

**Second Regular Session
Sixty-seventh General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO**

PREAMENDED

*This Unofficial Version Includes Committee
Amendments Not Yet Adopted on Second Reading*

LLS NO. 10-0824.01 Kristen Forrestal

HOUSE BILL 10-1241

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Casso,

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Tochtrop,

House Committees

Business Affairs and Labor
Appropriations

Senate Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

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

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.

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 (6), Colorado Revised Statutes, is
11 amended, and the said 24-33.5-1202 is further amended BY THE
12 ADDITION OF THE FOLLOWING NEW SUBSECTIONS, to read:

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

15 (6) "Fire suppression system" means an assembly of any or all of
16 the following: Piping valves, conduits, dispersal openings, sprinkler
17 heads, orifices, and other similar devices that convey extinguishing agents
18 for the purpose of controlling, confining, or extinguishing fire, with the
19 exception of MULTIPURPOSE RESIDENTIAL FIRE SPRINKLER SYSTEMS IN
20 ONE- AND TWO-FAMILY DWELLINGS AND TOWNHOUSES THAT ARE PART OF

1 THE POTABLE WATER SUPPLY, pre-engineered range hoods, duct systems,
2 and portable fire extinguishers.

3 (13.3) "SPRINKLER FITTER" MEANS A PERSON OTHER THAN AN
4 APPRENTICE WHO IS REGISTERED WITH THE ADMINISTRATOR AND WHO
5 PERFORMS WORK ON A FIRE SUPPRESSION SYSTEM.

6 (13.7) "SPRINKLER FITTER APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM" MEANS AN
7 APPRENTICESHIP TRAINING PROGRAM THAT IS REGISTERED WITH EITHER
8 THE OFFICE OF APPRENTICESHIP TRAINING, EMPLOYER AND LABOR
9 SERVICES IN THE EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING ADMINISTRATION IN THE
10 UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR OR A STATE APPRENTICESHIP
11 AGENCY IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF 29 CFR 29.1 ET
12 SEQ., AND CONSISTS OF A MINIMUM OF EIGHT THOUSAND HOURS OF
13 DOCUMENTED PRACTICAL WORK EXPERIENCE ON FIRE SUPPRESSION
14 SYSTEMS, COMBINED WITH A MINIMUM OF SEVEN HUNDRED HOURS OF
15 RELATED INSTRUCTION, INCLUDING CLASSROOM OR SHOP INSTRUCTION, IN
16 THE SPRINKLER FITTER TRADE.

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

20 **24-33.5-1206.7. Sprinkler fitters - registration required - rules.**

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

26 (2) A REGISTERED SPRINKLER FITTER SHALL OBTAIN ANY LOCALLY
27 REQUIRED LICENSES OR PERMITS AND COMPLY WITH LOCAL BUILDING

1 CODES.

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

5 (a) PROVIDE EVIDENCE DEMONSTRATING THAT HE OR SHE
6 SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED A SPRINKLER FITTER APPRENTICESHIP
7 PROGRAM AND TAKE AND PASS AN EXAMINATION ESTABLISHED [REDACTED]
8 AND APPROVED BY THE ADMINISTRATOR;

9 (b) COMPLETE AN APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION BY
10 RECIPROCITY ESTABLISHED BY RULES OF THE ADMINISTRATOR THAT
11 DEMONSTRATES COMPETENT EVIDENCE THAT THE APPLICANT IS
12 CURRENTLY AUTHORIZED TO PRACTICE AS A SPRINKLER FITTER IN
13 ANOTHER STATE THAT HAS ESTABLISHED QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS
14 SUBSTANTIALLY SIMILAR TO, OR GREATER THAN, THE REQUIREMENTS
15 ESTABLISHED IN THIS SECTION OR BY RULE OF THE ADMINISTRATOR;

16 (c) PROVIDE EVIDENCE DEMONSTRATING THAT HE OR SHE
17 PERFORMED AT LEAST EIGHT THOUSAND HOURS OF DOCUMENTED
18 PRACTICAL WORK EXPERIENCE ON FIRE SUPPRESSION SYSTEMS WITHIN THE
19 PAST FIVE YEARS; OR

20 (d) OTHERWISE DEMONSTRATE COMPETENCY AS A SPRINKLER
21 FITTER AS DETERMINED BY THE ADMINISTRATOR.

