

**DEPARTMENT OF STATE HOSPITALS**  
**15-DAY NOTICE OF PUBLIC AVAILABILITY**  
**ENTRY INTO PATIENT ROOMS AND OBSERVATION ROUNDS**

California Code of Regulations  
Title 9. Rehabilitative and Developmental Services  
Division 1. Department of Mental Health  
Chapter 16. State Hospital Operations  
Article 3. Safety and Security

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

This notice announces a 15-day comment period in which the public may comment on the modifications to the originally proposed text for the Entry into Patient Rooms and Observation Rounds regulation. This notice is issued pursuant to Government Code sections 11346.8(c) and 11347.1, and California Code of Regulations, title 1, section 44.

This regulatory action was originally noticed on December 13, 2024, published in the California Regulatory Notice Register, and mailed to all interested parties. The originally proposed regulatory action is described in the Initial Statement of Reasons provided with the originally proposed regulation which can be found on the website of the [Department of State Hospitals](https://www.dsh.ca.gov) (Department) at <https://www.dsh.ca.gov/Publications/Regulations.html>.

The modified regulations, called the “15-Day Modified Regulations Text,” as well as this 15-Day Notice of Public Availability, are also available on the Department’s website as provided in the above paragraph.

**No action by the public is necessary unless persons wish to comment specifically on the proposed modified text.**

This rulemaking and all documents relevant to the rulemaking shall be available at the address provided below under section named “Written Comments,” between 8:00 AM and 5:00 PM beginning 4/1/2025, through 4/22/2025, or by request to the contact person indicated below.

**SUMMARY OF MODIFICATIONS TO THE PROPOSED REGULATIONS**

15-Day Notice of Proposed Modifications:

The originally proposed regulatory language and its proposed modifications are shown in the document named “15-Day Modified Regulations Text.” The original regulatory language is shown in plain text. Proposed modifications are shown with single underline (e.g., single underline) to indicate addition to the regulatory language, and single strikethrough (e.g., ~~single strikethrough~~) to show deletion to the regulatory language.

**Section 4335(a):**

**Text:** “overnights”

**Rationale:** The text was adjusted to fix a grammatical error; this is a non-substantive change.

**Section 4335(b)(1):**

**Text:** “~~All~~No patients residing in the room has ~~approve~~ objected to the visit.”

**Rationale:** The text was changed to clarify that a patient must object to the visiting patient rather than requiring the approval of all patients residing in the room.

**Section 4340(a)(1):**

**Text:** “~~and~~ or”

**Rationale:** The text was changed from “and” to “or” to clarify that a threat to the safety and security can happen to either the hospital, patients, or employees, and does not have to pose a threat to all three entities.

## **WRITTEN COMMENTS**

The Department invites all interested persons to provide comments relevant to the specific changes made in the 15-Day Modified Regulations Text. The public may provide comment only in writing, submitted by postal mail, or electronically using the contact information below:

California Department of State Hospitals  
Regulations, Policy, and Operations Unit  
RE: Entry Into Patient Rooms and Observation Rounds (15-Day)  
1215 O Street, MS-20  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
Email: [DSH.Regulations@dsh.ca.gov](mailto:DSH.Regulations@dsh.ca.gov)

All written comments received by 4/22/2025, which pertain to the changes proposed in the 15-Day Modified Regulations Text will be considered and responded to by the Department in a document prepared by the Department named the Final Statement of Reasons.

## **CONTACT PERSONS**

The primary contact for this regulatory action is Rachelle Sack, and the backup contact is Anna Libonati. They can be reached by contacting the Regulations and Policy Oversight Unit phone number at (916) 654-2478 or the email provided above.