File No.	170159	Committee Item No.
		Board Item No

## **COMMITTEE/BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

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Completed	by: Erica Major	Date June 2, 2017
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[Housing Code - Timers and Devices Restricting Showerhead Water Flow]

Commission upon final passage as required by State law.

Ordinance amending the Housing Code to prohibit the installation of timers or devices, other than required water conservation fixtures, that restrict or interrupt the water flow from showerheads in dwellings, apartment houses, dormitories, lodging houses, and hotels, subject to an exception for owner-occupied dwelling units; requiring shower heads to have a flow of no more than 2.5 gallons per minute; affirming the Planning Department's determination under the California Environmental Quality Act; making findings 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

Unchanged Code text and uncodified text are in plain Arial font.

Additions to Codes are in single-underline italics Times New Roman font.

Deletions to Codes are in strikethrough italics Times New Roman font.

Board amendment additions are in double-underlined Arial font.

Board amendment deletions are in strikethrough Arial font.

Asterisks (\* \* \* \*) indicate the omission of unchanged Code subsections or parts of tables.

Be it ordained by the People of the City and County of San Francisco:

Section 1. Findings.

(a) The Planning Department has determined that the actions contemplated in this ordinance comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (California Public Resources Code Sections 21000 et seq.). Said determination is on file with the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors in File No. 170159 and is incorporated herein by reference. The Board affirms this determination.

(b) On May 17, 2017, the Building Inspection Commission considered this ordinance at a duly noticed public hearing pursuant to Charter Section D3.750.5.

Section 2. Findings Under California Health and Safety Code. The Board of Supervisors hereby finds that the following local conditions apply to the amendments to the Housing Code enacted by this ordinance:

- (a) The City and County of San Francisco is unique among California communities with respect to its significant stock of over 500 single room occupancy hotels ("SROs"), which house approximately 18,000 low-income San Franciscans. SROs are intended to house one or two individuals and typically measure 8 feet by 10 feet and feature toilet and shower facilities shared by other SRO occupants. The majority of SRO buildings in San Francisco were built in the early 1900s, following the 1906 earthquake. SROs tend to be older, and contain older plumbing, than most of the housing stock in San Francisco. SROs in San Francisco were built as housing for low-wage workers, transient laborers, and recent immigrants. However, with decreased demand for unskilled labor in the workforce and as welfare policies changed and in the 1960s, SROs began to house more unemployed and elderly people, and deinstitutionalized psychiatric patients.
- (b) Today, SROs continue to house the most vulnerable populations, including the indigent, the elderly, and mental health patients. The San Francisco Department of Public Health has reported that SROs commonly suffer from plumbing issues, including lack of running water, lack of hot or cold water, and non-functioning showers. In recognition of the unique characteristics of SROs and other older housing stock in which the most vulnerable populations reside, unique Housing Code provisions are required to prevent building owners from exacerbating existing plumbing problems in SROs and other older housing stock.
- (c) The San Francisco Housing Code ("Housing Code") mandates minimum requirements for the "protection of life, limb, health, property, safety and welfare of the general

public and the owners and occupants of residential buildings in San Francisco." Pursuant to Housing Code Section 1001, a building or portion thereof is "substandard" and a "nuisance" if it contains inadequate sanitation and safety, such as "lack of, or improper water closet, lavatory, and bath tub or shower in a dwelling unit"; "lack of, or improper water closets, lavatories, bath tubs or showers per number of guests in a hotel"; or "lack of hot and cold running water to plumbing fixtures in a hotel or lodging house." The use of timers or other devices that restrict or interrupt water flow from showerheads, other than any water conservation fixtures required by Chapters 12 and 12A of the Housing Code, constitutes "inadequate sanitation and safety" under Housing Code Section 1001.

- (d) It is important to reduce residents' water usage as part of a plan to address drought and climate change. However, timers or devices that restrict or interrupt water flow from showerheads may lead to serious inequities and hardships. Water conservation through the use of such timers or devices disproportionately benefits landlords and disproportionately targets tenants of buildings in which such timers and devices are installed. Often, these buildings are large multi-unit residential buildings, such as SROs, housing the most vulnerable populations including the indigent, the elderly, and mental health patients who suffer as a result of showerheads being equipped with such timers and devices. There are superior alternatives to address water conservation and regulation of water flow.
- (e) The goals of both protecting residents' welfare and reducing water use can be achieved by regulating showerhead water flow instead of regulating the duration of a shower. For example, conservation can be achieved by requiring the installation of updated plumbing fixtures designed to improve efficiency without significantly decreasing performance. The California Energy Commission anticipates that, once all showerheads and faucets have been updated by 2029, the reduced flow will save 38 billion gallons of water, 20.2 billion cubic feet of natural gas, and 1,322 gigawatt hours of electricity per year. This approach is more

effective and more equitable than installing timers or other devices that restrict water flow from showerheads, particularly where such timers or devices are being used in below-market housing. Property owners concerned about water usage should install low-flow showerheads, faucets, toilets, and washing machines.

