
OLR Bill Analysis

sSB 1320

AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES REGARDING ACTING BUILDING OFFICIALS, CERTAIN PARKING SPACES AND ELEVATOR CERTIFICATES OF OPERATION.

SUMMARY

This bill broadens municipal authority to appoint acting building officials, increases allowable handicap parking space sizes to accommodate electric vehicle charging stations, and prohibits an elevator or escalator from receiving a certificate of operation renewal under certain conditions.

The bill allows a municipality's chief executive officer to appoint a licensed building official to be an acting building official for up to 180 days if the building official has an extended absence of 15 consecutive days. Under current law, an acting building official can only be appointed if the existing building official dies, becomes disabled, is dismissed, retires, or has his or her license revoked.

The bill also allows the State Building Code to preempt a state law on handicap parking space sizes under certain circumstances for electric vehicle charging. Existing law requires handicap parking spaces to be (1) 15 feet wide including five feet of cross hatch (i.e. space between parking spaces where there is no parking) for passenger vehicles and (2) 16 feet wide including eight feet of cross hatch for passenger vans. Under the bill, these width requirements would not apply if the State Building Code imposed greater width requirements for these parking spaces to accommodate electric vehicle charging stations (i.e. an electric component assembly or component assembly clusters designed specifically to charge batteries within electric vehicles by allowing electric energy transfers to a battery or other storage device in an electric vehicle).

Lastly, the bill prohibits an elevator or escalator from receiving a certificate of operation renewal if it was deemed unfit for operation during the most recent inspection or has any outstanding violation. As under existing law, elevators or escalators must have a certificate to operate and the certificates must be renewed every two years with a renewal fee of \$240. Elevators in private residences are exempt from renewal requirements.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2025, except the acting building official provision is effective July 1, 2025.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Public Safety and Security Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 29 Nay 0 (03/18/2025)