STATE BUILDING CODE INTERPRETATION NO. 01-05

CODE: 1997 Uniform Building Code (UBC)

SECTION: Section 313—Requirements for Group LC Occupancies

QUESTION: Many of the projects we review use the LC Occupancy provisions of Section 313. We have been applying requirements for Group R-1 Occupancies regarding egress, ventilation, occupancy separations, etc, to LC Occupancies with the understanding that LC Occupancies are intended to be built to at least the same standards as R-1 buildings.

Although Group LC Occupancy requirements under Section 313 reference Group R-1 Occupancy requirements under specific headings (such as in 313.21.2 Area and Height), it is not all inclusive in specifying Group R-1 requirements under all headings. Is it the intent to exempt LC Occupancies from, for example, the provisions of UBC Section 302.5 Heating Equipment Room Occupancy Separation and Section 310.2.2 Special Provisions, which require occupancy separations around certain areas of the building in R-1 Occupancies? In other words, is it the intent to reduce the required protection for LC Occupancies from what is required for R-1 Occupancies?

ANSWER: No. It is the intent of Section 313 that Group LC Occupancies licensed for more than six clients meet all of the UBC construction requirements for Group R-1 Occupancies with exceptions as noted in Section 313.

SUPERSEDES: None

REQUESTED BY: State Department of Health