INTERPRETIVE OPINION

Pursuant to §103-50, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), all public buildings, facilities and sites constructed by, or on behalf of the State or any county, shall conform to the 2004 Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines (2004 ADAAG) and amendments. In accordance to HRS §103-50 and Chapter 11-216, Hawaii Administrative Rules, the Disability and Communication Access Board has authority to issue interpretive opinions to HRS §103-50 design standards.

Docket: DCAB 2018-02: If a lavatory is installed in the minimum required roll-in shower clearance (per the exception), can the shower controls be located on the side wall adjacent to the lavatory since the shower controls can be operated from the lavatory clear floor space?

Summary: The exception in ADAAG 608.2.2.1 allows for the installation of a lavatory within the standard roll-in shower compartment clearance, however the exception states “…provided that it is not on the side of the clearance adjacent to the controls or, where provided, not on the side of the clearance adjacent to the shower seat.” The question was raised if the verbiage “…provided that it is not on the side of the clearance adjacent to the controls…” is correct since the lavatory has a forward approach knee and toe space, so the shower controls would be reachable when one is at the lavatory.

Ruling: For buildings, facilities and sites subject to HRS §103-50.

ADAAG Section 608.2.2.1

The location of the shower controls in a standard roll-in shower without a shower seat is permitted to be installed on any of the three walls of the shower, however if a lavatory is installed in the standard roll-in shower clearance (without a shower seat), as permitted by the exception in ADAAG 608.2.2.1, the shower controls may only be installed on the back wall, or the side wall opposite of the lavatory. When a shower seat is provided, and a lavatory is installed at the end of a shower clear floor space, the controls must be located on the back wall per ADAAG 608.5.2.

[Rul: 09/20/2018] (Auth and Imp: HRS §103-50)

If you have any questions or comments regarding this ruling, please call us at 586-8121.

DISABILITY AND COMMUNICATION ACCESS BOARD