- (f) California Health and Safety Code Sections 17958 and 17958.5 allow the City to make changes or modifications in the requirements contained in the provisions published by the California Building Standards Commission when those changes or modifications are reasonably necessary because of local climatic, geological, or topographical conditions. California Health and Safety Code Section 17958.7 provides that before making any such changes or modifications, the governing body must make express findings that such changes or modifications are reasonably necessary because of the specified local conditions, and those findings shall be filed with the California Building Standards Commission.
- (g) Pursuant to the applicable California Health and Safety Code sections, the Board of Supervisors finds and determines that the conditions described above constitute a general summary of the most significant local conditions giving rise to the need for variance from the California Building and Plumbing Codes and any other applicable provisions published by the California Building Standards Commission. Further, the Board of Supervisors finds and determines that the proposed variances are reasonably necessary based on these local conditions, and that these conditions justify more restrictive standards applicable to the showerhead fixtures in residential buildings in San Francisco.

Section 3. The Housing Code is hereby amended by revising Section 505, to read as follows:

SEC. 505. SANITATION.

\* \* \* \*

(d) Fixtures.

- (1) All plumbing fixtures shall be connected to a sanitary sewer. All plumbing fixtures shall be connected to an approved system of water supply and required fixtures shall be provided with hot and cold running water, except water closets shall be provided with cold water only.
- (2) All plumbing fixtures shall be of an approved nonabsorbent material. <u>No timers</u> or devices, other than water conservation fixtures required by Chapters 12 and 12A of this Code, shall be permitted to restrict or interrupt the water flow from showerheads installed in any dwellings, apartment houses, dormitories, lodging houses, and hotels, as defined in this Code; provided, however, that the prohibition set forth in section 505(d)(2) shall not apply to owner-occupied dwelling units.
- (3) For the purposes of this Section, water heated to a minimum temperature of 105 degrees Fahrenheit (41 degrees Centigrade) and a maximum of 120 degrees Fahrenheit (49 degrees Centigrade) at the tap shall be furnished to hotels and apartment houses.
- (4) Each building shall provide four gallons of hot water storage capacity per gues room and eight gallons of hot water storage capacity per dwelling unit.
- (5) Shower heads with no more than a three-gallon-per-minute 2.5-gallon-per-minute flow shall be required. Showerheads of the ball-joint type that cannot easily be removed from the wall without structural alteration are exempt from this requirement.

\* \* \* \*

Section 4. Effective Date. This ordinance shall become effective 30 days after enactment. Enactment occurs when the Mayor signs the ordinance, the Mayor returns the ordinance unsigned or does not sign the ordinance within ten days of receiving it, or the Board of Supervisors overrides the Mayor's veto of the ordinance.

Section 5. Scope of Ordinance. In enacting this ordinance, the Board of Supervisors intends to amend only those words, phrases, paragraphs, subsections, sections, articles, numbers, punctuation marks, charts, diagrams, or any other constituent parts of the Municipal Code that are explicitly shown in this ordinance as additions, deletions, Board amendment additions, and Board amendment deletions in accordance with the "Note" that appears under the official title of the ordinance.

Section 6. Undertaking for the General Welfare. In enacting and implementing this ordinance, the City is assuming an undertaking only to promote the general welfare. It is not assuming, nor is it imposing on its officers and employees, an obligation for breach of which it is liable in money damages to any person who claims that such breach proximately caused injury.

Section 7. Directions to Clerk. The Clerk of the Board of Supervisors is hereby directed to forward a copy of this ordinance to the California Building Standards Commission upon final passage as required by State law.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

DENNIS J. HERRERA, City Attorney

By:

CHRISTOPHER T. TOM Deputy City Attorney

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#### REVISED LEGISLATIVE DIGEST

(6/5/2017, Amended in Committee)

[Housing Code - Timers and Devices Restricting Showerhead Water Flow]

Ordinance amending the Housing Code to prohibit the installation of timers or devices, other than required water conservation fixtures, that restrict or interrupt the water flow from showerheads in dwellings, apartment houses, dormitories, lodging houses, and hotels, subject to an exception for owner-occupied dwelling units; requiring shower heads to have a flow of no more than 2.5 gallons per minute; affirming the Planning Department's determination under the California Environmental Quality Act; making findings 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 as required by State law.