22 (4) NOTWITHSTANDING THE PROVISIONS OF SUBSECTION (3) OF
23 THIS SECTION, A PERSON WHO IS ENROLLED IN A SPRINKLER FITTER
24 APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM MAY PERFORM WORK ON A FIRE SUPPRESSION
25 SYSTEM UNDER THE DIRECT SUPERVISION OF AND IN THE IMMEDIATE
26 PRESENCE OF A SPRINKLER FITTER.

27 (5) (a) A REGISTERED SPRINKLER FITTER SHALL COMPLETE

1 CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS ESTABLISHED BY RULE OF THE
2 ADMINISTRATOR.

3 (b) A SPRINKLER FITTER SHALL APPLY TO RENEW HIS OR HER
4 REGISTRATION ANNUALLY. THE ADMINISTRATOR SHALL RENEW, FOR A
5 PERIOD OF ONE YEAR, A SPRINKLER FITTER REGISTRATION UPON RECEIPT
6 OF A COMPLETED RENEWAL APPLICATION AND A RENEWAL FEE AS
7 DETERMINED BY THE ADMINISTRATOR. IN YEARS THAT THE FIRE AND
8 SAFETY CODE IS REVISED, A SPRINKLER FITTER SHALL ALSO SUCCESSFULLY
9 COMPLETE A REVISED EXAMINATION IN ORDER TO RENEW HIS OR HER
10 REGISTRATION.

11 (6) THE ADMINISTRATOR MAY PROMULGATE RULES AS NECESSARY
12 FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS SECTION.

13 **SECTION 4.** The introductory portion to 12-58-102 (5) (a) and
14 12-58-102 (5) (a), Colorado Revised Statutes, are amended to read:

15 **12-58-102. Definitions.** As used in this article, unless the context
16 otherwise requires:

17 (5) (a) "Plumbing" includes the following items located within the
18 building or extending five feet from the building foundation, excluding
19 any service line extending from the first joint to the property line: All
20 potable water supply and distribution pipes and piping; all plumbing
21 fixtures and traps; all drainage and vent pipes; all building drains,
22 including their respective joints and connections, devices, receptacles,
23 and appurtenances; ALL MULTIPURPOSE RESIDENTIAL FIRE SPRINKLER
24 SYSTEMS IN ONE- AND TWO-FAMILY DWELLINGS AND TOWNHOUSES THAT
25 ARE PART OF THE POTABLE WATER SUPPLY; and all medical gas and
26 vacuum systems in health care facilities. "Plumbing" does not include:

27 (I) The installation, extension, alteration, or maintenance,

1 including the related water piping and the indirect waste piping
2 therefrom, of domestic appliances equipped with backflow preventers,
3 including lawn sprinkling systems, residential ice makers, humidifiers,
4 electrostatic filter washers, water heating appliances, water conditioning
5 appliances not directly connected to the sanitary sewer system, building
6 heating appliances and systems, fire protection systems EXCEPT FOR
7 MULTI-PURPOSE RESIDENTIAL FIRE SPRINKLER SYSTEMS IN ONE- AND
8 TWO-FAMILY DWELLINGS AND TOWNHOUSES THAT ARE PART OF THE
9 POTABLE WATER SUPPLY, air conditioning installations, process and
10 industrial equipment and piping systems, or indirect drainage systems not
11 a part of a sanitary sewer system; or

12 **SECTION 5. Act subject to petition - specified effective date**
13 **- applicability.** (1) This act shall take effect July 1, 2011; except that,
14 if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of
15 the state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this act
16 within the ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general
17 assembly, then the act, item, section, or part shall not take effect unless
18 approved by the people at the general election to be held in November
19 2010 and shall take effect on July 1, 2011, or on the date of the official
20 declaration of the vote thereon by the governor, whichever is later.

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