

First Regular Session  
Sixty-eighth General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 11-0392.01 Kristen Forrestal

HOUSE BILL 11-1120

---

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Gerou,

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Roberts,

---

House Committees

Economic and Business Development

Senate Committees

---

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 CONCERNING THE REPEAL OF REQUIRED REGISTRATION OF PERSONS  
102 WHO WORK ON 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>.)*

In 2010, the general assembly passed House Bill 10-1241 concerning the required registration for persons who work on fire suppression systems, which is to take effect July 1, 2011. This bill reverses the statutory changes made by House Bill 10-1241. Specifically, the bill repeals the prohibition against a person acting or advertising as a

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.*

sprinkler fitter unless the person has registered with the state fire suppression administrator. The bill also repeals requirements that must be fulfilled prior to registration, including:

- ! Demonstration that a sprinkler fitter has successfully completed a sprinkler fitter apprenticeship program;
- ! Completion of an application for reciprocity;
- ! Performance of at least 8,000 hours of documented practical work experience on fire suppression systems; and
- ! Demonstration of competency as a sprinkler fitter as determined by the administrator.

The bill also repeals the requirements that a sprinkler fitter complete continuing education and repeals the annual renewal of registration and the required 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. Repeal.** 12-58-104 (1) (k), Colorado Revised  
3 Statutes, as it will become effective July 1, 2011, is repealed as follows:

4 **12-58-104. Powers of board - fees - rules.** (1) In addition to all  
5 other powers and duties conferred or imposed upon the board by this  
6 article, the board is authorized and empowered to:

7 (k) ~~Establish minimum requirements and standards for the~~  
8 ~~inspection of multipurpose residential fire sprinkler systems in one- and~~  
9 ~~two-family dwellings and townhouses that are part of the potable water~~  
10 ~~supply, by requiring inspectors of multipurpose residential fire sprinkler~~  
11 ~~systems in one- and two-family dwellings and townhouses to be certified~~  
12 ~~by the division of fire safety in the department of public safety pursuant~~  
13 ~~to section 24-33.5-1206.4, C.R.S.~~

14 **SECTION 2.** 24-33.5-1202 (3.4), (6), (13.3), (13.7), and (13.9),  
15 Colorado Revised Statutes, as they will become effective July 1, 2011, are  
16 amended to read:

17 **24-33.5-1202. Definitions.** As used in this part 12, unless the

1 context otherwise requires:

2 (3.4) ~~"Cross-connection control device" means an installation,~~  
3 ~~device, or assembly located between the water supply and fire~~  
4 ~~suppression piping to prevent the undesirable reversal in the flow of water~~  
5 ~~from a real or potential source of contamination back to the potable water~~  
6 ~~supply. A cross-connection control device is also referred to as a back~~  
7 ~~flow preventer.~~

8 (6) "Fire suppression system" means an assembly of any or all of  
9 the following: Piping valves, conduits, dispersal openings, sprinkler  
10 heads, orifices, and other similar devices that convey extinguishing agents  
11 for the purpose of controlling, confining, or extinguishing fire, with the  
12 exception of ~~multipurpose residential fire sprinkler systems in one- and~~  
13 ~~two-family dwellings and townhouses that are part of the potable water~~  
14 ~~supply, pre-engineered range hoods, duct systems, and portable fire~~  
15 ~~extinguishers.~~

16 (13.3) ~~"Sprinkler fitter" means a person other than an apprentice~~  
17 ~~who is registered with the administrator and who installs fire suppression~~  
18 ~~systems. "Sprinkler fitter" does not include a person who performs~~  
19 ~~maintenance and repair on fire suppression systems as a part of his or her~~  
20 ~~employment. A sprinkler fitter does not include a person who performs~~  
21 ~~work exclusively on cross-connection control devices or a person who~~  
22 ~~performs work exclusively on an underground system. "Sprinkler fitter"~~  
23 ~~does not include a person performing work on his or her own home.~~

24 (13.7) ~~"Sprinkler fitter apprenticeship program" means an~~  
25 ~~apprenticeship training program that is registered with either the office of~~  
26 ~~apprenticeship training, employer and labor services in the employment~~  
27 ~~and training administration in the United States department of labor or a~~

1 ~~state apprenticeship agency in accordance with the requirements of 29~~  
2 ~~CFR 29.1 et seq., or other similar apprentice program approved by the~~  
3 ~~administrator, and consists of a minimum of eight thousand hours of~~  
4 ~~documented practical work experience on fire suppression systems,~~  
5 ~~combined with a minimum of seven hundred hours of related instruction,~~  
6 ~~including classroom or shop instruction, in the sprinkler fitter trade.~~

7 (13.9) "Underground system" means the system of below-ground  
8 piping, valves, appliances, and appurtenances that physically connect the  
9 water supply to a fire suppression system.

10 **SECTION 3. Repeal.** 24-33.5-1206.7, Colorado Revised  
11 Statutes, as it will become effective July 1, 2011, is repealed as follows:

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

13 ~~(1) No person shall act, assume to act, or advertise as a sprinkler fitter~~  
14 ~~who is not registered with the administrator.~~

15 ~~(2) A registered sprinkler fitter shall obtain any locally required~~  
16 ~~licenses or permits and comply with local building codes.~~

17 ~~(3) In order to register with the administrator, a sprinkler fitter~~  
18 ~~shall pay a fee as determined by the administrator and shall:~~

19 ~~(a) Provide evidence demonstrating that he or she successfully~~  
20 ~~completed a sprinkler fitter apprenticeship program and take and pass an~~  
21 ~~examination established and approved by the administrator;~~

22 ~~(b) Complete an application for registration by reciprocity~~  
23 ~~established by rules of the administrator that demonstrates competent~~  
24 ~~evidence that the applicant is currently authorized to practice as a~~  
25 ~~sprinkler fitter in another state that has established qualification~~  
26 ~~requirements substantially similar to, or greater than, the requirements~~  
27 ~~established in this section or by rule of the administrator;~~

1           ~~(c) Provide evidence demonstrating that he or she performed at~~  
2 ~~least eight thousand hours of documented practical work experience on~~  
3 ~~fire suppression systems within the past five years; or~~

4           ~~(d) Otherwise demonstrate competency as a sprinkler fitter as~~  
5 ~~determined by the administrator.~~

6           ~~(4) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (3) of this~~  
7 ~~section, a person who is enrolled in a sprinkler fitter apprenticeship~~  
8 ~~program may perform work on a fire suppression system under the direct~~  
9 ~~supervision of and in the immediate presence of a sprinkler fitter.~~

10          ~~(5) (a) A registered sprinkler fitter shall complete continuing~~  
11 ~~education requirements established by rule of the administrator.~~

12          ~~(b) A sprinkler fitter shall apply to renew his or her registration~~  
13 ~~annually. The administrator shall renew, for a period of one year, a~~  
14 ~~sprinkler fitter registration upon receipt of a completed renewal~~  
15 ~~application and a renewal fee as determined by the administrator. In~~  
16 ~~years that the fire and safety code is revised, a sprinkler fitter shall also~~  
17 ~~successfully complete a revised examination in order to renew his or her~~  
18 ~~registration.~~

19          ~~(6) The administrator may promulgate rules as necessary for the~~  
20 ~~implementation of this section.~~

21           **SECTION 4. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,  
22 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate  
23 preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.