

Attachment B

Public Comment/Written Correspondence



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November 21, 2025

Vivek Raman, MPH, REHS
Environmental Health Supervisor
Southern Nevada Health District | Environmental Health
Public Accommodations & Mosquito Disease Surveillance
280 S. Decatur Blvd.
Las Vegas, NV 89107

RE: Additional Comments Regarding Proposed Updates to Public Accommodations Regulations

Dear Mr. Raman:

On behalf of our Clark County members, the Nevada Resort Association respectfully submits the following comments regarding the proposed updates to the existing regulations governing the health and safety of public accommodation facilities. We appreciate the Southern Nevada Health District receiving earlier feedback from industry and adjusting the proposed updates based on that perspective. Thank you for working with industry to create the best public policy possible.

In reviewing the latest version of the proposed updates, there are several sections where more clarification would be helpful, and in other instances, we respectfully ask for consideration in aligning the updates with practical application by industry.

In **Section 3.10.4**, we propose clarifying changes to governing housekeeping procedures for hotel guest rooms, which we believe will provide a clearer understanding of the requirements and ensure operators continue to comply. We respectfully offer the following additions in blue.

PROPOSED CHANGES

- **3.10.4** *While being used by guests and when visible dirt and/or other foreign material is present, the floors of the bathrooms, every surface of a bathtub, shower, shower enclosure, toilet and sinks, which may come in contact with a person's body, must be cleaned and, sanitized each day, unless the guest has declined regular guest room services. Nothing in this section shall be construed to require a public accommodations facility to perform regular housekeeping service when a guest has declined such service, including when a guest has declined such service consistent with the requirements of a collective bargaining agreement. If a guest declines regular guest room services, the public accommodation facility must ensure that these surfaces are cleaned and sanitized at least once per week and between guests. In the event that the guest room remains vacant, the public accommodation facility must ensure that the guest room is cleaned and sanitized prior to use by the next guests.*

We offer these changes as adding, “*and when visible dirt and/or other foreign material is present*” is intended to align current industry housekeeping practices for stay-over housekeeping. As you may know, stay-over housekeeping occurs when hotel guest rooms are occupied by a guest prior to guest check-out. It is our understanding that existing regs do not require public accommodation facilities to clean and sanitize bathroom surfaces that are already clean in hotel guest rooms during stay-over.

This aligns with the draft regulations’ definitions in Section 1.4 which state, “*clean’ means free of visible dirt, dust, sludge, foam, slime (including algae and fungi), rust, scale, mineral deposits, accumulation of impurities, and/or other foreign material,*” as well as the definition for “sanitizes,” which means “*the treatment of equipment, tableware, and surfaces that can be accessed by the public with a biocide by a process which has been approved by the Health Authority as being effective in destroying pathogenic microorganisms of public health concern.*”

These proposed changes simply clarify and confirm the same standard in stay-over housekeeping procedures – that housekeeping staff do not have to clean and sanitize what is already clean, and if surfaces are not clean, housekeeping staff must both clean and sanitize. We ask for this clarification as it is intended to prevent potentially inefficient and redundant use of time, cleaning supplies, and other resources.

Further, in the same section (3.10.4), the inclusion of the sentence beginning with, “*Nothing in this section shall be construed to require a public accommodations,*” is intended to clarify in the regulations that a guest may decline housekeeping service in several ways, including a “do not disturb” sign or during the check-in process, or as otherwise provided in a collective bargaining agreement, where applicable. This inclusion preserves guest choice which is foundational to providing an exceptional experience for our guests, and we ask for your consideration in including this important addition.

We also call your attention to **Section 3.9.3** which reads, “*All sleeping rooms, bathrooms and toilet rooms must be capable of being maintained at a temperature between 60°F and 90°F while being used by guests.*” Additional understanding of the inclusion of this requirement would be very helpful as it is unclear why this requirement has changed.

While our members’ guest rooms have heating and cooling capabilities, and can meet the general intent of this section, this change will have a significant fiscal impact on energy costs and HVAC upgrades and affect our members’ energy consumption reduction goals. Further, these proposed ranges may conflict with energy code and American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHREA) guidelines which recommend air temperature in cooling mode of 74.3°F to 77.9°F and air temperature in heating mode of 68.9°F to 76.1°F. With more than 160,000 hotel/motel rooms in Clark County, this change has the potential to increase the industry’s energy costs into millions of dollars. For some of our members, moving this temperature threshold will cause issues for HVAC systems which will need to work harder, leading to failure and replacement ahead of schedule. This increase in the threshold could require a full upgrade of HVAC systems, wall insulation and windows to meet the proposed ranges at all times of the year. This could be very costly with a business impact estimated at \$150,000,000 for one member (with multiple properties) alone. We ask for consideration that the current temperature range be maintained. Should the SHND move forward with this new threshold, we ask for a reasonable time to come into compliance and more information on the enforcement of this new requirement.

