



Colorado Division of Fire Prevention and Control

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HB14-1221, Continuation of the Regulation of Fire Suppression Contractors by the Division of Fire Prevention and Control

Fact Sheet

House Sponsors: Reps. Exum and Rankin; also Reps Fields and Lebsock

Senate Sponsor: Sen. Tochtrop

HB14-1221 does three things:

- Continues the Fire Suppression Registration and Inspection Program for five years, until 2019.
- Creates a new registration category for residential fire suppression system contractors.
- Makes clear the requirement for DFPC to maintain records of all complaints, investigations, disciplinary or other actions related to significant or repeated design or installation deficiencies.

1. Continues the Fire Suppression Registration and Inspection Program for five years, until 2019.

The Department of Regulatory Agencies (DORA) Sunset Review found that the Colorado Fire Suppression Program served an important public safety function and recommended the continuation of the program for five years. The purpose of the Program is to ensure that the life safety systems installed in buildings are installed and maintained properly, according to nationally recognized standards.

The Program has two main regulatory components: (a) a registration component which registers fire suppression contractors and installers; and (b) a fire suppression inspection component which qualifies inspectors, records fire suppression system installations, and inspects fire suppression systems in those areas of the state that do not have a local authorized authority to so.

2. Creates a new registration category for residential fire suppression system contractors.

- Fire sprinkler installations in one- and two-family dwellings and townhouses are increasing in number. These systems are not as complicated to design or install as those used for commercial application.

"Safeguarding those that live, work, learn and play in Colorado"

- Currently, all contractors need to be fully qualified to perform installations regardless of the setting in which they work. However, the stakeholders and DORA recommended that a new residential contractor's registration specific to residential installation and inspection should be created and DFPC agrees.
 - HB14-1221 requires the new registration and standards for registration be developed by DFPC, explained in rule, and in place by January 1, 2015.
- 3. Makes clear the requirement for DFPC to maintain records of all complaints, investigations, disciplinary or other actions related to significant or repeated design or installation deficiencies.**

The DORA Sunset Review and the House Local Government Committee admonished DFPC for its failure to maintain records of all complaints, investigations, disciplinary or other actions. This has been corrected.

Proposed Amendment

A proposed amendment to HB14-1221 by the Colorado Chapter of the **International Code Council** seeks to clarify that the registration does not cover multipurpose system installations. Multipurpose systems are part of a building's plumbing system and are inspected when the plumbing is inspected by plumbing inspectors and under the jurisdiction of the Colorado State Plumbing Board and not DFPC.

The proposed amendment:

Page 3, line 23 strike "TWO-FAMILY DWELLING OR TOWNHOUSE" and substitute:

TWO-FAMILY DWELLING OR TOWNHOUSE THAT IS NOT REGULATED BY THE STATE OF COLORADO PLUMBING BOARD.

DFPC concurs with the proposed amendment.

For More Information Contact:

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