CPC contains regulations pertaining to plumbing system building standards for hospitals, skilled nursing and intermediate care facilities, licensed clinics, and correctional treatment centers regulated by HCAI

Summary of Effect

The proposed action makes editorial and technical modifications to plumbing building standards. The proposed standards provide clarification and consistency within the code and align with national standards.

Comparable Federal Statute or Regulations

There are no comparable federal statutes or regulations related to this proposed action.

Policy Statement Overview

HCAI is responsible for the development of building standards for the physical plant of health facilities including hospitals, skilled nursing and intermediate care facilities, licensed clinics, and correctional treatment centers. The intent of this proposal is to provide editorial and minor technical modifications to administrative regulations for clarification and consistency and includes requirements for laws passed that influence standards.

Evaluation of Consistency

The proposed regulation 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 to identify.

**MANDATE ON LOCAL
AGENCIES OR SCHOOL DISTRICTS**

Reference: Government Code Section 11346.5(a)(5).
HCAI has determined that the proposed regulatory action **WOULD 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: \$0.

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.

HCAI has made an initial determination that the adoption/amendment/repeal 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 relied upon to support its initial determination of no effect.

HCAI 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 editorial and technical modifications to the existing code that align with health facility licensing requirements and national referenced standards.

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:

HCAI is not aware of any cost impacts that a representative private person or business would necessarily incur in reasonable compliance with the proposed action.

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

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

HCAI has assessed whether 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 building standards and regulations regarding the design and construction of licensed health facilities ensure protection of the public’s health, safety, and welfare of California residents through updated amendments. The regulations will not affect worker safety, or the state’s environment.

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.

N/A.

ESTIMATED COST OF COMPLIANCE
OF STANDARDS THAT WOULD
IMPACT HOUSING

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

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

CONSIDERATION OF ALTERNATIVES

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

HCAI has determined that no reasonable alternative considered by HCAI or that has otherwise been identified and brought to the attention of HCAI 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. In addition, no reasonable alternative considered by HCAI or that has otherwise been identified and brought to the attention of HCAI 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: [dgs.ca.gov/BSC](https://www.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://www.dgs.ca.gov/en/BSC>.

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

HCAI 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. The statement shall note that providing the accessible 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:

Kevin Day, 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
OR TECHNICAL QUESTIONS ON
THE PROPOSED CHANGES TO
BUILDING STANDARDS**

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

Primary Contact:

Lawrence Enright, Senior Mechanical Engineer,
Building Standards Unit
Department of Health Care Access and
Information
Office of Statewide Hospital Planning and
Development
(916) 440–8300
RegsUnit@hcai.ca.gov

Back up Contact:

Lori Campbell, Staff Services Manager I
(Specialist), Building Standards Unit
Department of Health Care Access and
Information
Office of Statewide Hospital Planning and
Development
(916) 440–8300
RegsUnit@hcai.ca.gov

**TITLE 24. BUILDING STANDARDS
COMMISSION/DIVISION OF
THE STATE ARCHITECT**

2025 CALIFORNIA GREEN BUILDING
STANDARDS CODE, CALIFORNIA CODE
OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 24, PART 11
(DSA–SS 04/25)

Notice is hereby given that the California Building Standards Commission (CBSC) on behalf of Division of the State Architect proposes to adopt, approve, codify, and publish changes to building standards contained in the California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 24, Part 11. DSA–SS is proposing amendments to building standards related to mandatory measures for public schools and community colleges, embodied carbon reduction, rehabilitated landscape area, outdoor potable water use, and weather protection, and proposed note related to nonfunctional turf.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Reference: Government Code Sections 11346.5(a)(1), 11346.5(a)(15) and 11346.5(a)(17).

A public hearing has not been scheduled; however, written comments will be accepted from **March 27, 2026**, until midnight on **May 11, 2026**.

Comments may be submitted to CBSC via:

Email: cbsc@dgs.ca.gov

U.S. Mail postmarked no later than **May 11, 2026**:

California Building Standards Commission
 Attention: Public Comments
 2525 Natomas Park Drive, Suite 130
 Sacramento, CA 95833

All written comments received are considered part of the public record and will be made available for public inspection via [CBSC's website](#). Public comments may include personally identifiable information (PII) such as name, email address or mailing address. Interested persons are not required to submit their PII to comment on this rulemaking. However, any PII submitted is subject to posting on the publicly accessible [CBSC website](#) without redaction. Also, only comments received in an accessible format will be viewable on CBSC's website. Non-accessible comments will be listed on the website and made available upon request. 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 written and oral comments regarding the proposed action on building standards at a public meeting to be conducted by 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 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).

CBSC proposes to adopt these building standards under the authority granted by Health and Safety Code Section 18949.1. The purpose of these building standards is to implement, interpret, or make specific the provisions of Education Code Sections 17280 through

17317, and 81130 through 81142 and Water Code Sections 10608.12 and 10608.14.

The Division of the State Architect is proposing this regulatory action based on Education Code Sections 17310 and 81142.

INFORMATIVE DIGEST

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

Summary of Existing Laws

Health and Safety Code Section 18949.1 transfers the responsibilities of DSA-SS to adopt regulations relating to building standards, to the California Building Standards Commission.

Education Code Sections 17280–17317 and 81130–81142 are known and cited as the “Field Act” and relate to public elementary and secondary (K–12) schools and community colleges respectively.

Education Code Sections 17310 and 81142 authorize the State Architect to establish building standards for the design, construction, and inspection of building systems for public elementary and secondary (K–12) schools and community colleges respectively.

Water Code Section 10608.12 provides definitions of nonfunctional turf and functional turf.

Water Code Section 10608.14 is a part of the California Water Code that states the use of potable water for the irrigation of nonfunctional turf located on institutional properties, which includes higher education institutions and school, is prohibited beginning January 1, 2028.

Summary of Existing Regulations

Existing green building standards apply to the planning, design, operation, construction, use and occupancy of every newly constructed building or structure throughout the State of California. It is not the intent that the green building standards substitute or be identified as meeting the certification requirements of any green building program. The green building standards for public elementary and secondary schools and community colleges are promulgated by the Division of the State Architect. These regulations are contained in the California Green Building Standards Code (CALGreen Code, Part 11, Title 24).

Summary of Effect

The proposed action will implement the proposed modifications to the California Green Building Standards Code for buildings within DSA-SS authority.

- The proposed amendments contain changes which clarify mandatory measures for public K–12 schools and community colleges.
- Clarify minimum rehabilitated landscape area requirements and embodied carbon requirements.

- The proposed amendments also contain an addition of a note which conform to nonfunctional turf requirements mandated by statute.

Once filed with Secretary of State, the standards will be codified and published by January 1, 2027, and will become effective July 1, 2027.

The Initial Statement of Reasons (ISOR) provides a complete description of the proposed building standards and their effect.

Comparable Federal Statute or Regulations

There are no federal statutes or regulations that are comparable to the proposed clarifying and conforming updates to the California Green Building Standards Code (CALGreen Code).

Policy Statement Overview

These proposed actions are to clarify CALGreen Code and to conform with current state law, by amending the 2025 CALGreen Code. These proposed amendments within Part 11 Mandatory Measures applicable to Public K–12 Schools and Community Colleges are related to Nonfunctional Turf, Embodied Carbon Reduction, Rehabilitated Landscape Area, Outdoor Potable Water Use, and Weather Protection, and a note reference requirements mandated by statute.

