

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
DIVISION OF CODES AND STANDARDS
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January 9, 1998

INFORMATION BULLETIN 98-01 (EH-SHL-MP-FBH)

**TO: CITY AND COUNTY BUILDING OFFICIALS
EMPLOYEE HOUSING ACT ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES
MOBILEHOME PARK OPERATORS
EMPLOYEE HOUSING OPERATORS
FACTORY-BUILT HOUSING MANUFACTURERS
DESIGN APPROVAL AGENCIES
QUALITY ASSURANCE AGENCIES
INTERESTED PARTIES (EH-SHL-FBH)
DIVISION STAFF**

SUBJECT: 1997 LEGISLATIVE CHANGES EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 1998

This Information Bulletin summarizes 1997 legislative changes to the Health and Safety Code (HSC) that have a direct impact upon programs subject to Department responsibility. There may have been other 1997 legislative changes effecting these programs and the following summaries, provided for informational purposes, are not represented to be all inclusive.

1. **Chapter 49 of the 1997 Statutes (AB 359 House)** adds HSC § 17039 to the employee Housing Act requiring that the occupants of employee housing properly use the facilities furnished and comply with the maintenance and sanitation provisions of the Act.
2. **Chapter 645 of the 1997 Statutes (AB 1071, Cordoza)** amends several HSC Sections and adds a new Section relating to building standards.

(a) The State Housing Law, Division 13, Part 1.5:

(1) § 17913 was amended to provide that the Department notify specified parties of the effective date of the model codes as established by the California Building Standards Commission.

(2) § 17920 was amended to delete the definition of the Commission of Housing and Community Development.



(3) § 17920.9 was amended to delete reference to separate Department approval for testing agencies dealing with foam building systems.

(4) § 17921 was amended to reflect that the Department "proposes" the adoption of building standards to the California Building Standards Commission rather than "adopts" building standards.

(5) § 17922.8 was amended to delete reference to the "Commission" of Housing and Community Development.

(6) § 17924 was amended to change the phrase "adopt and submit" to "propose and submit" building standards.

(7) § 17927 was amended to change the phrase "adopt, amend or repeal and submit" to "propose the adoption, amendment or repeal" of building standards.

(8) § 17952 was amended to change the reference from the "Commission" to the "Department" of Housing and Community Development.

(9) § 17958 was amended to change the reference from "State" to "California" Building Standards Code/Commission.

(10) § 17958.1 was amended to change the reference from the California "Administrative Code" to "Code of Regulations."

(11) § 17958.5 was amended to:

(A) Change the requirements for local governments to file findings of local climatic, geological or topographical conditions and related modifications of California Building Standards from filing with the Department to filing with the California Building Standards Commission.

(B) Delete the requirement for the Department and the State Fire Marshal to annually forward the findings and modifications made by local governments based upon local climatic, geological or topographical conditions to the California Building Standards Commission.

NOTE: The above amendment has an immediate and direct effect upon local governments. Previously, no local government modification based upon climatic, geological or topographical conditions could become operative until a copy of that modification and the local government finding were filed with the Department of Housing and Community Development. Now, effective January 1, 1998, the local government findings and modifications are neither effective nor operative until they are filed with the California Building Standards Commission, 1300 I Street, Suite 720, Sacramento, California 95814.

3. **Chapter 913 of the 1997 Statutes (SB 873, Vasconcellos)** adds HSC § 116049.1 relating to "public swimming pools" and generally defines a public swimming pool as any type of pool other than one for a single family residence. This new provision of law requires that all underwater wet-niche light fixtures operating at more than 15 volts be protected by a ground fault circuit interrupter and that all light fixtures in public swimming pools have encapsulated electrical terminals. In addition, any public swimming pool not meeting these new requirements on **January 1, 1998** is required to be brought into compliance by **July 1, 1998**, and, by **September 1, 1998** the owner or operator of the pool must have the pool inspected by a qualified inspector to determine compliance with these new provisions.

NOTE: Questions pertaining to the above requirements for public swimming pools should be directed to the nearest office of the Department of Health Services or to the local Health Department.

Unless indicated otherwise above, questions pertaining to this Information Bulletin may be directed to ~~Mr.~~ Bruce McKarley at (916) 445-9471.



Travis Pitts
Deputy Director