

LEGISLATIVE DIGEST

[Building Code - Mandatory Disability Access Improvements for Places of Public Accommodation - Extension of Time Deadlines - Deletion of Administrative Fee]

Ordinance amending the Building Code to extend the times for existing buildings with a place of public accommodation either to have all primary entries and paths of travel into the building accessible to persons with disabilities or to receive a City determination of equivalent facilitation, technical infeasibility, or unreasonable hardship; to extend the period for granting extensions from those deadlines; to extend the time to submit the Department of Building Inspection's report on the disability access improvements program to the Board of Supervisors; and eliminating the administrative fee to implement the disability access improvement program; restating the findings of local conditions under the California Health and Safety Code; and directing the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors to forward this Ordinance to the California Building Standards Commission upon final passage.

Existing Law

Chapter 11D of the Building Code establishes a timeline for the owner of an existing building with a place of public accommodation to (1) have the building inspected for compliance with disability access requirements and (2) either have a Primary Entry or Entries and Accessible Entrance Route into the building that is usable by persons with disabilities or obtain a finding from the City that there is equivalent facilitation, compliance is technically infeasible, or compliance is an unreasonable hardship. Section 1108D provides that in no event shall the Access Appeals Commission grant an extension of time to comply beyond seven years from Chapter 11D's effective date. Section 1113D requires the Department of Building Inspection to submit within two years of Chapter 11D's effective date a written report to the Board of Supervisors on the effectiveness of Chapter 11D and any recommendations for amendments.

Amendments to Current Law

This ordinance extends for approximately six months the time for the owner's compliance with the disability access improvement requirements. Also extended by an additional six months is the time for the Department of Building Inspection to submit a written report to the Board and the limitation on granting extensions of time to comply. The Administrative Fee for implementation of the disability access improvement program is deleted.

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