Evaluation of Consistency

There are no inconsistent or incompatible regulations proposed.

**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 applicable to DSA–SS, or to any specific regulation or class of regulations.

**MANDATE ON LOCAL AGENCIES OR
SCHOOL DISTRICTS**

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

DSA–SS has determined that the proposed regulatory action **WOULD 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: \$0.

**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.

DSA–SS has made an initial determination that the proposed amendments 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 relied upon to support its initial determination of no effect.

These proposals are necessary for clarity and conformance of existing regulations and do not materially alter the substance or intent of the existing regulations. As indicated in the Economic and Fiscal Impact Statement (399) documents and the Initial Statement of Reasons (ISOR) which are part of this rulemaking, these proposals do not pose an economic impact on businesses.

No facts, evidence, documents, testimony or other evidence has been relied upon to support the initial determination of no effect.

**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:

DSA–SS is not aware of any cost impacts that a representative private person or business would necessarily incur in reasonable compliance with the proposed action.

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

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

The DSA–SS has assessed whether and to what extent the proposals will effect the following:

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

DSA–SS has determined the proposed amendments to existing regulations will not have an effect upon the creation or the elimination of jobs within the State of California.

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

DSA–SS has determined the proposed amendments to regulations will not have an effect upon the creation or the elimination of businesses in the State of California.

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

DSA–SS has determined the proposed amendments to regulations will not have an effect upon the expansion of businesses currently doing business within 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.

DSA–SS has determined the proposed amendments to existing regulations will not have an effect upon the health and welfare of California residents, worker safety, and the state’s environment.

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.

N/A.

ESTIMATED COST OF COMPLIANCE OF STANDARDS THAT WOULD IMPACT HOUSING

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

DSA–SS has determined that this proposal would not have an effect on public housing costs at Community Colleges or K–12 public schools.

CONSIDERATION OF ALTERNATIVES

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

DSA–SS has determined that no reasonable alternative considered by DSA–SS or that has otherwise been identified and brought to the attention of DSA–SS 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. In addition, no reasonable alternative considered by DSA–SS or that has otherwise been identified and brought to the attention of DSA–SS 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: 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://www.dgs.ca.gov/en/BSC>.

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

DSA–SS 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. The statement shall note that providing the accessible 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:

Kevin Day, 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
OR TECHNICAL QUESTIONS ON
THE PROPOSED CHANGES TO
BUILDING STANDARDS**

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

Primary Contact:

Alicia Chavez, Supervising Architect
Department of General Services, Division of the
State Architect
Telephone Number: (279) 799–4541
alicia.chavez@dgs.ca.gov

Back up Contact:

Eric Driever, Principal Architect
Department of General Services, Division of the
State Architect
Telephone Number: (916) 443–9829
eric.driever@dgs.ca.gov

**TITLE 24. BUILDING STANDARDS
COMMISSION/DEPARTMENT
OF HOUSING AND
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

2025 CALIFORNIA GREEN BUILDING
STANDARDS CODE CALIFORNIA CODE
OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 24, PART 11
(HCD 01/25)

Notice is hereby given that the California Building Standards Commission (CBSC) on behalf of California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) proposes to adopt, approve, codify, and publish changes to building standards contained in the California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 24, Part

11. The HCD is proposing building standards related to 2025 California Green Building Standards Code (CALGreen).

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Reference: Government Code Sections 11346.5(a)(1), 11346.5(a)(15) and 11346.5(a)(17).

A public hearing has not been scheduled; however, written comments will be accepted from **March 27, 2026**, until midnight on **May 11, 2026**.

Comments may be submitted to CBSC via:

Email: cbsc@dgs.ca.gov

U.S. Mail postmarked no later than **May 11, 2026**:

California Building Standards Commission
Attention: Public Comments
2525 Natomas Park Drive, Suite 130
Sacramento, CA 95833

All written comments received are considered part of the public record and will be made available for public inspection via *CBSC's website*. Public comments may include personally identifiable information (PII) such as name, email address or mailing address. Interested persons are not required to submit their PII to comment on this rulemaking. However, any PII submitted is subject to posting on the publicly accessible *CBSC website* without redaction. Also, only comments received in an accessible format will be viewable on CBSC's website. Non-accessible comments will be listed on the website and made available upon request. 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 written and oral comments regarding the proposed action on building standards at a public meeting to be conducted by 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 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).

CBSC proposes to adopt these building standards under the authority granted by Health and Safety Code Section 18949.5. The purpose of these building standards is to implement, interpret, or make specific the provisions of Health and Safety Code Sections 17040, 17921, 17928, 18938.3, 18941.5, 18944.19, 19984, 19990; Government Code Section 12955.1; and Vehicle Code Section 22511.2.

The California Department of Housing and Community Development is proposing this regulatory action based on Health and Safety Code Sections 17040, 17921, 17928, 17958.12, 18941.10, 18941.11, 19990; and Government Code Sections 12955.1 and 12955.1.1.

INFORMATIVE DIGEST

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

Summary of Existing Laws

Health and Safety Code, sections 17040 respectively require HCD to adopt building standards for employee housing for “... the protection of the public health, safety, and general welfare of employees and the public, governing the erection, construction, enlargement, conversion, alteration, repair, occupancy, use, sanitation, ventilation, and maintenance of all employee housing;” and provide for specified exceptions.

Health and Safety Code, sections 17921 and 17958.12 respectively authorize HCD to propose the adoption, amendment, or repeal of building standards to the CBSC; and sets forth HCD’s authority to propose the adoption of a building standard to authorize local enforcement officials to issue retroactive building permits.

Health and Safety Code, section 17928 requires HCD to review and propose green building standards that HCD determines to be cost–effective and feasible to promote greener construction.

Health and Safety Code, sections 18938.3, 18941.5 and 18941.10 respectively require HCD to propose adoption of building standards based on the most recent version of specified model codes; authorizes cities/counties to adopt more restrictive building standards due to local climatic, geological, or topographical conditions; and authorizes HCD to propose adoption of mandatory building standards related to electric vehicle charging infrastructure.

Health and Safety Code, section 18941.11 requires HCD to research, develop and propose for adoption mandatory building standards for the installation of electric vehicle charging stations in existing multifamily dwellings, hotels and motels during specified retrofits, additions, and alterations to existing parking facilities for which a permit application is submitted on and after the effective date of those building standards.

Health and Safety Code section 18944.19. requires HCD to research and develop, and propose for adoption, mandatory building standards for short–term and long–term bicycle parking in multifamily residential buildings, hotels, and motels.

Health and Safety Code Section 18949.5 transferred authority to adopt, or review and approve building standards to CBSC for specific state agencies.

Health and Safety Code, sections 19990 and 19984 respectively requires HCD to adopt building standards and related regulations for factory–built housing; and for these building standards to be published in the California Building Standards Code.

Government Code, sections 12955.1 and 12955.1.1 address housing discrimination by identifying unlawful practices; require specified building features providing accessibility and use by persons with disabilities; authorizes HCD to propose the adoption, amendment, or repeal of certain applicable building standards to provide accessibility and use by persons with disabilities; and provides definitions for “covered multifamily dwellings” and “multistory dwelling unit” for use in interpretation of section 12955.1.

Vehicle Code, section 22511.2 requires parking spaces served by electric vehicle supply equipment or designated as a future electric vehicle charging space to be counted as at least one standard automobile parking space for purposes of complying with local minimum parking space requirements.

