

Local Amendments

Any city, county, or fire protection district may establish more restrictive building standards than those contained in the California Building Standards Code (California Code of Regulations, [Title 24](#)), if the amendment is reasonably necessary because of local climatic, geological, or topographical conditions [Health and Safety Code Section 18941.5(b)].

Rules for Cities/Counties

When making a local amendment, the law requires that a city or county do all of the following [Health and Safety Code Section 17958.7(a)]

- Expressly mark and identify each change to existing building standards.
- Make an express finding that each change is reasonably necessary because of local climatic, geological, or topographical conditions.
- File with the BSC a copy of each change and its related findings.

No city or county amendment is effective until the city or county files the change and its related findings with the BSC. The failure of a city or county to file its amendment with the BSC implies that the California Building Standards Code, without amendment, applies within that local jurisdiction.

Rules for Fire Protection Districts

A fire protection district must submit its findings and modifications to a city or county for ratification. In turn, the city or county must submit the findings and modifications to the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD).

BSC Response to Amendment Filing

The BSC will send a letter to the city or county acknowledging receipt of the amendment.

Additional Information

For more information on local amendments, see [Bulletin 99-01: Local Government Amendments](#) and [Bulletin 01-01: Fire Protection District Amendments](#).

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