We continue to have concerns regarding **Section 10 – Plan Review and Submission and Approval**, which we also raised in our February comments to the SNHD. As currently proposed, the SNHD would require review and approval of plans/drawings for any project requiring a permit. This is an immensely broad requirement as drafted. Our members are continually updating their facilities to ensure they remain competitive and modern. Many of these projects do not have a nexus with environmental health regulations as they may be more aesthetic in nature. Given the volume of projects our members embark on throughout the year, this requirement would be burdensome and difficult to manage, both by resorts and for the health district. Our members pull hundreds of building permits a year. It would be helpful to understand the rationale behind the change and whether there is a specific area of operations which is raising concerns. We would suggest more clarity, perhaps in the form of a list of requirements under submittals, as not all projects require a permit.

There is already a robust process in place through the Clark County Building Department, which would make this requirement duplicative. If the requirement is to submit a duplicate set of plans to the SNHD as are submitted to the building department, we respectfully request that the health district follow the same review timeline as the building department in parallel to avoid delays. Such delays would have a major impact on project opening dates which could cost operators thousands or even millions of dollars depending on the type of project and duration of the delay.

Finally, we respectfully request an 18–24-month implementation period before the regulations are enforced to allow for the development and implementation of training for staff as well as the procurement and installation of required equipment or materials. We very much appreciate the extended timeline to come into compliance with waterproof mattress encasements and ask that you consider extending additional time to all the updated regulations.

As always, we appreciate the ability to share our perspective with you. We welcome the opportunity to further discuss the proposed changes.

Sincerely,



Virginia Valentine
President and CEO

cc: Chris Saxton, Director of Environmental Health, SNHD

December 31, 2025

Virginia Valentine, President & CEO
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Ms. Valentine:

Thank you for the Resort Association's engagement throughout the process of updating the existing 2006 Public Accommodation Facilities Regulations. From the onset it has been our intention to provide a clearer, simpler and more consistent set of regulatory requirements to all Public Accommodations operations, from large corporate facilities to small 'mom and pop' properties.

Your review has been of benefit to the updates in this document and we appreciate your comments. Based on this we have proposed some language adjustments, as detailed below.

Section 3 – Facilities and Equipment

3.9 Heating and ventilating systems

In the original regulation there was inconsistency between room temperature requirements, as written in Sections 2.19 and 3.10.3:

2.19 Inability of the heating and cooling equipment to maintain the room temperature between **60°F and 90°F** by thermostatic control in all living and sleeping rooms while being used by guests.

3.10.3 All sleeping rooms, bathrooms and toilet rooms must be capable of being maintained at a temperature between **68°F (20°C) and 80°F (26.7°C)** while being used by guests.

We intended to make a single, consistent temperature range. This wider range is intended to provide flexibility to operators. It does not mean that operators must be able to maintain every temperature in this range. However, we will propose the language be updated to reflect **68°F (20°C) and 80°F (26.7°C)**, which is the more stringent of the two options.

3.10 Baths, showers, toilets and sinks

The regulations apply to all permitted Public Accommodations and many properties cater to long term tenants who live in these units as though they were apartments. It is imperative that housekeeping services be provided at a minimum once per week to allow operators to enter rooms and prevent extreme unsanitary conditions. Sanitizing bathroom surfaces at a minimum of one time per week, regardless of visible dirt or foreign material being present, is essential to preventing pathogen survival and transmission on these surfaces.

The Health District has concerns about the proposed addition of "*Nothing in this section shall be construed to require a public accommodations facility to perform regular housekeeping service when a guest has declined such service, including when a guest has declined such service consistent with the requirements of a collective bargaining agreement.*" The Health District does not have a role in collective bargaining process. Additionally, the Health District is concerned this language could be interpreted to mean that a public accommodation could modify the requirements of the regulations through such an agreement. The Health District does not believe that the health and sanitation requirements provided in the regulations should be reduced in this way.

Section 10 – Plan Review and Submission and Approval

The language in 10.1.1 closely matches existing language in 3.1 of the current Regulations. It was moved from Section 3 into the new Section 10 to have all the Plan Review content in one location. Accordingly, the Health District does not view this requirement changing from the current regulation. Please advise if this does not address your concerns.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, construction or remodel which requires a building permit but does not pertain to areas of oversight within these regulations is not required to seek written approval from the Health Authority.

We will propose to the Board of Health that the Regulations become effective January 1, 2028.

We hope these adjustments to the proposed 2025 Public Accommodation Facilities Regulations clarifies the requirements and alleviates the concerns the constituents of the Resort Association may have. Please let us know if you have any questions or concerns with these updates.

Should you or the reviewers require additional clarification, please feel free to contact me directly.

Sincerely,



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