Summary of Existing Regulations

The 2025 California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 24, CALGreen, Part 11, became effective on January 1, 2026.

Existing CALGreen building standards specifically related to the proposed changes:

- Includes mandatory and voluntary building standards.
- Includes section renumbering and reference updates to outdated standards.
- Provides section renumbering to the Residential Occupancies Application Checklist.

Summary of Effect

- Amendments are proposed to clarify Electric Vehicle (EV) charging in new and existing multifamily buildings, hotels, and motels.

- Harmonize with newly adopted provisions in section 4.106.4.3, which were in response to Assembly Bill 1738.
- Section renumbering is being proposed to separate requirements for EV charging for new construction, EV charging for additions and alterations, and bicycle parking. The intent of these amendments is to provide clarity and a distinction between different provisions.
- In response to P–01–24 submitted by CARE, HCD coordinated with the California Building Standards Commission to propose an “informational note”, which directs the code user to the CalRecycle webpage for preparing and diverting waste materials.
- At the request of the California Energy Commission, modifications are proposed to heating and air–conditioning system design equipment requirements. These modifications remove outdated references and direct the code user to the most current requirements in the California Energy Code (Title 24, Part 6).
- Amendments to the Residential Occupancies Checklist are proposed in Section A4.602 to reflect changes proposed for mandatory and voluntary sections of the CALGreen Code in this package.

There is no intended change in regulatory effect. Assembly Bill 130 (Chapter 22, Statutes of 2025) places strict limitations on what the state can consider during this Intervening Code Adoption Cycle, including the categories of amendments that are permitted during the Intervening Code Adoption Cycle pursuant to Health and Safety Code (HSC) section 18942(a)(2). HCD has determined that the proposed changes are permissible under HSC section 18942(a)(2)(A) pertaining to technical updates to existing code requirements that are needed to effectuate or facilitate their incorporation or implementation since they are “clarifying, conforming, or coordinating changes that do not materially alter the substance or intent of the existing code provisions”.

Comparable Federal Statute or Regulations

These regulations do not conflict with federal law or regulations.

Policy Statement Overview

The purpose of the CALGreen Code is to improve public health, safety, and general welfare by enhancing the design and construction of buildings through the use of building concepts promoting greener construction, that have a positive environmental impact, and encourage cost–effective sustainable construction practices in the following categories: planning and design; energy efficiency; water efficiency and conservation; material conservation and resource efficiency;

and environmental quality. The CALGreen Code also includes standards designed to address unique California conditions.

HCD is proposing a series of amendments that will provide additional clarity for the code user. These proposals have been harmonized based upon several pre–cycle meetings and comments received from stakeholders. HCD has determined that the proposed changes are permissible under AB 130, HSC, section 18942(a)(2)(A).

Evaluation of Consistency

HCD has determined that the proposed regulations are not inconsistent or incompatible with existing state laws or 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).
None.

**MANDATE ON LOCAL AGENCIES
OR SCHOOL DISTRICTS**

Reference: Government Code Section 11346.5(a)(5).
HCD has determined that the proposed regulatory action WOULD 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**.

HCD has determined that the amendment will have no fiscal effect since there is no intended change in regulatory effect and the proposed amendments do not materially alter the substance or intent of the existing code provisions.

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.

HCD has made an initial determination that the ADOPTION 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 relied upon to support its initial determination of no effect.

HCD has determined that these proposals are necessary for clarity and conformance of existing regulations and do not materially alter the substance or intent of the existing regulations. As indicated in the Economic and Fiscal Impact Statement (399) documents and the Initial Statement of Reasons (ISOR) which are part of this rulemaking, these proposals do not pose an economic impact on businesses.

No facts, evidence, documents, testimony or other evidence has been relied upon to support the initial determination of no effect.

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:

HCD is not aware of any cost impacts that a representative private person or business would necessarily incur in reasonable compliance with the proposed action.

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

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

The HCD has assessed whether and to what extent this proposal will affect the following:

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

These regulations will not affect the creation, or cause the elimination, of jobs within the State of California.

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

These regulations will not affect the creation of new businesses, or cause the elimination of existing businesses, within the State of California.

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

These regulations will not affect the expansion of businesses currently doing business within 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.

HCD has determined this amendment to regulations will not affect the health and welfare of California residents, worker safety, and the state’s environment.

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.

HCD has assessed the proposal regarding the economic impact of recordkeeping and reporting requirements and has determined that a report pursuant to Government Code Section 11346.3(c) is not required.

ESTIMATED COST OF COMPLIANCE
OF STANDARDS THAT WOULD
IMPACT HOUSING

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

HCD has made an initial determination that this proposal will not affect housing costs.

CONSIDERATION OF ALTERNATIVES

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

HCD has determined that no reasonable alternative considered by HCD or that has otherwise been identified and brought to the attention of HCD 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. In addition, no reasonable alternative considered by HCD or that has otherwise been

identified and brought to the attention of HCD 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: 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://www.dgs.ca.gov/en/BSC>.

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

HCD 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. The statement shall note that providing the accessible 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

Kevin Day, 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
OR TECHNICAL QUESTIONS ON
THE PROPOSED CHANGES TO
BUILDING STANDARDS**

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

Primary Contact:

Tyler Mayo, Title 24 Regulations Manager
California Department of Housing and
Community Development
Division of Codes and Standards, State Housing
Law Program
(916) 776-7756
Tyler.Mayo@hcd.ca.gov

Back up Contact:

Mitchel Baker, Assistant Deputy Director
California Department of Housing and
Community Development
Division of Codes and Standards
(916) 214-8097
Mitchel.Baker@hcd.ca.gov

**TITLE 24. BUILDING STANDARDS
COMMISSION/STATE FIRE MARSHAL**

2025 CALIFORNIA MECHANICAL CODE
CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS,
TITLE 24, PART 4 (SFM 02/25)

Notice is hereby given that the California Building Standards Commission (CBSC) on behalf of State Fire Marshal proposes to adopt, approve, codify, and publish changes to building standards contained in the California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 24, Part 4. The SFM is proposing building standards related to 2025 Intervening rulemaking code cycle.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Reference: Government Code Sections 11346.5(a)(1), 11346.5(a)(15) and 11346.5(a)(17).

A public hearing has not been scheduled; however, written comments will be accepted from **March 27, 2026**, until midnight on **May 11, 2026**.

Comments may be submitted to CBSC via:

Email: cbsc@dgs.ca.gov

U.S. Mail postmarked no later than **May 11, 2026**:

California Building Standards Commission
Attention: Public Comments
2525 Natomas Park Drive, Suite 130
Sacramento, CA 95833

All written comments received are considered part of the public record and will be made available for public inspection via [CBSC's website](https://www.cbsc.ca.gov). Public comments may include personally identifiable information (PII) such as name, email address or mailing address. Interested persons are not required to submit their PII

to comment on this rulemaking. However, any PII submitted is subject to posting on the publicly accessible [CBSC website](#) without redaction. Also, only comments received in an accessible format will be viewable on CBSC’s website. Non-accessible comments will be listed on the website and made available upon request. 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 written and oral comments regarding the proposed action on building standards at a public meeting to be conducted by 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 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).

