

Safe Patient Handling Law Implemented

New [regulations](#) on the safe handling of patients by healthcare providers, affecting all acute care hospitals in the state of California, are effective as of October 1, 2014. These regulations are intended to address the alarming trend of debilitating lower back and upper extremity soft-tissue injuries to nurses, aides, and other healthcare professionals.

In the fall of 2011, Governor Brown signed into law AB 1136 ([Chapter 554, Statutes of 2011](#)), requiring all acute care hospital facilities to develop new written programs and procedures to minimize the risk injuries to their employees when moving or transporting patients.

Rulemaking documents for the **Health Care Worker Back and Musculoskeletal Injury Prevention** standard can be found on the [Department of Industrial Relations](#) Website.