

DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA HIGHWAY PATROL

NOTICE OF PROPOSED REGULATORY ACTION

TITLE 13, CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS, DIVISION 2,
CHAPTER 6 AMEND ARTICLE 3, SECTION 1162.1 AND
CHAPTER 6.5 AMEND ARTICLE 8, SECTION 1242

FIRE EXTINGUISHERS (CHP-R-15-04)

The California Highway Patrol (CHP) proposes to amend the motor carrier safety regulations contained in Title 13, California Code of Regulations (CCR) to be consistent with the current version of federal regulations in Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations (CFR).

INFORMATIVE DIGEST/POLICY STATEMENT OVERVIEW

Title 13, CCR, Division 2, Chapter 6 contains the CHP hazardous materials regulations, and Article 3, Section 1162.1 contains requirements specific to fire extinguisher requirements. Title 13, CCR, Division 2, Chapter 6.5, contains the CHP motor carrier safety regulations, and Article 8, Section 1242, contains requirements specific to fire extinguisher requirements.

Current state regulations pertaining to fire extinguishers are not substantively the same as current federal regulations. This proposed rulemaking action will enhance the competitiveness of California by eliminating or modifying, to the extent possible, regulations which conflict with updated federal regulations, in order to prevent any negative impact on businesses. Also, this rulemaking will allow the CHP to remain consistent with regulations adopted by the United States Department of Transportation.

Anticipated Benefits of the Proposed Regulation:

This rulemaking action will ensure that interstate carriers are not unnecessarily burdened by California's more stringent fire extinguisher regulations; therefore, alignment with federal regulations will increase compliance without jeopardizing safety. Additionally, This proposed regulatory action will continue to provide a nonmonetary benefit to the protection and safety of public health, employees, and safety to the environment because changes to the application of the regulation merely brings the State's regulation in conformance with existing federal regulation. Minor additions and changes to the regulations are clarifying in nature and all are within existing requirements for industry.

Evaluation of Inconsistency/Incompatibility with Existing State Regulations:

The CHP has evaluated the proposed regulations and has found these are the only regulations concerning fire extinguishers on commercial motor vehicles. Therefore, the proposed regulations are neither inconsistent nor incompatible with existing regulations.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Interested persons may submit written comments on this proposed action via facsimile at (916) 322-3154, by e-mail to cvsregs@chp.ca.gov, or by writing to:

California Highway Patrol
Commercial Vehicle Section
Attention: Officer Kristi McNabb
P.O. Box 942898
Sacramento, CA 94298-0001

Written comments will be accepted until 5:00 PM, on December 7, 2015.

No public hearing has been scheduled. If any person desires a public hearing, a written request must be received by the CHP, Commercial Vehicle Section (CVS), no later than 15 days prior to the close of the written comment period.

AVAILABILITY OF INFORMATION

The CHP has available for public review an initial statement of reasons for the proposed regulatory action, the information upon which this action is based (the rulemaking file), and the proposed regulation text. Requests to review or receive copies of this information should be directed to the CHP at the above address, by facsimile at (916) 322-3154 or by calling the CHP, CVS, at (916) 843-3400. All requests for information should include the following information: the title of the rulemaking package, the requester's name, proper mailing address (including city, state, and zip code), and a daytime telephone number (in case information is incomplete or illegible).

The rulemaking file is available for inspection. Interested parties are advised to call CHP, CVS for an appointment.

All documents regarding the proposed action are available through the CHP's Web site at <https://www.chp.ca.gov/News-Alerts/Regulatory-Actions>.

Any person desiring to obtain a copy of the adopted text and a final statement of reasons may request them at the above noted address. Copies will be posted on the CHP's Web site.

CONTACT PERSON

Any inquiries concerning the written materials pertaining to the proposed regulations, or questions regarding the substance of the proposed regulations, should be directed to Sergeant Josh Clements or Officer Kristi McNabb, of CHP, CVS, at (916) 843-3400.

ADOPTION OF PROPOSED REGULATIONS

After consideration of public comments, the CHP may adopt the proposal substantially as set forth without further notice. If the proposal is modified prior to adoption and the change is not solely grammatical or non-substantive in nature, the full text of the resulting regulation, with the changes clearly indicated, will be made available to the public for at least 15 days prior to the date of adoption.

FISCAL AND RESULTS OF THE ECONOMIC IMPACT ANALYSIS

The CHP has made an initial determination that this proposed regulatory action: (1) will have no effect on housing costs; (2) will impose no new mandate upon local agencies or school districts; (3) will involve no nondiscretionary costs or savings to any local agency; no cost to any local agency or school district for which Sections 17500-17630 of the Government Code (GC) require reimbursement; no cost or savings to any state agency; nor costs or savings in federal funding to the state; (4) will neither create or eliminate jobs in the state of California, nor result in the elimination of existing businesses, nor create or expand businesses in the state of California; (5) will continue to provide a nonmonetary benefit to the protection and safety of public health, employees, and safety to the environment by providing a regulatory basis for enforcement efforts as they relate to the CFR; and (6) will have no significant statewide adverse economic impact directly affecting businesses, including the ability of California businesses to compete with businesses in other states.

COST IMPACTS ON REPRESENTATIVE PRIVATE PERSONS OR BUSINESSES

The CHP is not aware of any cost impacts a representative, private person, or business would necessarily incur in reasonable compliance with the proposed action.

EFFECT ON SMALL BUSINESSES

The CHP has determined the proposed regulation will not affect small businesses as the proposed amendments are either already required by federal regulation or are editorial in nature, and are without regulatory effect. However, the regulated community is encouraged to respond during the public comment period of this regulatory process if significant impacts are identified.

ALTERNATIVES

In accordance with Section 11346.5(a)(13) GC, the CHP must determine no reasonable alternative considered by the agency, or otherwise identified and brought to the attention of the

agency, would be more effective in carrying out the purpose for which the action is proposed; nor be as effective and less burdensome to affected private persons than the proposed action; nor be more cost-effective to affected private persons; and equally effective in implementing the statutory policy or other provision of law. The CHP invites interested parties to present statements or arguments with respect to alternatives to the proposed regulations during the written comment period.

AUTHORITY

This regulatory action is being taken pursuant to Sections 2402 and 34501(a) of the California Vehicle Code (CVC).

REFERENCE

This action implements, interprets, or makes specific, Sections 2402 and 34501(a) CVC.

DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA HIGHWAY PATROL
ROBERT W. MAYNARD, Chief
Enforcement and Planning Division