CBSC proposes to adopt these building standards under the authority granted by Health and Safety Code Section 18949.2. The purpose of these building standards is to implement, interpret, or make specific the provisions of Sections 13108, 13143, 13145, 13146, 18930, 18944.21, and 18949.2 of the Health and Safety Code.

The SFM is proposing this regulatory action based on Sections 13108, 13143, 13145, 13146, 18928, 18930, 18934, 18944.21, 18949.2 Health and Safety Code.

INFORMATIVE DIGEST

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

Summary of Existing Laws

Health and Safety Code Section 13108.

(a) Except as limited by Chapter 6 (commencing with Section 140) of Division 1 of the Labor Code and Section 18930 of this code, the State Fire Marshal shall prepare and adopt building standards, not inconsistent with existing laws or ordinances, relating to fire protection in the design and construction ...

Health and Safety Code Section 13143.

Grants the State Fire Marshal authority to prepare and adopt regulations establishing minimum requirements for the prevention of fire and for the protection of life and property against fire and panic in any building or structure used or intended for use as an asylum, jail, mental hospital, hospital, home for the elderly, children’s nursery, children’s home or institution not otherwise excluded from the coverage of this subdivision, school, or any similar occupancy of any capacity, and in any assembly occupancy where 50 or more persons may gather together in a building, room, or structure for the purpose of amusement, entertainment, instruction, deliberation, worship, drinking or dining, awaiting transportation, or education.

Health and Safety Code Section 13145.

The State Fire Marshal, the chief of any city, county, or city and county fire department or district providing fire protection services, or a Designated Campus Fire Marshal, and their authorized representatives, shall enforce in their respective areas building standards relating to fire and panic safety adopted by the State Fire Marshal and published in the California Building Standards Code and other regulations that have been formally adopted by the State Fire Marshal for the prevention of fire or the protection of life and property against fire or panic.

Health and Safety Code Section 13146.

Enforcement of the State Fire Marshal fire and panic safety building standards is delegated to either the fire chief or the chief building official.

Health and Safety Code Section 18928.

Requires each state agency adopting or proposing adoption of a model code, national standards, or specification shall reference the most recent edition of applicable model codes, national standards, or specifications.

Health and Safety Code Section 18930

Health and Safety Code Section 18930 establishes the criteria and process for adopting building standards in California. It requires that any building standard proposed by a state agency be submitted to and approved by the California Building Standards Commission (CBSC) before it can be codified in the California Building Standards Code. The adopting agency must provide an analysis demonstrating that the

proposed standard satisfies the statutory “nine–point criteria,” including that the standard does not conflict with existing regulations, is within the agency’s authority, serves the public interest (such as health and safety), is reasonable and cost–effective, and incorporates applicable national standards or model codes where appropriate.

Health and Safety Code Section 18934

State agencies proposing to adopt building standards shall adopt, and the commission shall approve, regulations establishing procedures to ensure public participation in the development of building standards and regulations

Health and Safety Code Section 18944.21

The commission was required to consider adopting the latest specified American Society of Heating, Refrigerating, and Air–Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) and Underwriters Laboratories (UL) consensus safety standards for refrigeration systems into the California Building Standards Code.

Health and Safety Code Section 18949.2

(a) Any responsibilities of the State Fire Marshal to adopt, through a formal rulemaking process as provided in Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code, relating to building standards, including, but not limited to, Sections 13108, 13143, 13143.6, and 13211, are hereby transferred to the commission.

(b) The State Fire Marshal shall remain the state agency responsible for developing building standards to implement the state’s fire and life safety policy. In its role as the fire and life safety standard developing agency, the State Fire Marshal shall continue its existing activities and forums designed to facilitate compromise and consensus among the various individuals and groups involved in the development of the state’s codes related to fire and life safety.

(c) The state’s fire and life safety building standards, as developed by the State Fire Marshal and as adopted by the commission, shall continue to be based on the state’s fire and life safety policy goals and mandates as they existed prior to the enactment of this chapter and as they are amended.

Summary of Existing Regulations

The SFM currently adopts the California Code of Regulations, Title 24, Part 4, 2025 California Mechanical Code with SFM amendments and additional building standards relating to regulations that establish minimum requirements for the prevention of fire and for the protection of life and property against fire and in any building or structure used or intended for use as defined in each of the Health and Safety Code references shown above. SFM has the statutory authority to propose the adoption of the ASHRAE 15 safety standard by reference, which governs the design, installation, and operation of building and heat-

ing, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) systems, ensuring uniform compliance and protection for the public.

Summary of Effect

The general purpose of this proposed action is principally intended to adopt/amend/repeal certain provisions in the 2025 California Mechanical Code (California Code of Regulations, Title 24, Part 4) based upon updated information or recent actions of the SFM. This proposed action:

- Update ASHRAE 15 standard to the latest edition.

Comparable Federal Statute or Regulations

The SFM has determined that there are no comparable federal regulations or statutes addressing the fire and life safety requirements as presented in this notice.

Policy Statement Overview

The specific purpose of this rulemaking effort by the SFM is to promote consistency, clarity, and technical accuracy across the building, mechanical, and fire safety industries. The proposed amendment aims to strengthen public health and safety by enhancing worker safety through the provision of enforceable requirements for contractors, engineers, the fire service, and inspectors who handle or work near flammable refrigerant piping and equipment. The proposed amendment also supports environmental protection by removing barriers for the use of low–GWP refrigerants, thereby reducing greenhouse gas emissions from the built environment.

Evaluation of Consistency

The proposed regulations are consistent 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).

The SFM has determined that there are no other prescribed statutes or specific regulations or classes of regulations applicable to the amendments and building standards related to the 2025 California Mechanical Code.

**MANDATE ON LOCAL AGENCIES
OR SCHOOL DISTRICTS**

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

SFM has determined that the proposed regulatory action would 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 costs 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: 0.

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.

SFM has made an initial determination that the adoption/amendment/repeal 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 relied upon to support its initial determination of no effect.

The State Fire Marshal affirms that this rulemaking action of no effect will not impose new requirements, costs, or compliance burdens on businesses, as it maintains consistency with existing California building standards and nationally recognized consensus standards. By aligning California with standards already adopted in other jurisdictions, the action supports regulatory uniformity and does not place California businesses at a competitive disadvantage relative to businesses in other states. Based on expert input and comparative analysis, the SFM has deter-

mined that the proposal will not result in significant statewide adverse economic impacts on businesses, including their ability to compete.

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:

SFM is not aware of any cost impacts that a representative private person or business would necessarily incur in reasonable compliance with the proposed action.

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

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

The SFM has assessed whether and to what extent this proposal will affect the following:

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

These regulations will not affect the creation or cause the elimination of jobs within the State of California.

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

These regulations will not affect the creation of new businesses or the elimination of existing businesses within the State of California.

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

These regulations will not affect the expansion of businesses currently doing business within 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.

These regulations will strengthen environmental protection as well as provide the latest fire safety 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.

N/A.

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

Reference: Government Code Section 11346.5(a)(12).
The SFM has determined that no additional cost of compliance with standards would impact housing.

CONSIDERATION OF ALTERNATIVES

Reference: Government Code Section 11346.5(a)(13).
SFM has determined that no reasonable alternative considered by SFM or that has otherwise been identified and brought to the attention of SFM 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. In addition, no reasonable alternative considered by SFM or that has otherwise been identified and brought to the attention of SFM 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: dgs.ca.gov/BSC/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://www.dgs.ca.gov/en/BSC>.

