



AB 2044 (Petrie-Norris) - Building Standards Cost Transparency (Effective 1/1/27)



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Overview

AB 2044 strengthens accountability in California's building standards process by making complete compliance cost information a condition of approval. The law is intended to ensure the economic effects of proposed requirements are disclosed before they become part of the state building code. [Bill Language](#) | [Signing Statement](#)

CBPA's Role

CBPA, BOMA California, and CREDA California strongly supported AB 2044, sponsored by the California Building Industry Association. Our organizations joined a broad coalition advocating greater transparency and predictability in the cost of new building standards. CBPA emphasized the importance of understanding regulatory costs before adoption to protect project feasibility and affordability. The bill was signed into law.

Key Provisions

- Prohibits the California Building Standards Commission from approving or adopting a building standard if it finds the initial statement of reasons lacks a completed estimate of compliance costs, including the assumptions used to calculate that estimate.
- Applies this approval safeguard to state agency building standards subject to commission review, including standards affecting commercial construction. The requirement strengthens enforcement of existing cost-disclosure obligations.

Implications for CRE

AB 2044 will give members a clearer basis to evaluate and comment on the financial effects of proposed building requirements before adoption. Better cost information will support more informed decisions about development, redevelopment, and building improvements, helping owners and developers anticipate future expenses. This transparency will strengthen the industry's ability to identify costly proposals early and advocate for workable alternatives before new requirements affect project budgets.

*****This summary provides CBPA members with an overview of AB 2044, its key provisions, and its potential impacts on California's commercial real estate industry. This summary is intended for informational purposes only and does not constitute a legal interpretation or legal advice. Members should consult their legal counsel for guidance on how the law applies to their properties or businesses, including any applicable compliance obligations.*****