Established in 1953 by the California Building Standards Law, the California Building Standards Commission (BSC) is an independent commission within the State and Consumer Services Agency. Commission members are appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the State Senate.

The Building Standards Commission (BSC) is authorized by California Building Standards Law (Health and Safety Code Sections 18901 through 18949.6) to administer the processes related to the adoption, approval, publication, and implementation of California's building codes. These building codes serve as the basis for the design and construction of buildings in California.

Processes include, but are not limited to, the adoption/approval of model building codes that serve as the basis for California's building codes, the adoption/approval of building standards not addressed by model codes, and the publication of California's building codes.

From http://www.bsc.ca.gov/title_24/default.htm

California Building Standards Codes

(also known as the California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 24)

is a compilation of three types of building standards from three different origins:

- Building standards that have been adopted by state agencies **without change** from building standards contained in national model codes
- Building standards that have been **adopted and adapted** from the national model code standards to meet California conditions
- Building standards, authorized by the California legislature, that constitute extensive additions
 not covered by the model codes that have been adopted to address particular California
 concerns

...the national model code standards adopted into Title 24 apply to all occupancies in California except for modifications adopted by state agencies and local governing bodies.

.....

California Code of Regulations Title 24 (Effective January 1, 2008)

...in 12 parts is the official triennial compilation and publication of the adoptions, amendments and repeal of administrative regulations to California Code of Regulations, Title 24, also referred to as the California Building Standards Code.

The California Building Standards Code is published in its entirety every three years by order of the California legislature, with supplements published in intervening years.

The California legislature delegated authority to various state agencies, boards, commissions and departments to create building regulations to implement the State's statutes.

These building regulations, or standards, have the same force of law, and take effect 180 days after their publication unless otherwise stipulated. The California Building Standards Code applies to occupancies in the State of California as annotated.

A city, county, or city and county may establish more restrictive building standards reasonably necessary because of local climatic, geological or topographical conditions.

Findings of the local condition(s) and the adopted local building standard(s) must be filed with the California Building Standards Commission to become effective and may not be effective sooner than the effective date of this edition of the California Building Standards Code.

Local building standards that were adopted and applicable to previous editions of the California Building Standards Code do not apply to this edition without appropriate adoption and the required filing.