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

SFM 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. The statement shall note that providing the accessible 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:

Kevin Day, 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 OR TECHNICAL
QUESTIONS ON THE PROPOSED
CHANGES TO BUILDING STANDARDS**

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

Primary Contact:

Crystal Sujeski, Division Chief
CALFIRE — Office of the State Fire Marshal
Code Development and Analysis Division
510-846-1276
Crystal.Sujeski@fire.ca.gov

Back up Contact:

Jena Garcia, DSFM III Supervisor
CALFIRE — Office of the State Fire Marshal
Code Development and Analysis Division
916-531-7650
Jena.Garcia@fire.ca.gov

GENERAL PUBLIC INTEREST

**DEPARTMENT OF
FISH AND WILDLIFE**

**CESA CONSISTENCY DETERMINATION
REQUEST FOR BONITA SCHOOL ROAD
BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT
2080-2026-003-05 SANTA BARBARA**

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) received a notice on March 9, 2026 that the

County of Santa Barbara proposes to rely on a consultation between federal agencies to carry out a project that may adversely affect a species protected by the California Endangered Species Act (CESA). The proposed project involves removing and replacing a bridge over the Santa Maria River. Proposed activities will include, but are not limited to, demolition of the existing bridge, removing embankment fill, installing a new bridge that will be supported by 15 sets of paired 5-foot diameter concrete columns founded on cast-in-drilled hole (CIDH) piles with concrete caps, the tops of the caps will be buried 13.7 feet below the riverbed. Approximately 1.35 acres of vegetation will be removed where it interferes with construction activities. The proposed project will occur at the Bonita School Road and bridge that crosses the Santa Maria River approximately 3.4 miles west of the City of Santa Maria (North 34.986219° West 120.513637°).

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) issued a federal biological opinion (BO)(Service Ref. Number 08EVEN00–2021–F–0517) in a memorandum to the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation on November 14, 2025, which considered the effects of the proposed project on state and federally endangered species least Bell’s vireo (*Vireo bellii pusillus*).

Pursuant to California Fish and Game Code section 2080.1, the County of Santa Barbara is requesting a determination that the Incidental Take Statement (ITS) and its associated BO are consistent with CESA for purposes of the proposed project. If CDFW determines the ITS and associated BO are consistent with CESA for the proposed project, the County of Santa Barbara will not be required to obtain an incidental take permit under Fish and Game Code section 2081 subdivision (b) for the proposed project.

**DEPARTMENT OF
FISH AND WILDLIFE**

HABITAT RESTORATION AND
ENHANCEMENT ACT CONSISTENCY
DETERMINATION NUMBER
1653–2026–181–001–R3

Project: Waterman Gap Fish Passage Project

Location: Santa Cruz County

Applicant: Karen Holmes, California Department of Transportation, District 5

Background

Project Location: The Waterman Gap Fish Passage Project (Project) is located at Postmile 19.2 on State Route 9, in Santa Cruz County, at a property owned and managed by the California Department of Transportation and affects the San Lorenzo River. The San

Lorenzo River supports populations of Central California Coast (CCC) steelhead (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*), CCC coho salmon (*Oncorhynchus kisutch*), foothill yellow-legged frog (*Rana boylei*), and California red-legged frog (*Rana draytonii*).

Project Description: The California Department of Transportation (CalTrans) (Applicant) proposes to enhance or restore habitat within the San Lorenzo River to provide a net conservation benefit for CCC steelhead and CCC coho salmon. The Project will restore habitat connectivity and fish passage on the San Lorenzo River by replacing an existing corrugated metal pipe (CMP) culvert and degraded concrete apron at the outlet with a channel-spanning bridge. The streambed will be re-graded downstream, and existing large woody material within the channel will be reconfigured and integrated into the streambed and banks to improve habitat complexity.

The Project will replace the existing 45-foot-long 12-foot-diameter CMP culvert with a 40-foot-wide and 102-foot-long single-span cast-in-place box girder bridge. Concrete retaining walls supported by a total of twelve 24-inch cast-in-drilled-hole (CIDH) piles will be constructed along the bridge approaches at the downstream sides of the bridge, and wing-walls will be constructed on the upstream sides of the bridge. An existing concrete weir located upstream of the culvert will be removed and approximately 150 linear feet of streambed will be re-graded throughout the Project reach using native and imported streambed materials. Larger structural rock will be added to the streambed to improve channel roughness and channel meander. Approximately 23 trees and existing sacked concrete embankments will be removed to allow for installation of the new bridge. Additionally, overhead communication line will be relocated to allow for Project implementation. Gravel filter backing and vegetated rock slope protection will be placed where existing sacked concrete is removed along the left bank on the downstream side of the bridge. Existing large woody materials within the stream channel will be repositioned downstream of the bridge to improve in-stream habitat complexity; and approximately 4 trees removed as part of the Project will be reused to construct two large woody material structures upstream of the bridge and will be anchored to log and rock ballast.

Dewatering and a streamflow bypass system will be needed to remove the existing culvert, weir, sacked concrete embankments, and to install the new bridge. Nightwork will be needed to drill bridge piles and place the pre-cast bridge deck. All associated lighting will be directed away from sensitive habitat. Areas of disturbance including access routes will be revegetated with native trees and shrubs including big leaf ma-

ple, red alder, red osier dogwood, thimbleberry, evergreen huckleberry, and coast redwoods.

Project Size: The total area of ground disturbance associated with the Project is approximately 1.13 acres and 350 linear feet. The proposed Project complies with the General 401 Certification for Small Habitat Restoration Projects and associated categorical exemption from the California Environmental Quality Act (Cal. Code Regs., title 14, § 15333).

Project Associated Discharge: Discharge of materials into Waters of the State, as defined by Water Code section 13050 subdivision (e), resulting from the Project include those associated with the following: (1) 200 cubic yards (CY) of rock slope protection, (2) 4 large wood pieces, (3) 4 CY of log and rock ballast, (4) 360 CY of imported and native streambed materials, and (5) 150 CY of structural rock.

Project Timeframes: Start date: June 2026
 Completion date: November 2029
 Work window: June 1–October 31

Water Quality Certification Background: Because the Project’s primary purpose is habitat restoration intended to improve the quality of waters in California and improve fish passage to 3.4 miles of spawning and rearing habitat, the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) issued a Notice of Applicability (NOA) for Coverage under the State Water Resources Control Board General 401 Water Quality Certification Order for Small Habitat Restoration Projects SB12006GN (Order) (Waste Discharge Identification Project Number 34426WQ01) for the Project. The NOA describes the Project and requires the Applicant to comply with terms of the Order. Additionally, the Applicant has provided a supplemental document that sets forth measures to avoid and minimize impacts to aquatic and terrestrial wildlife species.

Receiving Water: San Lorenzo River
Filled or Excavated Area: Permanent area impacted: 0.01 acres
 Length permanently impacted: 120 feet
 Temporary area impacted: 1.12 acres
 Length temporarily impacted: 350 feet
Dredge Volume: 860 CY of imported and native streambed materials
Discharge Volume: 200 CY of rock slope protection, 4 large wood pieces, 4 CY of log and rock ballast, 360 CY of imported and native streambed materials, and 150 CY of structural rock.
Project Location: Latitude 37.206052 North, Longitude –122.144958 West. (NAD 83)

Regional Water Board staff determined that the Project may proceed under the Order. Additionally,

Regional Water Board staff determined that the Project, as described in the Notice of Intent (NOI) complies with the California Environmental Quality Act (Pub. Resources Code, § 21000 et seq.).

