The Nevada State Legislature passed Senate Bill 4 (SB 4) in an effort to prevent COVID-19 transmission in Public Accommodations. Based on SB 4, the Nevada Department of Health and Human Services developed Regulations regarding COVID-19 prevention standards at Public Accommodation Facilities (NAC 447 E), which the Southern Nevada Health District Board of Health adopted. Enforcement of these Regulations began on October 5, 2020. The regulations will apply until the Governor of Nevada’s declaration of a public health emergency due to COVID-19 is lifted.

The Southern Nevada Health District (SNHD) is providing the following industry guidance to clarify requirements, and address industry concerns, of SB 4 Section 11 for bed linens and daily room cleaning, and Section 13 for employee testing in Clark County, NV.

Definitions Pursuant to SNHD’s Public Accommodation Regulations

SNHD’s regulation 1.5 Bedding is defined as mattresses, quilts, blankets, sheets, pillows, comforters and spreads.

SNHD’s regulation 1.13 Clean is defined as free of visible dirt, dust, sludge, foam, slime (including algae and fungi), rust, scale, mineral deposits, accumulation of impurities, and/or other foreign material.

Bed Linens

SB 4 Section 11 (1)(b) states, “Desks, tabletops, minibars that have been used after the most recent cleaning, interior and exterior handles of doors, faucets, toilets, nonporous headboards of beds, light switches, remote controls, telephones, keyboards, touch screens, bed linens, towels, bed scarves and other decorative items on beds in guest rooms to be cleaned every day that the room is in use unless the guest using the room declines in-room housekeeping.” The requirement is daily cleaning, pursuant to SNHD 1.13. Laundering is required for soiled items. SB 4 Section 11 (1)(o).

It is recommended operators of public accommodations reduce the number of linens and bedding provided in each room including extra pillows, blankets, comforters, towels, bed skirts, quilts, and decorative pillows.

Daily Room Cleaning Requirement

SB 4 Section 11 1(b) states: Desks, tabletops, minibars that have been used after the most recent cleaning, interior and exterior handles of doors, faucets, toilets, nonporous headboards of beds, light switches, remote controls, telephones, keyboards, touch screens, bed linens, towels, bed scarves and other decorative items on beds in guest rooms to be cleaned every day that the room is in use unless the guest using the room declines in-room housekeeping.

SB 4 Section 11 (2) states: A public accommodation facility shall not advise or incentivize guests to decline daily in-room housekeeping.

SB 4 does not prevent facilities from educating guests on the daily housekeeping requirement and allowing them to determine if they want housekeeping services. Information can be provided to the guests during check-in or placed in the room informing the guests that if they do not want the service, they can hang the ‘Do Not Disturb’ placard on their doors or other method of declining service.

The operator may assume a “Do Not Disturb” sign or other similar placards indicate that the visitor is declining room service.

Staff Testing

All new employees or employees returning to work must be tested effective August 11, 2020.