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HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE - HSC

DIVISION 13. HOUSING [17000 - 19997] (*Division 13 enacted by Stats. 1939, Ch. 60.*)

PART 2.5. STATE BUILDING STANDARDS [18901 - 18949.31] (*Part 2.5 repealed and added by Stats. 1979, Ch. 1152.*)

CHAPTER 2. Organization [18920 - 18929.1] (*Chapter 2 added by Stats. 1979, Ch. 1152.*)

ARTICLE 3. The Coordinating Council and Advisory Panels [18926 - 18929.1] (*Article 3 added by Stats. 1979, Ch. 1152.*)

18926. (a) There is, in the office of the executive director, a coordinating council. The membership of the council shall consist of the executive director, who shall serve as chairperson, and representatives appointed by the State Director of Public Health, the Director of the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development, the Director of Housing and Community Development, the State Fire Marshal, the Executive Director of the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission, and the Director of General Services.

(b) Subject to the pleasure of the commission:

(1) The council or any member of the council shall, when called and directed in writing by the executive director, work with and assist an agency proposing building standards or adopting building standards, or both, in the development of proposals for building standards.

(2) When a state agency contemplates the adoption of any building standard, it shall, prior to commencing any action to prepare a draft of the proposal, advise the executive director, in writing, of that intent and request the executive director to call the council, or any member of the council, as appropriate, for assistance.

(3) Whenever the commission returns for amendment, or rejects any proposed building standard, and one of the reasons for that action is that approval of the proposal would create a conflict with existing building standards of other adopting agencies, the executive director shall call the council or any member of the council, as appropriate, to assist in the elimination of the conflict.

(4) The council shall draft proposed building standards which the commission is authorized to adopt pursuant to Section 18933 for the consideration of the commission and approval, utilizing the criteria of Section 18930.

(Amended by Stats. 2010, Ch. 610, Sec. 2.3. (AB 2762) Effective January 1, 2011.)

18927. The commission may appoint from the design professions, the building and construction industry, the affected general public, and interested governmental agencies, appropriate advisory panels to advise the commission and its staff with respect to building standards. The persons appointed to the panels shall be specifically knowledgeable and qualified in the type of work embraced by the building standards in question. These persons shall serve without compensation, but may receive actual necessary travel expenses.

(Amended by Stats. 1992, Ch. 897, Sec. 15. Effective January 1, 1993.)

18928. (a) Each state agency adopting or proposing adoption of a model code, national standard, or specification shall reference the most recent edition of applicable model codes, national standards, or specifications.

(b) Each state agency adopting or proposing adoption of a model code, national standard, or specification shall adopt or propose adoption of the most recent editions of the model codes, as amended or proposed to be amended by the adopting agency, within one year after the date of publication of the model codes, national standards, or specifications. The "date of publication of a model code, national standard, or specification" is either of the following:

(1) The date of publication printed in the model code, national standard, or specification. If only a month and year are shown by the model code, national standard, or specification adopting agency or body, the date of publication shall be considered to be the last day of the month shown.

(2) The date determined by the commission, if no publication date is shown in the model code, national standard, or specification. The commission shall notify all adopting agencies of its determination within 15 days.

(c) If the adopting agencies fail to comply with subdivision (b), the commission shall convene a committee to recommend to the commission the adoption, amendment, or repeal, on the agencies' behalf, of the most recent editions of the model codes, national standards, or specifications and necessary state standards.

(Amended by Stats. 1997, Ch. 645, Sec. 13. Effective January 1, 1998.)

18928.1. Building standards adopted or approved by the commission shall incorporate the text of the model codes, applicable national specifications, or published standards, in whole or in part, only by reference, with appropriate additions or deletions therefrom. The commission may elect to adopt or approve standards which incorporate, in whole or in part, the text of these publications, with changes therein, or deletions therefrom, directly incorporated into the text of the California Building Standards Code, but no textual material contained in any of the model codes, as enumerated in Section 18916, may be included in the California Building Standards Code by means other than incorporation by reference, unless the commission and the governing body of the organization that publishes the model codes first reach a written agreement concerning the terms and conditions of the publication, including, but not limited to, whether the publication will be by the commission or the model code organization, or both. The model code governing body may not withhold any publication agreement on the basis of the substantive provisions contained in the California Building Standards Code.

(Added by Stats. 1992, Ch. 897, Sec. 16. Effective January 1, 1993.)

18929. (a) Except as otherwise provided in subdivision (b), administrative regulations adopted by state agencies that apply directly to the implementation or enforcement of building standards shall be forwarded to the California Building Standards Commission for approval. Each regulation shall be adopted in compliance with the procedures specified in Section 18930 and in Article 5 (commencing with Section 11346) of Chapter 3.5 of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code. These administrative regulations shall be published in the administrative part of the California Building Standards Code.

(b) This section shall not apply to any regulations adopted by the Department of Housing and Community Development that apply directly to the implementation or enforcement of building standards.

(Amended by Stats. 1992, Ch. 897, Sec. 16.5. Effective January 1, 1993.)

18929.1. (a) Except as provided in subdivision (c), the commission shall receive proposed building standards from state agencies for consideration in an 18-month code adoption cycle. The commission shall develop regulations setting forth the procedures for the 18-month adoption cycle. The regulations shall ensure all of the following:

(1) Adequate public participation in the development of building standards prior to submittal to the commission for adoption and approval.

(2) Adequate notice, in written form, to the public of the compiled building standards and their justification.

(3) Adequate technical review of proposed building standards and accompanying justification by advisory bodies appointed by the commission.

(4) Adequate time for review of recommendations by advisory bodies prior to action by the commission.

(5) The procedures shall meet the intent of the Administrative Procedure Act (Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code) and Section 18930.

(b) Where this section is in conflict with other provisions of this part, the intent of this section shall prevail.

(c) Commencing October 1, 2025, to June 1, 2031, inclusive, subdivision (a) shall not apply to any building standards affecting residential units and proposed building standards affecting residential units shall not be considered, approved, or adopted by the commission, unless any of the following conditions are met:

(1) The commission deems those changes necessary as emergency standards to protect health and safety.

(2) The building standards are amendments by the State Fire Marshal to building standards within the California Wildland-Urban Interface Code (Part 7 of Title 24 of the California Code of Regulations).

(3) The building standards are proposed for adoption in relation to standards researched pursuant to Section 13108.5.2.

(4) The building standards are proposed for adoption pursuant to Section 17921.9, 17921.11, or 18940.7 of this code, or Section 13558 of the Water Code.

(5) The building standards are necessary to ensure the latest editions of the model codes specified in Section 18916 are incorporated into the triennial edition of the California Building Standards Code, along with any necessary and related state amendments supporting or facilitating the incorporation of the model codes.

(6) The building standards are necessary to incorporate errata or emergency updates to the national model codes specified in Section 18916, along with any necessary and related state amendments supporting or facilitating the incorporation of errata or emergency updates to the model codes.

(7) The building standards under consideration would take effect on or after January 1, 2032.

(Amended by Stats. 2025, Ch. 22, Sec. 38. (AB 130) Effective June 30, 2025.)