On February 23, 2026, the Director of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) received a notice from the Applicant requesting a determination pursuant to Fish and Game Code Section 1653 that the NOA, NOI, and related species protection measures are consistent with the Habitat Restoration and Enhancement Act (HREA) with respect to the Project.

Pursuant to Fish and Game Code section 1653 subdivision (c), CDFW filed an initial notice with the Office of Administrative Law on February 24, 2026, for publishing in the General Public Interest section of the California Regulatory Notice Register (Cal. Reg. Notice File Number Z–2026–0224–03) on March 6, 2026. Upon approval, CDFW will file a final notice pursuant to Fish and Game Code section 1653 subdivision (f).

Determination

CDFW has determined that the NOA, NOI, and related species protection measures are consistent with HREA as to the Project and meets the conditions set forth in Fish and Game Code section 1653 for authorizing the Project.

Specifically, CDFW finds that: (1) The Project purpose is voluntary habitat restoration and the Project is not required as mitigation; (2) the Project is not part of a regulatory permit for a non–habitat restoration or enhancement construction activity, a regulatory settlement, a regulatory enforcement action, or a court order; and (3) the Project meets the eligibility requirements of the State Water Resources Control Board’s Order for Clean Water Act Section 401 General Water Quality Certification for Small Habitat Restoration Projects.

Avoidance and Minimization Measures

The avoidance and minimization measures for Project, as required by Fish and Game Code section 1653, subdivision (b)(4), were included in an attachment to the NOI, which contains the following categories: (1) Construction Work Windows and Time Restrictions, (2) Qualified Biologist Construction Monitoring and Pre–construction Surveys, (3) Measures to reduce impacts during in–channel work including Fish Relocation, Dewatering, and Diversion Requirements, (4) Exclusion of work in Environmentally Sensitive Areas, (5) Measures for Sediment and Erosion Control, and (6) General and Species–Specific Protection Measures. The specific avoidance and minimization requirements are found in an attachment to the NOI, *Supplemental Avoidance and Minimization Measures to Protect Fish, Wildlife, and Plant Resources, Waterman Gap Fish Passage Project, Santa Cruz County, State Route 9, Postmile 19.2.*

Monitoring and Reporting

As required by Fish and Game Code section 1653, subdivision (g), the Applicant included a copy of the monitoring and reporting plan. The Applicant’s Monitoring and Reporting Plan provides a timeline for restoration, performance standards, and monitoring parameters and protocols. Specific requirements of the plan are found in an attachment to the NOI, *Waterman Gap Fish Passage Monitoring and Reporting Plan*, prepared by CalTrans.

Notice of Completion

Coverage under the State Water Resources Control Board General 401 Water Quality Certification Order for Small Habitat Restoration Projects requires the Applicant to submit a Notice of Completion (NOC) no later than 30 days after the project has been completed. A complete NOC includes at a minimum:

- photographs with a descriptive title;
- date the photograph was taken;
- name of the photographic site;
- Waste Discharge Identification Project number indicated above;
- success criteria for the Project.

The NOC shall demonstrate that the Applicant has carried out the Project in accordance with the Project description as provided in the Applicant’s NOI. Applicant shall include the project name and Waste Discharge Identification Project number with all future inquiries and document submittals. Pursuant to Fish and Game Code section 1653, subdivision (g), the Applicant shall submit the monitoring plan, monitoring report, and notice of completion to CDFW as required by the General Order. Applicant shall submit documents electronically to: Desiree.DelaVega@wildlife.ca.gov.

Project Authorization

Pursuant to Fish and Game Code section 1654, CDFW’s approval of a habitat restoration or enhancement project pursuant to section 1652 or 1653 shall be in lieu of any other permit, agreement, license, or other approval issued by the department, including, but not limited to, those issued pursuant to Chapter 6 (commencing with section 1600) and Chapter 10 (commencing with section 1900) of this Division and Chapter 1.5 (commencing with section 2050) of Division 3. Additionally, Applicant must adhere to all measures contained in the approved NOA and comply with other conditions described in the NOI.

If there are any substantive changes to the Project or if the Water Board amends or replaces the NOA, the Applicant shall be required to obtain a new consistency determination from CDFW. (See generally Fish & Game Code, § 1654, subdivision (c).)

NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION

NOTICE OF CORRECTION

On January 30, 2026, the Native American Heritage Commission published a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking Action concerning California Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (“CalNAGPRA”) Enforcement. (Notice Register 2026, Number 5–Z, January 30, 2026.)

The published Notice stated that the Commission will hold a public hearing starting at 11:00 a.m. on April 17, 2026, at 715 P Street, Auditorium, Sacramento, California.

The correct location for the hearing is Pala Casino, 11154 Highway 76, Sycamore Room, Pala, California. The date and time remain unchanged.

For questions, please contact Michelle Carr at Michelle.Carr@nahc.ca.gov.

RULEMAKING PETITION DECISIONS

DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES

NOTICE OF DECISION ON PETITION TO ADOPT REGULATIONS TITLE 13, CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS

Petitioner

Dustin Thomas Lewis
615 John Muir Dr., Apt. D626
San Francisco, CA 94132

Contact Person

Please direct inquiries regarding this action to Randi Calkins, Regulations Specialist, Department of Motor Vehicles, Legal Affairs Division, P.O. Box 932382, Sacramento, CA 94232–3820.

Availability of Petition

The Petition to adopt regulations is available upon request by contacting the department’s contact person.

Summary of Petition

The petition requests that the department adopt regulations, issue interpretive guidance, grant an administrative exception or issue a provisional exemption regarding weight limits established in Vehicle Code section 9105(d)(3) limiting the availability of fee exemptions to commercial motor vehicles of less than 8,001 pounds unladen weight. Petitioner owns an elec-

tric vehicle exceeding said limit and requests an exclusion of such vehicles from the weight limit.

Department’s Decision

After careful review, the department hereby denies your Petition on the ground that it does not reference the department’s authority to take the regulatory action requested. In fact, this request asks the department to create a rule (or guidance, administrative exception or provisional exemption) which would be inconsistent with a California statute. One of the core tenets of the Administrative Procedure Act is that a regulation cannot be inconsistent with a statute. Government Code section 11349 states, “Consistency” means being in harmony with, and not in conflict with or contradictory to, existing statutes, court decisions, or other provisions of law.”

Pursuant to California Government Code Section 11340.6(a), a petition for the adoption, amendment, or repeal of a regulation, such as in the Petition, must state all of the following clearly and concisely:

- (a) The substance or nature of the regulation, amendment, or repeal requested.
- (b) The reason for the request.
- (c) The reference to the authority of the state agency to take the action requested.

Specifically, the Petition fails to specify or identify any statute that would provide the authority of the department to allow for an exception to the weight limits identified in Vehicle Code section 9105. The department has no ability to override a California statute. This is the purview of the California legislature.

The authority of the department to act and to regulate is specified in the California Vehicle Code section 1651 which allows the director of the department to “...adopt and enforce rules and regulations as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this code relating to the department.” Nothing in this statute authorizes the department to grant administrative exceptions or provisional exemptions, or to promulgate regulations and interpretive guidance that conflicts with an existing California statute.

