

**Significant Changes to the
California Building Code
2022 Edition**

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Preface

The purpose of *Significant Changes to the California Building Code, 2022 Edition* is to familiarize building officials, fire officials, plans examiners, inspectors, design professionals, contractors and others in the construction industry with many of the important changes in the 2022 *California Building Code* (CBC). This publication is designed to assist those code users in identifying the specific code changes that have occurred and, more importantly, understanding the reasons behind the changes. It is also a valuable resource for jurisdictions in their code-adoption process.

Only a portion of the total number of code changes to the CBC are discussed in this book. The changes selected were identified for a number of reasons, including the frequency of application, special significance or change in application. However, the importance of those changes not included is not to be diminished. Further information on all code changes can be found in the *Complete Revision History to the 2021 I-Codes*, available from the International Code Council® (ICC®) online store. The revision history provides the published documentation for each successful code change contained in the 2021 *International Building Code* (IBC) since the 2018 edition, which is the base model code for the CBC.

The CBC discussion in this publication addressing significant code changes is organized into eight general categories, each representing a distinct grouping of code topics. It is arranged to follow the general layout of the CBC, including code sections and section number format. The table of contents, in addition to providing guidance in the use of this publication, allows for the quick identification of the significant code changes that occur in the 2022 CBC.

This edition of *Significant Changes to the California Building Code* includes a ninth part that addresses a limited number of selected code changes that occur in the 2022 edition of the *California Existing Building Code* (CEBC). Applicable to all existing buildings, the CEBC is intended to provide flexibility to permit the use of alternative approaches to achieve compliance with minimum requirements to safeguard the public health, safety and welfare. Both structural and nonstructural changes are addressed in Part 9 of this publication.

Throughout the book, each change is accompanied by a photograph, an application example or an illustration to assist and enhance the reader's understanding of the specific change. A summary and a discussion of the significance of the changes are also provided. Each code change is identified by type, either an addition, modification, clarification or deletion.

The code change itself is presented in a format similar to the style utilized for code-change proposals. Deleted code language is shown with a strike-through, and new code text is indicated by underlining. As a result, the actual 2022 code language is provided as well as a comparison with the 2019 code language, so the user can easily determine changes to the specific code text.

As with any code-change text, *Significant Changes to the California Building Code, 2022 Edition* is best used as a study companion to the 2022 CBC. Because only a limited discussion of each change is provided, the code itself should always be referenced to gain a more comprehensive understanding of the code change and its application.

The commentary and opinions set forth in this text are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position of the ICC or California state agencies. In addition, they may not represent the views of any enforcing agency, as such agencies have the sole authority to render interpretations of the CBC. In many cases, the explanatory material is derived from the reasoning expressed by the code-change proponent.

Comments concerning this publication are encouraged and may be directed to the ICC at significantchanges@iccsafe.org.

About the California Building Code

Building officials, design professionals and others involved in the building construction industry recognize the need for a modern, up-to-date building code addressing the design and installation of building systems through requirements emphasizing performance. The *California Building Code* (CBC), in the 2022 edition, is intended to meet these needs through code regulations that safeguard public health and safety in all communities, large and small.

This comprehensive building code establishes minimum regulations for buildings systems through prescriptive- and performance-related provisions. It is founded on broad-based principles that make possible the use of new materials and new building designs. The CBC is applicable throughout the state. However, 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) amendments must be filed with the California Building Standards Commission to become effective. Only the state's significant change amendments are included as part of this publication.

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Kevin was a member of the original IFC Drafting Committee that worked to create the first edition of the IFC. He served for 7 years on the IFC Code Development Committee and was the chairperson of the committee from 2001 to 2004. Kevin has actively participated in numerous technical committees to evaluate specific hazards and technologies and to create regulations specific to those hazards.

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About California Building Officials

California Building Officials (CALBO) is a non-profit corporation dedicated to promoting public health and safety in building construction through responsible legislation, education and building code development. CALBO was founded in 1962 to promote and further the profession of the local California Building Official. With time and achievement, the organization has become the advocate and representative of not only the local California Building Official, but of local building departments, local government entities, and public safety and code enforcement officials.

About the International Code Council®

The International Code Council is the leading global source of model codes and standards and building safety solutions that include product evaluation, accreditation, technology, codification, training and certification. The Code Council's codes, standards and solutions are used to ensure safe, affordable and sustainable communities and buildings worldwide. The International Code Council family of solutions includes the ICC Evaluation Service, the International Accreditation Service, General Code, S. K. Ghosh Associates, NTA Inc., Progressive Engineering Inc., ICC Community Development Solutions and the Alliance for National & Community Resilience. The Code Council is the largest international association of building safety professionals and is the trusted source of model codes and standards, establishing the baseline for building safety globally and creating a level playing field for designers, builders and manufacturers.

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