#### **Existing Law**

Currently, the San Francisco Housing Code ("Housing Code") does not prohibit the installation of timers or devices that restrict or interrupt the water flow from showerheads in dwellings, apartment houses, dormitories, lodging houses, and hotels.

Existing law requires shower heads to have a flow of no more than 3 gallons per minute.

#### Amendments to Current Law

This legislation would amend the Housing Code to prohibit the installation of timers or devices, other than water conservation fixtures required under State law and the Housing Code, that restrict or interrupt the water flow from showerheads in dwellings, apartment houses, dormitories, lodging houses, and hotels, subject to an exception for owner-occupied dwelling units. In addition, the legislation would affirm the Planning Department's determination under the California Environmental Quality Act, make findings of local conditions required under the California Health and Safety Code, and direct the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors to forward this ordinance to the California Building Standards Commission upon final passage, as required by State law.

As a result of an amendment adopted by the Board of Supervisors' Land Use and Transportation Committee on June 5, 2017, the legislation would also require shower heads to have a flow of no more than 2.5 gallons per minute.

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### **BUILDING INSPECTION COMMISSION (BIC)**

Department of Building Inspection Voice (415) 558-6164 - Fax (415) 558-6509 1660 Mission Street, San Francisco, California 94103-2414

May 19, 2017

Edwin M. Lee Mayor Ms. Angela Calvillo Clerk of the Board

Board of Supervisors, City Hall

COMMISSION

1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244

Angus McCarthy President San Francisco; CA 94102-4694

Debra Walker Vice-President Dear Ms. Calvillo:

Kevin Clinch Gail Gilman John Konstin Frank Lee James Warshell RE: File No.170159

Sonya Harris Secretary

Annie Chow Assistant Secretary

Tom C. Hui Director Ordinance amending the Housing Code to prohibit the installation of timers or devices, other than required water conservation fixtures, that restrict or interrupt the water flow from showerheads in dwellings, apartment houses, dormitories, lodging houses, and hotels, subject to an exception for owner-occupied dwelling units; affirming the Planning Department's determination under the California Environmental Quality Act; making findings 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 as required by State law.

The Building Inspection Commission met and held a public hearing on May 17, 2017 regarding File No. 170159 on the proposed amendment to the San Francisco Housing Code referenced above. The Commissioners voted unanimously to support this proposed amendment.

The Commissioners voted as follows:

President McCarthy Yes Vice-President Walker Yes Commissioner Clinch Yes Commissioner Konstin Yes Commissioner Lee Yes Commissioner Warshell Yes

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me at 558-6164.

Sincerely,

Acry Haro

Sonya Harris Commission Secretary

cc:

Tom C. Hui, S.E., Director Mayor Edwin M. Lee Supervisor Aaron Pekin Board of Supervisors



City Hall
Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244
San Francisco 94102-4689
Tel. No. 554-5184
Fax No. 554-5163
TDD/TTY No. 554-5227

February 13, 2017

File No. 170159

Lisa Gibson Acting Environmental Review Officer Planning Department 1650 Mission Street, Ste. 400 San Francisco, CA 94103

Dear Ms. Gibson:

On February 7, 2017, Supervisor Peskin introduced the following proposed legislation:

File No. 170159

Ordinance amending the Housing Code to prohibit the installation of timers or devices, other than required water conservation fixtures, that restrict or interrupt the water flow from showerheads in dwellings, apartment houses, dormitories, lodging houses, and hotels, subject to an exception for ownerdwelling units; affirming the Planning occupied Department's determination under the California Environmental Quality Act; making findings 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 as required by State law.

This legislation is being transmitted to you for environmental review.

Angela/Calvillo, Clerk of the Board

For By Allsa Somera, Legislative Deputy Director Land Use and Transportation Committee

Attachment

c: Joy Navarrete, Environmental Planning Jeanie Poling, Environmental Planning

Not defined as a project under CEQA Guidelines Sections 15378 and 15060(c)(2) because it does not result in a physical change in the environment.

Joy

Digitally signed by Joy Navarrete
DN: cn=Joy Navarrete, o=Planning,
ou=Environmental Planning,
email=Joy.navarrete@sfgov.org,
c=US

Navarrete



City Hall
Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244
San Francisco 94102-4689
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February 13, 2017

File No. 170159

Lisa Gibson Acting Environmental Review Officer Planning Department 1650 Mission Street, Ste. 400 San Francisco, CA 94103

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This legislation is being transmitted to you for environmental review.