In summary, the department is unable to issue any directives or regulations that would conflict with Vehicle Code section 9105. For the reasons set forth above, the Petition is denied. However, the department offers you an alternative approach to pursue the relief sought. The legislature is the appropriate entity in California to whom you should submit your request for a change to the weight limit found in Vehicle Code section 9105(d)(3).

PRIVACY PROTECTION AGENCY

NOTICE OF DECISION AND DECISION PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 11340.7

Date: March 11, 2026

Petitioner: K.U. (initials have been used as Petitioner is a self-identified minor)

Subject of Petition: Tiered consent and minimum functional mode for essential consumer devices

Regulatory Sections Affected: California Code of Regulations, Title 11, Division 6, Chapter 1

BACKGROUND

On February 9, 2026, the California Privacy Protection Agency (CPPA or Agency) received a Petition for Rule Making (Petition) from a natural person self-identified as a minor (Petitioner). Due to the Petitioner’s status as a minor, the Agency has redacted Petitioner’s identifying information in this Notice of Decision and Decision Pursuant to Government Code section 11340.7 (Decision). The Petition came before the California Privacy Protection Agency Board at its February 27, 2026 meeting. After considering the Petition, the Agency issues this Decision pursuant to Government Code section 11340.7.

A. Petitions for Rulemaking (GOV. CODE §§ 11340.6 & 11340.7)

The Administrative Procedure Act (APA), which governs rulemaking by state government agencies, allows any interested person to petition a state agency to adopt, amend, or repeal a regulation (petition). Government Code section 11340.6¹ contains the requirements for a petition. Specifically, it must clearly articulate the nature of the regulation requested, the reason for the request, and the state agency’s authority to take the requested action.

Section 11340.7 contains the obligations of a state agency in response to a petition. Upon receiving a petition, a state agency must notify the petitioner in writing that it has received the petition. An agency may grant or deny a petition, grant or deny part of a petition, grant other relief, and take any other action warranted by a petition. Additionally, section 11340.7 requires a state agency to either deny the petition indicating why it has reached that decision in writing or schedule it for public hearing following the notice and hearing requirements for rulemaking under the APA.

¹ All further references are to the Government Code unless otherwise indicated.

An agency’s written decision must identify the agency, the party submitting the petition, the provisions of the California Code of Regulations requested to be affected, reference to authority to take the action requested, the reasons supporting the agency determination, an agency contact person, and the right of interested persons to obtain a copy of the petition from the agency. The written decision must also be submitted to the Office of Administrative Law for publication in the California Regulatory Notice Register. Subsequently, pursuant to Section 11340.7, reconsideration of any part or all of a decision of any agency on any petition submitted no later than 60 days after the state agency’s decision. The request for reconsideration must comply with Section 11340.6 and include the reasons why an agency should reconsider its prior decision. The obligations of the state agency for reconsideration are the same as those for an initial petition.

B. Summary of the Petition

On February 9, 2026, the Agency received the Petition requesting that the Agency engage in rulemaking to require tiered consent and a minimum functional mode for essential consumer devices. The Petitioner respectfully requested that the CPPA formally initiate rulemaking proceedings to achieve the following: (1) define and require the implementation of a Minimal Functional Mode; (2) mandate a tiered consent structure for consumer device activation; (3) solicit public input through structured workshops or formal comment processes; (4) prohibit manufacturers from requiring consent to non–essential data practices to utilize core functions; and (5) mandate the Core/Minimal Functional Mode as the default for minors’ devices. (Petition, VIII. Requested Agency Action, p. 5 and IX. Conclusion and Request for Action, p. 6.)

The Petition indicates that it is common industry practice to require broad consent utilizing comprehensive and extensive terms and conditions before allowing the use of basic functionality on devices. (Petition, III. Background and Current Practices, p. 2.) As such, Petition believes that:

The practice of conditioning access to essential device functionality upon the acceptance of non–essential data processing practices constitutes a direct contravention of core CPRA principles. Consent obtained under duress or necessity cannot, by definition, be considered voluntary, informed, or freely given. Given that basic device functions can demonstrably operate without reliance on extensive cloud services or superfluous telemetry, the current scope of data collection is rendered disproportionate to the stated purpose. (Petition, IV. CPRA Implications, p. 2.)

Petitioner also asserts that the proposed regulatory framework can be implemented through existing architectural patterns already in use. (Petition, VI. Technical Feasibility and Precedents, pp. 4–5.)

In regard to the Agency’s authority to take the requested action, Petitioner references the Agency’s ability to promulgate regulations related to privacy–by–design, data minimization, purpose limitation, and proportional consent, as well as the California Consumer Privacy Act’s elevated privacy protections for minors. (Petition, II. Statutory Authority, p. 2; see Civil Code § 1798.175.)

C. Agency’s Authority

The California Consumer Privacy Act (CCPA), found at Civil Code section 1798.100 et seq., provides consumers with privacy rights related to their personal information that businesses collect, sell, share, maintain, or utilize. Specifically, CCPA provides the Agency with authority to “adopt, amend, and rescind regulations pursuant to Section 1798.185 to carry out the purposes and provisions of the” CCPA. (Civ. Code § 1798.199.140.)

DISCUSSION

The process required for a state agency to schedule a public hearing for proposed regulatory changes, especially those of the nature requested by the Petition, is extensive. To do so, the Agency must comply with the rulemaking requirements of the APA; thus, proceeding in the same fashion as any other regular rulemaking package. This includes conducting research related to the proposed regulatory framework, crafting the regulatory text, completing an economic analysis, drafting the initial statement of reasons, drafting the notice, arranging a date and venue for a public hearing, receiving Board approval to commence formal rulemaking, and submitting rulemaking package to the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) for publication in the Notice Register. The Petition was received on February 9, 2026, and the Agency would have until March 11, 2026, to complete this process. Therefore, it is not operationally feasible for the Agency to set the matter for hearing in compliance with the APA as its response to the Petition.

Additionally, at its November 2025 meeting, the Board directed staff to conduct preliminary rulemaking activities in five priority subject areas, and that work is well underway. To develop regulations suggested by the Petition presently, resources would need to be diverted from the current rulemaking activities. Additionally, the concepts suggested by the Petition are complex, such that they will require significant research, consultation with stakeholders, and possibly a Standardized Regulatory Impact Assessment, which is required for regulations with an economic impact above \$50 million. Moreover, without conducting these critical preliminary rulemaking tasks, the Agency cannot effectively and appropriately evaluate whether each or some of the provisions, not just

the concepts, suggested in the Petition are appropriate. Thus, denying in part and granting in part is also not feasible within the response time period.

The denial of the Petition at this time in no way limits the Agency’s ability to further explore the issues and potential regulatory needs based on the Petition. Rather, denying the Petition allows the Agency to consider Petitioner’s recommendations in a thoughtful and thorough manner that allows for more robust stakeholder participation.

DECISION

Based on the foregoing, the Agency has determined that it must, and hereby does, deny the Petition. However, Agency staff will further explore the concepts raised in the Petition and advise the Board, as appropriate, on future actions.

CONTACT PERSON

Interested persons have the right to obtain a copy of the petition from the Agency and may do so by contacting: Candice Sanders by email at regulations@coppa.ca.gov, by telephone at (916) 642–7558, or by mail at California Privacy Protection Agency, Legal Division — Regulations, 400 R Street, Suite 350, Sacramento, CA 95811.

