

**LEGISLATIVE DIGEST**

[Environment Code - Office Building After-Hours Lighting]

**Ordinance amending the San Francisco Environment Code by adding a new Chapter 9 to conserve electricity by prohibiting commercial buildings from lighting unoccupied interior spaces after business hours; and to make environmental findings.**

Existing Law

There are no City laws regulating the use of interior lighting in commercial buildings after business hours.

Amendments to Current Law

This Ordinance requires owners of commercial buildings located in the downtown and their tenants to turn off all lights in unoccupied areas after business hours except for lights required by the Building Code to be illuminated for emergency exiting unless the lights are controlled by occupancy sensor control devices or located in areas where after hours cleaning and other maintenance staff are required by their service contract to illuminate areas only while providing services within the area. This Ordinance also requires building owners to submit reports about their buildings.

Background Information

This Ordinance will conserve energy and reduce the carbon footprint of San Francisco's downtown office buildings by stopping the common practice of lighting empty offices and by encouraging building owners and tenants to utilize modern lighting efficiency control devices and to include energy efficiency requirements in contracts for after hours cleaning and maintenance.