

Hi, this is Chris Micheli with the Sacramento governmental relations firm of Aprea and Micheli and an adjunct professor at McGeorge School of Law. Thanks for joining today's podcast, which takes a look at the California Building Standards Commission. California Building Standards Commission, CBSC, administers California building standards law, and it processes and utilizes these rules for the development, adoption, approval, publication, and implementation of California's building codes themselves.

The commission itself was established in 1953. It's in the California Building Standards Law, and specifically, the commission is housed in the Department of General Services, which falls under the Government Operations Agency. If we look at Health and Safety Code Division 13 part 2.5, chapter two, article one, it provides for the California Building Standards Commission.

If you look at section 18920, it specifies that there continues in existence in the Government Operations Agency, the California Building Standards Commission, which consists of the secretary of the Government Operations Agency, as well as 10 members who are appointed by the governor, and who are confirmed by the California State Senate.

So section 18921 provides that the members of the commission are selected from, and they have to represent a number of different groups, including the public, design professionals, the building and construction industry, local government building officials, fire and safety officials, and labor.

Basically what the commission is composed of then is four members who are from different professions and industries that are concerned with building construction, including an architect, a mechanical or electrical engineer, a structural engineer, and a licensed contractor. Then three members who were appointed from the general public, at least one of whom is a person with physical disabilities. Then a single member from organized labor from the building trades, a member who's a local building official, a member who is a local fire official.

Then at least one member with experience and knowledge in barrier free architecture, at least one member with experience and knowledge in building energy efficiency standards, and at least one member of the commission with experience and knowledge in sustainable building design, construction, and operations.

Under section 18922, again, the secretary of the Government Operations Agency or his or her representative serves as the chair of the Building Standards Commission. Then the commission itself elects a vice chair each year from amongst the existing members. The term of office for these commissioners is four years. They'll actually hold office until the appointment of their successors, which has to occur within 180 days of their term expiring.

Then we should also note that pursuant to section 18924, that the members of the Building Standards Commission serve without compensation. But those who are not state officers are paid their actual and necessary travel expenses associated with their doing work for the Building Standards Commission itself. So that's our brief overview of the California Building Standards Commission. Thanks for joining today's podcast.