

Note: Alternative 2 (would require revising new Section 1716.2 that was adopted by the Board in November August 2024 to reflect this proposed Section 1671.3)

Subchapter 4. Construction Safety Orders

Article 24. Fall Protection

Proposed New Section:

Section 1671.3 Residential Framing Fall Protection Plan

(a) This section applies to all residential framing operations when it can be shown by the employer that the use of conventional fall protection is infeasible or creates a greater hazard.(1) The residential framing fall protection plan shall be prepared by a qualified person and developed specifically for the site or sites where the framing is being performed and the plan must be maintained up to date. The plan shall document the identity of the qualified person. The employer need only develop a single residential framing fall protection plan for sites where the framing operations are essentially identical.

(2) Any changes to the residential framing fall protection plan shall be approved by a qualified person. The identity of the qualified person shall be documented.

(3) A copy of the fall protection plan with all approved changes shall be maintained at the job site.

(4) The implementation of the fall protection plan shall be under the supervision of a competent person. The plan shall document the identity of the competent person.

(5) The fall protection plan shall document the reasons why the use of conventional fall protection systems (guardrails, personal fall arrest systems, or safety nets) are infeasible or why their use would create a greater hazard.

(6) The fall protection plan shall include a written discussion of other measures that will be taken to reduce or eliminate the fall hazard for workers who cannot be provided with protection provided by conventional fall protection systems. For example, the employer shall discuss the extent to which scaffolds, ladders, or vehicle mounted work platforms can be used to provide a safer working surface and thereby reduce the hazard of falling.

(7) The residential framing fall protection plan shall identify each framing process and elevation where conventional fall protection methods cannot be used. These locations shall then be classified as controlled framing zones and the employer must ensure that

only employees trained in the residential framing fall protection plan are working in the framing zone. No other employees may enter controlled framing zones.

(8) In the event an employee falls, or some other related, serious incident occurs (e.g., a near miss), the employer shall investigate the circumstances of the fall or other incident to determine if the residential framing fall protection plan needs to be changed (e.g., new practices, procedures, or training) and shall implement those changes to prevent similar types of falls or incidents.