Angela Calvillo, Clerk of the Board

By: Alisa Somera, Legislative Deputy Director Land Use and Transportation Committee

Attachment

c: Joy Navarrete, Environmental Planning Jeanie Poling, Environmental Planning



City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244
San Francisco 94102-4689
Tel. No. 554-5184
Fax No. 554-5163
TDD/TTY No. 554-5227

## MEMORANDUM

TO:

Tom Hui, Director, Department of Building Inspection

Sonya Harris, Secretary, Building Inspection Commission

FROM:

ker M

Alisa Somera, Legislative Deputy Director Land Use and Transportation Committee

DATE:

February 13, 2017

SUBJECT:

LEGISLATION INTRODUCED

The Board of Supervisors' Land Use and Transportation Committee has received the following legislation, introduced by Supervisor Peskin on February 7, 2017:

File No. 170159

Ordinance amending the Housing Code to prohibit the installation of timers or devices, other than required water conservation fixtures, that restrict or interrupt the water flow from showerheads in dwellings, apartment houses, dormitories, lodging houses, and hotels, subject to an exception for owner-occupied dwelling units; affirming the Planning Department's determination under the California Environmental Quality Act; making findings 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 as required by State law.

The proposed ordinance is being transmitted pursuant to Charter, Section D3.750-5, for public hearing and recommendation. It is pending before the Land Use and Transportation Committee and will be scheduled for hearing upon receipt of your response.

Please forward me the Commission's recommendation and reports at the Board of Supervisors, City Hall, Room 244, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, San Francisco, CA 94102 or by email at: <a href="mailto:alisa.somera@sfgov.org">alisa.somera@sfgov.org</a>.

c: William Strawn, Department of Building Inspection Carolyn Jayin, Department of Building Inspection



City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244
San Francisco 94102-4689
Tel. No. 554-5184
Fax No. 554-5163
TDD/TTY No. 554-5227

## MEMORANDUM

TO:

Olson Lee, Director, Mayor's Office of Housing and Community

Development

Nadia Sesay, Interim Executive Director, Office of Community Investment

and Infrastructure

Robert Collins, Executive Director, Rent Board

Barbara A. Garcia, Director, Department of Public Health

Harlan Kelly, Jr., General Manager, Public Utilities Commission

Mohammed Nuru, Director, Public Works John Rahaim, Director, Planning Department

FROM:

kr

Alisa Somera, Legislative Deputy Director Land Use and Transportation Committee

DATE:

February 13, 2017

SUBJECT:

LEGISLATION INTRODUCED

The Board of Supervisors' Land Use and Transportation Committee has received the following proposed legislation, introduced by Supervisor Peskin on February 7, 2017:

File No. 170159

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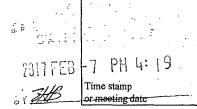
If you have comments or reports to be included with the file, please forward them to me at the Board of Supervisors, City Hall, Room 244, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, San Francisco, CA 94102 or by email at: <a href="mailto:alisa.somera@sfgov.org">alisa.somera@sfgov.org</a>.

Eugene Flannery, Mayor's Office of Housing and Community Development C: Kate Hartley, Mayor's Office of Housing and Community Development Greg Wagner, Department of Public Health Colleen Chawla, Department of Public Health Juliet Ellis, Public Utilities Commission Donna Hood, Public Utilities Commission John Scarpulla, Public Utilities Commission Frank Lee, Public Works John Thomas, Public Works Lena Liu, Public Works Scott Sanchez, Planning Department Lisa Gibson, Planning Department AnMarie Rodgers, Planning Department Aaron Starr, Planning Department Joy Navarrete, Planning Department Jeanie Poling, Planning Department

Print Form

# **Introduction Form**

<u>By a Member of the Board of Supervisors or the Mayor</u>



I hereby submit the following item for introduction (select only one):
1. For reference to Committee. (An Ordinance, Resolution, Motion, or Charter Amendment)
2. Request for next printed agenda Without Reference to Committee.
3. Request for hearing on a subject matter at Committee.
4. Request for letter beginning "Supervisor inquires"
5. City Attorney request.
☐ 6. Call File No. from Committee.
7. Budget Analyst request (attach written motion).
8. Substitute Legislation File No.
9. Reactivate File No.
☐ 10. Question(s) submitted for Mayoral Appearance before the BOS on
☐ Planning Commission ☐ Building Inspection Commission  Note: For the Imperative Agenda (a resolution not on the printed agenda), use a Imperative Form.  Sponsor(s):  Peskin
Subject:
[Housing Code - Timers and Devices Restricting Showerhead Water Flow]
The text is listed below or attached:
Ordinance amending the Housing Code to prohibit the installation of timers or devices, other than required water conservation fixtures, that restrict or interrupt the water flow from showerheads in dwellings, apartment houses, dormitories, lodging houses, and hotels, subject to an exception for owner-occupied dwelling units; affirming the Planning Department's determination under the California Environmental Quality Act; making findings 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 as required by State law.  Signature of Sponsoring Supervisor:
For Clerk's Use Only: