

NOTICE OF PROPOSED REGULATORY ACTION

California Code of Regulations
Title 15, Crime Prevention and Corrections
Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Secretary of the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR), pursuant to the authority granted by Government Code (GC) section 12838.5 and Penal Code (PC) section 5055, and the rulemaking authority granted by PC section 5058, proposes to amend section 3002 of the California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 15, Division 3, Chapter 1, concerning notice of program, behavioral, and participation expectations to the incarcerated population through provision of access to Title 15.

PUBLIC HEARING:

A virtual public hearing will be held on January 13, 2026, from 1:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. To join the virtual hearing, follow this link: [click here](#) or you may call (916) 701-9994 and enter phone conference ID 907 706 624# to join by phone (audio only). The purpose of the hearing is to receive written and oral comments about the proposed regulations. Any person may submit public comments orally or in writing during the hearing.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:

The public comment period will close on **January 13, 2026**. Any person may submit public comments in writing (by mail or by email) regarding the proposed changes. To be considered, comments must be submitted to California Correctional Health Care Services (CCHCS), Health Care Regulations and Policy Section, P.O. Box 588500, Elk Grove, CA, 95758, or by email to HCreulationsandpolicy@cdcr.ca.gov before the close of the comment period.

CONTACT PERSON:

Please direct any inquiries regarding this action to:

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AUTHORITY AND REFERENCE:

GC section 12838.5 provides that commencing July 1, 2005, CDCR succeeds to, and is vested with, all the powers, functions, duties, responsibilities, obligations, liabilities, and jurisdiction of abolished predecessor entities, such as: Department of Corrections, Department of the Youth Authority, and Board of Corrections.

PC section 5000 provides that commencing July 1, 2005, any reference to the Department of Corrections in this or any code, refers to the CDCR, Division of Adult Operations.

PC section 5050 provides that commencing July 1, 2005, any reference to the Director of Corrections, in this or any other code, refers to the Secretary of the CDCR. As of that date, the office of the Director of Corrections is abolished.

PC section 5054 provides that commencing July 1, 2005, the supervision, management, and control of the State prisons, and the responsibility for the care, custody, treatment, training, discipline, and employment of persons confined therein are vested in the Secretary of the CDCR.

PC section 5058 authorizes the Director to prescribe and amend regulations for the administration of prisons.

References cited pursuant to this regulatory action are as follows: 2080, 2930, and 5057. PC.

INFORMATIVE DIGEST/POLICY STATEMENT OVERVIEW:

The CDCR and CCHCS propose to amend sections 3002 of the CCR, Title 15, Division 3, Chapter 1, governing the notice of program, behavioral, and participation expectations to the incarcerated population through provision of access to Title 15. Currently, the interpretive framework represented in this regulation, which is intended to fulfill the requirement to provide Title 15 regulations to the incarcerated population, relies on the mass printing, inventory management, and distribution of physical booklets across CDCR facilities. This process incurs significant and recurring costs related to printing, materials, logistics, and administrative oversight. This situation presents a financial and operational challenge for CDCR in balancing regulatory compliance with efficient resource allocation. In addition, relying on printed books does not ensure the incarcerated population is directed to the most recent rules, which are currently available in e-versions of Title 15 and have regular updates. A sustainable and cost-effective solution is needed to reduce the burden of physical book distribution while maintaining accessibility, accountability, and legal adherence.

The objective of the proposed regulatory change is to reduce the substantial and ongoing costs associated with printing and distributing physical copies of the Title 15 to the incarcerated population by leveraging available technological resources. The proposed changes replace the mandatory issuance of printed books with the requirement to provide and confirm that incarcerated persons have access to Title 15; this change accounts for the availability of digital or alternative formats.

This action provides the following:

- Reduces staff workload, as processing of the yearly Title 15 printing project will be eliminated.
- Minimizes the physical handling, storage, and distribution of the printed materials, thereby streamlining internal processes and reducing repetitive administrative tasks.
- Clarifies for both incarcerated persons and CDCR staff that the provision of electronic access to Title 15 ensures continual access to the most current version, in contrast to printed copies that reflect only the content in effect at the time of printing and may increasingly diverge as updates are issued.
- Supports environmentally sustainable practices by cutting down on large-scale printing.

BENEFITS ANTICIPATED BY THE PROPOSED REGULATIONS:

The Department anticipates the proposed regulations will benefit the CDCR staff and patients by reducing and eliminating recurring expenses for processing, printing and distributing thousands of printed books containing regulations already available electronically and ensuring that incarcerated persons have timely access to up-to-date rules and regulations. Additionally, by transitioning from printed materials to digital or accessible formats, the proposed change also reduces paper consumption and waste, supporting California's environmental sustainability goals.

FORMS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE:

Not applicable.

EVALUATION OF CONSISTENCY/COMPATIBILITY WITH EXISTING REGULATIONS:

Pursuant to GC section 11346.5(a)(3)(D), the Department must evaluate whether the proposed regulations are inconsistent or incompatible with existing State regulations. Pursuant to this evaluation, the Department has determined these proposed regulations are not inconsistent or incompatible with any existing regulations within CCR, Title 15, Division 3.

LOCAL MANDATES:

The proposed regulatory action imposes no mandates on local agencies or school districts, or a mandate which requires reimbursement pursuant to GC section 17500 — 17630.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT:

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| • Cost or savings to any State agency: | <i>\$160,000</i> |
| • Cost to any local agency or school district that is required to be reimbursed: | <i>None</i> |
| • Other nondiscretionary cost or savings imposed on local agencies: | <i>None</i> |
| • Cost or savings in federal funding to the state: | <i>None</i> |

EFFECT ON HOUSING COSTS:

The Department has made an initial determination that the proposed action will have no significant effect on housing costs because this regulatory action relates solely to the internal administrative processes within CDCR and are limited to the provisions of access to updated regulations for incarcerated persons which only affect staff and incarcerated persons within CDCR.

SIGNIFICANT STATEWIDE ADVERSE ECONOMIC IMPACT ON BUSINESS:

The Department has determined that the proposed action will not have a significant statewide adverse economic impact directly affecting businesses, including the ability of California businesses to compete with businesses in other states because this regulatory action relates solely to the internal administrative processes within CDCR and are limited to the provisions of access to updated regulations for incarcerated persons which only affect staff and incarcerated persons within CDCR.

RESULTS OF ECONOMIC IMPACT ASSESSMENT:

The Department has determined that the proposed regulations will have no impact on the creation of new or the elimination of existing jobs or businesses within California or affect the expansion of businesses currently doing business in California because this regulatory action relates solely to the internal administrative processes within CDCR and are limited to the provisions of access to updated regulations for incarcerated persons which only affect staff and incarcerated persons within CDCR.

In accordance with Government Code (GC) section 11346.3(b), the Department has made the following assessments regarding the proposed regulation:

1. Creation or Elimination of Jobs within the State of California

The Department does not expect that the proposed regulations will have an impact on the creation of new or the elimination of existing jobs within the State of California. These regulatory changes pertain solely to internal administrative processes within CDCR and are limited to the provision of access to updated regulations for incarcerated persons.

2. Creation of New or Elimination of Existing Businesses within the State of California

The Department does not expect that the proposed regulations will have an impact on the creation of new or the elimination of existing businesses within the State of California. These regulatory changes pertain solely to internal administrative processes within CDCR and are limited to the provision of access to updated regulations for incarcerated persons.

3. Expansion of Businesses Currently Doing Business within the State of California

The Department does not expect that the proposed regulations will have an impact on the expansion of businesses currently doing business within the State of California. These regulatory changes pertain solely to internal administrative processes within CDCR and are limited to the provision of access to updated regulations for incarcerated persons.

BENEFITS ANTICIPATED BY THE PROPOSED REGULATIONS:

The proposed regulatory changes benefit the health and welfare of California residents by ensuring that incarcerated persons have timely access to up-to-date rules and regulations. By transitioning from printed materials to digital or accessible formats, the proposed change also reduces paper consumption and waste, supporting California's environmental sustainability goals. Additionally, this change improves worker safety and efficiency for CDCR staff by minimizing the physical handling, storage, and distribution of printed materials, thereby streamlining internal processes and reducing repetitive administrative tasks.

COST IMPACTS ON REPRESENTATIVE PRIVATE PERSONS OR BUSINESSES:

The Department is not aware of any cost impacts that a representative private person or business would necessarily incur in reasonable compliance with the proposed action. This regulation change pertains solely to the internal administrative processes within CDCR and are limited to the provision of access to updated regulations for incarcerated persons which only affect staff and incarcerated persons within CDCR.

EFFECT ON SMALL BUSINESSES:

The Department has determined that the proposed regulations will have no significant adverse economic impact on small businesses because this regulation change pertains solely to the internal administrative processes within CDCR and are limited to the provision of access to updated regulations for incarcerated persons which only affect staff and incarcerated persons within CDCR.

CONSIDERATION OF ALTERNATIVES:

The Department must determine that no reasonable alternative it considered or that has otherwise been identified and brought to its attention would be more effective in carrying out the purpose for which the action is proposed, would be as effective and less burdensome to affected private persons than the proposed action, or would be more cost-effective to affected private persons and equally effective in implementing the statutory policy or other provisions of law.

The Department has made an initial determination that the action will not have a significant adverse economic impact on business. Additionally, there has been no testimony, reasonable alternative, or other evidence provided that would alter the CDCR's initial determination to proceed with this action.

AVAILABILITY OF PROPOSED TEXT AND INITIAL STATEMENT OF REASONS:

The Department has prepared, and will make available, the proposed text and the Initial Statement of Reasons (ISOR) of the proposed regulatory action. The rulemaking file for this regulatory action, which contains those items and all information on which the proposal is based (i.e., rulemaking file) is available to the public upon request directed to the contact person listed in this Notice. The proposed text, ISOR, and Notice of Proposed Action will also be made available on CCHCS's website <https://cchcs.ca.gov> and CDCR institution law libraries.

AVAILABILITY OF THE FINAL STATEMENT OF REASONS:

Following its preparation, a copy of the Final Statement of Reasons may be obtained from the contact person listed in this Notice.

AVAILABILITY OF CHANGES TO PROPOSED TEXT:

After considering all timely and relevant comments received, the Department may adopt the proposed regulations substantially as described in this Notice. If the Department makes modifications which are sufficiently related to the originally proposed text, it will make the modified text (with the changes clearly indicated) available to the public for at least 15 calendar days before the Department adopts the regulations as revised. Requests for copies of any modified regulation text should be directed to the contact person listed in this Notice. The Department will accept written comments on the modified regulations for 15 calendar days after the date on which they are made available.

TEXT OF PROPOSED REGULATIONS

In the following, ~~strikethrough~~ indicates deleted text and underline indicates added, amended, or moved text.

California Code of Regulations, Title 15, Division 3, Adult Institutions, Programs, and Parole

Chapter 1. Rules and Regulations of Health Care Services

Article 1. Behavior

Section 3002 is amended to read:

Section 3002. Notice of Program, Behavioral, and Participation Expectations.

(a) ~~Within 14 days of reception by t~~The California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation or upon return to confinement in a departmental institution or facility, every incarcerated or supervised person shall be issued a copy of the Rules and Regulations of the Secretary of Corrections and Rehabilitation and copies of all rule changes that have occurred since the last complete reprinting and reissue of the rules and regulations shall provide access to English and Spanish versions of the California Code of Regulations, Title 15, Crime Prevention and Corrections, Division 3, Adult Institutions, Programs and Parole, to every incarcerated person upon reception. ~~Each incarcerated and supervised person shall sign a receipt for the rules. The receipt shall be filed as a permanent record in the incarcerated person's central file. In addition:~~

~~(1) Spanish language copies of the rules and regulations of the Secretary shall be maintained at each reception center, institution and facility where incarcerated persons are confined. Notice shall be given in Spanish that a Spanish version of the rules is available for inspection. These rules shall be made available for review by Spanish speaking incarcerated persons who cannot read English.~~

Sections 3002(a)(2) through 3002(b)(4) remain unchanged.

~~(5) Reception centers shall incorporate the incarcerated person's acknowledgement of the receipt of the summary of reception center work and program activities in the same form used as a receipt for issue of the rules and regulations to the incarcerated person.~~

Sections 3002(b)(6) through 3002(b)(8) remain unchanged.

~~(c) The issuance of rules and regulations and program information, summaries, and the incarcerated person's receipt for same is required in order to comply with Sections 2080 and 2930 of the Penal Code. An incarcerated person's refusal to sign a receipt for the issue of rules and regulations, work and program summaries, or work and program agreements or understandings, information shall be noted by staff, and the receipt shall be filed in the incarcerated person's central file. Refusal or failure to acknowledge the receipt of information shall not relieve the incarcerated person from any responsibility to behave and participate as expected nor from the consequence for misbehavior or refusal or failure to participate.~~

Section 3002(d) remains unchanged.

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 5058, Penal Code. Reference: Sections 2080, 2930, 2931 and 5054, Penal Code.

INITIAL STATEMENT OF REASONS

The California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) proposes to amend section 3002 of the California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 15, Division 3, Chapter 1, Article 1, regarding notice of program, behavioral, and participation expectations to the incarcerated population through provision of access to Title 15.

Summary of the Proposal

Problem Statement:

Currently, the interpretive framework represented in this regulation, which is intended to fulfill the requirement to provide Title 15 regulations to the incarcerated population, relies on the mass printing, inventory management, and distribution of physical booklets across CDCR facilities. This process incurs significant and recurring costs related to printing, materials, logistics, and administrative oversight. This situation presents a financial and operational challenge for CDCR in balancing regulatory compliance with efficient resource allocation. In addition, relying on printed books does not ensure the incarcerated population is directed to the most recent rules, which are currently available in e-versions of Title 15 and have regular updates. A sustainable and cost-effective solution is needed to reduce the burden of physical book distribution while maintaining accessibility, accountability, and legal adherence.

Objective:

The objective of the proposed regulatory change is to reduce the substantial and ongoing costs associated with printing and distributing physical copies of the Title 15 to the incarcerated population by leveraging available technological resources. The proposed changes replace the mandatory issuance of printed books with the requirement to provide and confirm that incarcerated persons have access to Title 15; this change accounts for the availability of digital or alternative formats.

Benefit:

The proposed regulations will:

- Reduce or eliminate recurring expenses for processing, printing and distributing thousands of printed books containing regulations already available electronically.
- Clarify for both incarcerated persons and CDCR staff that the provision of electronic access to Title 15 ensures continual access to the most current version, in contrast to printed copies that reflect only the content in effect at the time of printing and may increasingly diverge as updates are issued.
- Support environmentally sustainable practices by cutting down on large-scale printing.

ECONOMIC IMPACT ASSESSMENT

In accordance with Government Code (GC) section 11346.3(b), the Department has made the following assessments regarding the proposed regulation:

1. Creation or Elimination of Jobs within the State of California

The Department does not expect that the proposed regulations will have an impact on the creation of new or the elimination of existing jobs within the State of California. These regulatory changes pertain solely to internal administrative processes within CDCR and are limited to the provision of access to updated regulations for incarcerated persons.

2. Creation of New or Elimination of Existing Businesses within the State of California

The Department does not expect that the proposed regulations will have an impact on the creation of new or the elimination of existing businesses within the State of California. These regulatory changes pertain solely to internal administrative processes within CDCR and are limited to the provision of access to updated regulations for incarcerated persons.

3. Expansion of Businesses Currently Doing Business within the State of California

The Department does not expect that the proposed regulations will have an impact on the expansion of businesses currently doing business within the State of California. These regulatory changes pertain solely to internal administrative processes within CDCR and are limited to the provision of access to updated regulations for incarcerated persons.

4. Benefits of the Regulation to the Health and Welfare of California Residents, Worker Safety, and the State's Environment

The proposed regulatory changes benefit the health and welfare of California residents by ensuring that incarcerated persons have timely access to up-to-date rules and regulations. By transitioning from printed materials to digital or accessible formats, the proposed change also reduces paper consumption and waste, supporting California's environmental sustainability goals. Additionally, this change improves worker safety and efficiency for CDCR staff by minimizing the physical handling, storage, and distribution of printed materials, thereby streamlining internal processes and reducing repetitive administrative tasks.

Statement of Determinations

Reasonable Alternatives

In accordance with GC section 11346.5(a)(13), the Department has determined that no reasonable alternative considered or that has otherwise been identified and brought to the attention of the Department would be more effective in carrying out the purpose for which this action is proposed, would be as effective and less burdensome to affected private persons than the proposed action, or would be more cost effective to affected private persons and equally effective in implementing the statutory policy or other provisions of law.

Local Mandates

The Department has determined that this action imposes no mandates on local agencies or school districts, or a mandate which requires reimbursement pursuant to GC sections 17500 - 17630.

Significant Adverse Economic Impact

The Department has made an initial determination that the proposed regulations will not have a significant statewide adverse economic impact directly affecting business, including the ability of California businesses to compete with businesses in other states because these regulatory changes pertain solely to internal administrative processes within CDCR and are limited to the provision of access to updated regulations for incarcerated persons.

Based on the economic impact assessment, the Department has determined that the regulation will not significantly affect the following:

1. The creation or elimination of jobs within the State of California.
2. The creation of new businesses or the elimination of existing businesses within the State of California.
3. The expansion of businesses currently doing business within the State of California.

The economic impact assessment shows that the proposed regulatory action will benefit the health and welfare of California residents, worker safety, and/or the State's environment.

Reports, Studies and Documents Relied Upon

1. Not applicable.

SPECIFIC PURPOSE AND RATIONALE FOR EACH REGULATION PROPOSED FOR AMENDMENT, ADOPTION, OR REPEAL

Chapter 1. Rules and Regulations of Health Care Services

Subchapter 3 Rules and Regulations of Adult Operations and Programs

Chapter 1. Rules and Regulations of Health Care Services

Article 1. Behavior

3002. Notice of Program, Behavioral, and Participation Expectations.

Section 3002(a) is amended to update the requirement and establish that the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) shall provide access to English and Spanish versions of the California Code of Regulations, Title 15, Crime Prevention and Corrections, Division 3, Adult Institutions, Programs and Parole, to every incarcerated person upon reception. This is necessary to modernize an outdated distribution process by allowing CDCR to provide access to the most current regulations through digital or alternative means, reducing costs, improving efficiency, reducing administrative burden, and ensuring that incarcerated individuals receive accurate and timely information. It also reduces printing and material costs, aligns with environmental sustainability goals, and supports consistent compliance across all facilities without sacrificing transparency or accountability.

Section 3002(a)(1) is repealed to remove references to the existing requirement for Spanish language copies of the CCR Title 15. This is necessary because the updated process and requirement is now outlined in section 3002(a).

Sections 3002(a)(2) through 3002(b)(4) remain unchanged.

Section 3002(b)(5) is repealed as, given electronic forms of access and tracking, this section outlines an outdated practice no longer in use.

Sections 3002(b)(6) through 3002(b)(8) remain unchanged.

Section 3002(c) is repealed as, given electronic forms of access and tracking, this section outlines an outdated practice no longer in use.

Section 3002(d) remains unchanged.