



Division of the State Architect

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL SERVICES

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DSA BULLETIN 11-05

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To: Design Professionals
Division of the State Architect Regional Offices
Interested Parties

From: Division of the State Architect
Department of General Services
State of California

SUBJECT: Impact of AB 211- Concerning Door Hardware
Effective July 1, 2011

Purpose: To notify design professionals about provisions of Assembly Bill 211 (2009-2010 Regular Session, Chapter 430), which becomes effective on July 1, 2011.

Background: The bill states;

"The Legislature finds and declares all of the following:

- a. Violent incidents on school campuses are increasing at an alarming rate. Lockdowns are an effective tool that can be used on school campuses to facilitate the safety of pupils and staff during violent incidents.
- b. The locks in most school classrooms, offices, and other rooms where pupils and staff gather can be locked only from the outside, and the safety of school staff and pupils could be placed in jeopardy if school staff is required to go out into a hallway or exterior of the building to lock doors during a violent incident.
- c. Locking mechanisms that lock a door from the inside, commonly referred to as classroom security locks, have been developed to quickly lock doors to classrooms, offices and other rooms from the inside."

Title 24, Part 2, Section 1008.1.9 requires egress door hardware to have quick unlock capability for egress, but does not require the capability to lock the door from inside. AB 211 adds this requirement.

1. The New Law States:

Education Code, Section 17075.50.

- "(a) On and after July 1, 2011, all new construction projects submitted to the Division of the State Architect pursuant to this chapter shall include locks that allow doors to classrooms and any room with an occupancy of five or more persons to be locked from the inside.
- (b) The locks shall conform to the specifications and requirements set forth in Title 24 of the California Code of Regulations.

- (c) Doors that are locked from the outside at all times and pupil restrooms are exempt from the requirements of this section. ”

2. Applicability to School Projects Under Division of the State Architect

(DSA) Jurisdiction: All new school construction projects submitted, pursuant to the Leroy F. Green School Facilities Act of 1998, to DSA for review on or after July 1, 2011 must be designed in compliance with new provisions found in Education Code, Section 17075.50.

The law;

- only applies to K-12 buildings that are receiving state funding. That is, the law is applicable if question #16 on the form DSA-1, the project submittal application, is checked “YES”.

“16. Will project be submitted to the Office of Public School Construction (OPSC) for funding under the School Facility Program? YES NO”

- applies to any newly constructed building and to any individual rooms within the new building with 5 or more occupants, and building entrances.

For example, in large projects, in addition to the building entrances, there may be 20 rooms or more that each have 5 or more occupants. These would need this locking hardware.

Exception (c), above: Doors that are locked from the outside at all times and pupil restrooms are exempt from the requirements.

Examples of rooms that may be exempted, besides restrooms, could be; a storage room or storage building, electrical room, janitor’s closet, boiler room, freezer box or cooler box, elevator equipment room, etc.

- applies to Lease-Back projects that are newly constructed with state funding having rooms with 5 or more occupants.
- applies regardless of occupancy classification group. Includes new administration buildings, press boxes, etc. with state funding and 5 or more occupants.
- applies to new buildings only. This includes new buildings that are separated from existing buildings by a fire wall.
- applies to new buildings sited on new or existing campuses with rooms for 5 or more occupants with state funding.
- does not apply to modernizations of existing buildings, or to additions to existing buildings that do not create a separate building by means of a fire wall.
- does not apply to fire reconstruction when using the original plans.

- does not apply to existing portable buildings that are moved from one site to another.

Note: In all cases, accessibility requirements in the 2010 California Building Code (CBC), Section 1133B5.2 would still also apply.

3. Summary: These new provisions of the Education Code require that doors shall be capable of locking from the inside of the room, when there are 5 or more occupants, so staff members or students do not have to expose themselves on the outside of the room or building to a hostile intruder during "lock-down" procedures.

The requirements for doors that are locked from the outside at all times, and pupil restrooms are not changed by AB 211.

4. No Change in Chapter 10 Egress Door Hardware Requirements: The hardware on an egress door from any Kindergarten through 12th grade public school room that is normally occupied shall meet all of the provisions of Title 24, Part 2, Chapter 10, Section 1008.1.9, i.e. "...readily openable from the egress side without the use of a key or special knowledge or effort." AB 211 only adds the lock ability requirement, where appropriate.

5. DSA plan review comments will address non-compliance.

6. DSA Contact: For questions not answered by this Bulletin, please contact Diana Licon at diana.licon@dgs.ca.gov or (916) 323-2324.