

Second Regular Session  
Sixty-seventh General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 10-0824.01 Kristen Forrestal

HOUSE BILL 10-1241

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HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

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SENATE SPONSORSHIP

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House Committees

Business Affairs and Labor

Senate Committees

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A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 CONCERNING REQUIRED REGISTRATION FOR PERSONS WHO WORK ON  
102 FIRE SUPPRESSION SYSTEMS.

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Bill Summary

*(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://www.leg.state.co.us/billsummaries>.)*

The bill prohibits a person from acting or advertising as a sprinkler fitter unless the person has registered with the state fire suppression administrator. In order to register, a person shall pay a fee and:

- ! Demonstrate that he or she has successfully completed a sprinkler fitter apprenticeship program;

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.  
*Capital letters indicate new material to be added to existing statute.*  
*Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.*

- ! Complete an application for reciprocity;
- ! Perform at least 8,000 hours of documented practical work experience on fire suppression systems; or
- ! Otherwise demonstrate competency as a sprinkler fitter as determined by the administrator.

The bill also requires a sprinkler fitter to complete continuing education. The bill requires annual renewal of registration and the successful completion of a revised examination in the years that the fire and building codes are revised.

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1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2           **SECTION 1. Legislative declaration.** The general assembly  
3 finds and determines that in the interest of promoting public safety,  
4 persons performing work on fire suppression systems should meet at least  
5 minimum skill training standards that demonstrate competency in the  
6 sprinkler fitter trade. Therefore the general assembly declares that the  
7 purpose of this act is to expand the regulation of persons who work on  
8 fire suppression systems to include all persons who work as sprinkler  
9 fitters.

10           **SECTION 2.** 24-33.5-1202, Colorado Revised Statutes, is  
11 amended BY THE ADDITION OF THE FOLLOWING NEW  
12 SUBSECTIONS to read:

13           **24-33.5-1202. Definitions.** As used in this part 12, unless the  
14 context otherwise requires:

15           (13.3) "SPRINKLER FITTER" MEANS A PERSON OTHER THAN AN  
16 APPRENTICE WHO IS REGISTERED WITH THE ADMINISTRATOR AND WHO  
17 PERFORMS WORK ON A FIRE SUPPRESSION SYSTEM.

18           (13.7) "SPRINKLER FITTER APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM" MEANS AN  
19 APPRENTICESHIP TRAINING PROGRAM THAT IS REGISTERED WITH EITHER  
20 THE OFFICE OF APPRENTICESHIP TRAINING, EMPLOYER AND LABOR

1 SERVICES IN THE EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING ADMINISTRATION IN THE  
2 UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR OR A STATE APPRENTICESHIP  
3 AGENCY IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF 29 CFR 29.1 ET  
4 SEQ., AND CONSISTS OF A MINIMUM OF EIGHT THOUSAND HOURS OF  
5 DOCUMENTED PRACTICAL WORK EXPERIENCE ON FIRE SUPPRESSION  
6 SYSTEMS, COMBINED WITH A MINIMUM OF SEVEN HUNDRED HOURS OF  
7 RELATED INSTRUCTION, INCLUDING CLASSROOM OR SHOP INSTRUCTION, IN  
8 THE SPRINKLER FITTER TRADE.

9 **SECTION 3.** Part 12 of article 33.5 of title 24, Colorado Revised  
10 Statutes, is amended BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW SECTION to  
11 read:

12 **24-33.5-1206.7. Sprinkler fitters - registration required - rules.**

13 (1) NO PERSON SHALL ACT, ASSUME TO ACT, OR ADVERTISE AS A  
14 SPRINKLER FITTER WHO IS NOT REGISTERED WITH THE ADMINISTRATOR OR  
15 WITH A MUNICIPALITY THAT HAS A REGISTRATION OR CERTIFICATION  
16 PROGRAM THAT IS EQUAL TO OR MORE STRINGENT THAN THE  
17 REQUIREMENTS IN THIS SECTION AS DETERMINED BY THE ADMINISTRATOR.