SUMMARY OF REGULATORY ACTIONS

REGULATIONS FILED WITH THE SECRETARY OF STATE

This Summary of Regulatory Actions lists regulations filed with the Secretary of State on the dates indicated. Copies of the regulations may be obtained by contacting the agency or from the Secretary of State, Archives, 1020 O Street, Sacramento, CA 95814, (916) 653–7715. Please have the agency name and the date filed (see below) when making a request.

Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation
File # 2026–0203–01
Youth Offender Fire Camp Program

In this certificate of compliance pursuant to Government Code section 11346.1(e), the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation adopts a Youth Offender Fire Camp Program and a Certified Youth Offender Program Peer Mentor, and the requirements for both.

Title 15
Adopt: 3040.5
Amend: 3000, 3375.2
Filed 03/17/2026
Effective 03/17/2026
Agency Contact: Dmitriy Kostyuk (279) 223–2313

Department of Food and Agriculture
File # 2026–0302–01
Cotton Jassid (Two–Spotted Leafhopper) Exterior Quarantine

This emergency action pursuant to Government Code section 11346.1 by the California Department of Food and Agriculture establishes an exterior quarantine for the cotton jassid (*Amrasca biguttula*), also known as the two–spotted leafhopper.

Title 03
Adopt: 3290
Filed 03/12/2026
Effective 03/12/2026
Agency Contact: Rachel Avila (916) 698–2947

Education Audit Appeals Panel
File # 2026–0304–02
2025–26 Supplemental Audit Guide

This Education Audit Appeals Panel emergency rulemaking action adopts the March Supplement to the “Guide for Annual Audits of K–12 Local Education Agencies and State Compliance Reporting” for the 2025–2026 fiscal year. This emergency is deemed pursuant to Education Code section 14502.1(b).

Title 05
Amend: 19810
Filed 03/16/2026
Effective 03/16/2026
Agency Contact: Rebecca Lee (279) 269–5775

Emergency Medical Services Authority
File # 2026–0303–02
Implementation of AB 40 — APOT

This emergency rulemaking action by the Emergency Medical Services Authority (“Authority”) readopts regulations implementing the requirements of Assembly Bill 40 (Stats. 2023, c. 793), including definitions, an electronic signature system to document ambulance patient offload times (“APOT”), APOT statewide standards, audit tool methodology to improve the data accuracy of transfer of care with validation from hospitals and local emergency medical services agencies (“LEMSA(s)”), and a technical assistance program and funding support for small rural hospitals and volunteer emergency medical services providers to assist in the carrying out these regulations.

Title 22

Adopt: 100001.01, 100002.01, 100002.02, 100002.03, 100002.04, 100002.05, 100002.06, 100002.07, 100002.08, 100002.09, 100002.10, 100002.11, 100002.12, 100002.13, 100002.14, 100002.15, 100002.16, 100002.17, 100002.18, 100002.19, 100003.01, 100004.01, 100005.01, 100006.01, 100007.01, 100007.02, 100007.03, 100007.04, 100007.05
 Filed 03/13/2026
 Effective 03/13/2026
 Agency Contact:
 Ashley Williams (916) 591–3266

State Lands Commission

File # 2026–0306–01
 Readopt Emergency Rulemaking for 4.7 Performance Standards

This emergency rulemaking action readopts amendments to the State Lands Commission’s performance standards and compliance assessment for the discharge of ballast water for vessels operating in California waters. The amendments require ballast water exchange in near–coastal waters, in addition to complying with existing performance standards.

Title 02

Amend: 2292, 2293
 Filed 03/16/2026
 Effective 03/16/2026
 Agency Contact:
 Nina Tantraphol (916) 574–0452

Department of Managed Health Care

File # 2026–0204–01
 Timely Access to Non–Emergency Health Care Services

This file and print action by the Department of Managed Health Care (“Department”) amends regulations concerning the availability and timely access to health care services. This action is exempt from the Administrative Procedure Act (“APA”) pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 1367.03(f)(5).

Title 28

Amend: 1300.51, 1300.67.1.3, 1300.67.2
 Filed 03/18/2026
 Effective 03/18/2026
 Agency Contact: Leah Gray (916) 327–8031

Department of Motor Vehicles

File # 2026–0212–03
 Conflict–of–Interest Code

This is a Conflict–of–Interest code that has been approved by the Fair Political Commission and is be-

ing submitted for filing with Secretary of State of and printing only.

Title 13

Amend: 1
 Filed 03/12/2026
 Effective 04/11/2026
 Agency Contact: Randi Calkins (916) 282–7294

Fiscal Crisis and Management Assistance Team

File # 2026–0210–01
 Conflict–of–Interest Code

This is a Conflict–of–Interest code that has been approved by the Fair Political Commission and is being submitted for filing with Secretary of State of and printing only.

Title 02

Amend: 59710
 Filed 03/12/2026
 Effective 04/11/2026
 Agency Contact: Michael Fine (661) 636–4308

Department of Social Services

File # 2026–0129–01
 CalWORKs Homeless Assistance (HA), Senate Bill (SB) 1065

This action by the Department of Social Services amends section 211 of division 44 of the Manual of Policies and Procedures to conform to statutory amendments made to Welfare and Institutions Code section 11450 by Senate Bill 1065 (Statutes of 2020) affecting CalWORKs homeless assistance.

Title MPP

Amend: 44–211
 Filed 03/13/2026
 Effective 07/01/2026
 Agency Contact: Tyler Penn (916) 204–0337

Employment Development Department

File # 2026–0202–02
 Adjustments in Provisions of Voluntary Plan Due Date

This Employment Development Department Rulemaking action adopts timing and other requirements for notice and submission of plan changes for an employer operating under a disability compensation voluntary plan.

Title 22

Amend: 3271–1
 Filed 03/16/2026
 Effective 07/01/2026
 Agency Contact: Susana Naranjo (916) 654–8410

**PRIOR REGULATORY
DECISIONS AND CCR
CHANGES FILED WITH THE
SECRETARY OF STATE**

A quarterly index of regulatory decisions by the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) is provided in the California Regulatory Notice Register in the volume published by the second Friday in January, April, July, and October following the end of the preceding quarter. For additional information on actions taken by OAL, please visit oal.ca.gov.

**2026 RULEMAKING
CALENDAR — INCORPORATED
BY REFERENCE**

2026 RULEMAKING CALENDAR

SPECIAL NOTE

In an effort to conserve resources, the 2026 Rulemaking Calendar is being incorporated by reference into this edition of the California Regulatory Notice Register (CRNR).

The 2026 Rulemaking Calendar is accessible through the following means:

1. Download the Rulemaking Calendar online at [2026 Rulemaking Calendar](#). The Rulemaking Calendar's Table of Contents contains links from each agency listing to that agency's Rulemaking Calendar. *Please note that the Rulemaking Calendar is 710 pages and 4.24 MB, so downloading times may vary.*
2. Electronic copies are available from the Office of Administrative Law upon request by emailing staff@oal.ca.gov.
3. Your nearest depository library. Go to <http://www.library.ca.gov/government-publications/state-document-depository-program/depositories/> for a list of ~~California~~ libraries.
4. Subscribers of the Notice Register may request a hard copy of the Rulemaking Calendar with their subscription at no extra charge. Please contact Thomson Reuters at 1-800-328-4880.