18 (2) A REGISTERED SPRINKLER FITTER SHALL OBTAIN ANY LOCALLY  
19 REQUIRED LICENSES OR PERMITS AND COMPLY WITH LOCAL BUILDING  
20 CODES.

21 (3) IN ORDER TO REGISTER WITH THE ADMINISTRATOR, A  
22 SPRINKLER FITTER SHALL PAY A FEE AS DETERMINED BY THE  
23 ADMINISTRATOR AND SHALL:

24 (a) PROVIDE EVIDENCE DEMONSTRATING THAT HE OR SHE  
25 SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED A SPRINKLER FITTER APPRENTICESHIP  
26 PROGRAM AND TAKE AND PASS AN EXAMINATION ESTABLISHED BY THE  
27 ADVISORY BOARD AND APPROVED BY THE ADMINISTRATOR;

1 (b) COMPLETE AN APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION BY  
2 RECIPROCITY ESTABLISHED BY RULES OF THE ADMINISTRATOR THAT  
3 DEMONSTRATES COMPETENT EVIDENCE THAT THE APPLICANT IS  
4 CURRENTLY AUTHORIZED TO PRACTICE AS A SPRINKLER FITTER IN  
5 ANOTHER STATE THAT HAS ESTABLISHED QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS  
6 SUBSTANTIALLY SIMILAR TO, OR GREATER THAN, THE REQUIREMENTS  
7 ESTABLISHED IN THIS SECTION OR BY RULE OF THE ADMINISTRATOR;

8 (c) PROVIDE EVIDENCE DEMONSTRATING THAT HE OR SHE  
9 PERFORMED AT LEAST EIGHT THOUSAND HOURS OF DOCUMENTED  
10 PRACTICAL WORK EXPERIENCE ON FIRE SUPPRESSION SYSTEMS WITHIN THE  
11 PAST FIVE YEARS; OR

12 (d) OTHERWISE DEMONSTRATE COMPETENCY AS A SPRINKLER  
13 FITTER AS DETERMINED BY THE ADMINISTRATOR.

14 (4) (a) A REGISTERED SPRINKLER FITTER SHALL COMPLETE  
15 CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS ESTABLISHED BY RULE OF THE  
16 ADMINISTRATOR.

17 (b) A SPRINKLER FITTER SHALL APPLY TO RENEW HIS OR HER  
18 REGISTRATION ANNUALLY. THE ADMINISTRATOR SHALL RENEW, FOR A  
19 PERIOD OF ONE YEAR, A SPRINKLER FITTER REGISTRATION UPON RECEIPT  
20 OF A COMPLETED RENEWAL APPLICATION AND A RENEWAL FEE AS  
21 DETERMINED BY THE ADMINISTRATOR. IN YEARS THAT THE FIRE AND  
22 SAFETY CODE IS REVISED, A SPRINKLER FITTER SHALL ALSO SUCCESSFULLY  
23 COMPLETE A REVISED EXAMINATION IN ORDER TO RENEW HIS OR HER  
24 REGISTRATION.

25 (5) THE ADMINISTRATOR MAY PROMULGATE RULES AS NECESSARY  
26 FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS SECTION.

27 **SECTION 4. Act subject to petition - specified effective date**

1     **- applicability.** (1) This act shall take effect July 1, 2011; except that,  
2     if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of  
3     the state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this act  
4     within the ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general  
5     assembly, then the act, item, section, or part shall not take effect unless  
6     approved by the people at the general election to be held in November  
7     2010 and shall take effect on July 1, 2011, or on the date of the official  
8     declaration of the vote thereon by the governor, whichever is later.

9             (2) The provisions of this act shall apply to persons who work on  
10     fire suppression systems on or after the applicable effective date of this  
11     act.