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HOUSE BILL 3035

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State of Washington

56th Legislature

2000 Regular Session

By Representatives D. Schmidt and Romero; by request of Washington State Patrol

Read first time 01/26/2000. Referred to Committee on Commerce & Labor.

1 AN ACT Relating to fire sprinkler systems; and amending RCW  
2 18.160.030 and 18.160.040.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 18.160.030 and 1992 c 116 s 2 are each amended to read  
5 as follows:

6 (1) This chapter shall be administered by the state director of  
7 fire protection.

8 (2) The state director of fire protection shall have the authority,  
9 and it shall be his or her duty to:

10 (a) Issue such administrative regulations as necessary for the  
11 administration of this chapter;

12 (b)(i) Set reasonable fees for licenses, certificates, testing, and  
13 other aspects of the administration of this chapter. However, the  
14 license fee for fire protection sprinkler system contractors engaged  
15 solely in the installation, inspection, maintenance, or servicing of  
16 NFPA 13-D fire protection sprinkler systems shall not exceed one  
17 hundred dollars, and the license fee for fire protection sprinkler  
18 system contractors engaged solely in the installation, inspection,

1 maintenance, or servicing of NFPA 13-R fire protection sprinkler  
2 systems shall not exceed three hundred dollars;

3 (ii) Adopt rules establishing a special category restricted to  
4 contractors registered under chapter 18.27 RCW who install underground  
5 systems that service fire protection sprinkler systems(~~(. The rules~~  
6 ~~shall be adopted within ninety days of March 31, 1992))~~);

7 (c) Enforce the provisions of this chapter;

8 (d) Conduct investigations of complaints to determine if any  
9 infractions of this chapter or the regulations developed under this  
10 chapter have occurred;

11 ~~(e) ((Work with the fire sprinkler advisory committee consisting of~~  
12 ~~fire protection sprinkler system contractors and other related~~  
13 ~~officials;~~

14 ~~(f))~~ Assign a certificate number to each certificate of competency  
15 holder; ~~((and~~

16 ~~(g))~~ (f) Adopt rules necessary to implement and administer a  
17 program which requires the affixation of a seal any time a fire  
18 protection sprinkler system is installed, which seal shall include the  
19 certificate number of any certificate of competency holder who  
20 installs, in whole or in part, the fire protection sprinkler system;

21 (g) Adopt rules necessary for the collection of fees established in  
22 the uniform building code for conducting plan reviews and inspections  
23 when requested by local jurisdictions, subject to available funds and  
24 resources; and

25 (h) Adopt rules necessary to assess monetary penalties of a civil  
26 nature for the violation of the provisions of this chapter.

27 **Sec. 2.** RCW 18.160.040 and 1990 c 177 s 5 are each amended to read  
28 as follows:

29 (1) To become a certificate of competency holder under this  
30 chapter, an applicant must have satisfactorily passed an examination  
31 administered by the state director of fire protection. A certificate  
32 of competency holder can satisfy this examination requirement by  
33 presenting a copy of a current certificate of competency from the  
34 national institute for certification in engineering technologies  
35 showing that the applicant has achieved the classification of  
36 engineering technician level 3 or senior engineering technician level  
37 4 in the field of fire protection, automatic sprinkler system layout.  
38 ~~((The state director of fire protection may accept equivalent proof of~~

1 ~~qualification in lieu of examination, as recommended by the fire~~  
2 ~~sprinkler advisory committee.))~~ This examination requirement is  
3 mandatory except as otherwise provided in this chapter.

4 (2) Every applicant for a certificate of competency shall fulfill  
5 the requirements established by the state director of fire protection  
6 ~~((and the fire protection sprinkler system technical advisory committee~~  
7 ~~under chapter 34.05 RCW)).~~

8 (3) Every applicant for a certificate of competency shall make  
9 application to the state director of fire protection and pay the fees  
10 required.

11 (4) Provided the application for the certificate of competency is  
12 made prior to ninety days after May 1, 1991, the state director of fire  
13 protection, in lieu of the examination requirements of the applicant  
14 for a certificate of competency, may accept as satisfactory evidence of  
15 competency and qualification, affidavits attesting that the applicant  
16 has had a minimum of three years' experience.

17 (5) The state director of fire protection may~~((, after consultation~~  
18 ~~with the fire sprinkler advisory committee,))~~ issue a temporary  
19 certificate of competency to an applicant who, in his or her judgment,  
20 will satisfactorily perform as a certificate of competency holder under  
21 the provisions of this chapter. The temporary certificate of  
22 competency shall remain in effect for a period of up to three years.  
23 The temporary certificate of competency holder shall, within the three-  
24 year period, complete the examination requirements specified in  
25 subsection (1) of this section. There shall be no examination  
26 exemption for an individual issued a temporary certificate of  
27 competency. Prior to the expiration of the three-year period, the  
28 temporary certificate of competency holder shall make application for  
29 a regular certificate of competency. The procedures and qualifications  
30 for issuance of a regular certificate of competency shall be applicable  
31 to the temporary certificate of competency holder. When a temporary  
32 certificate of competency expires, the holder shall cease all  
33 activities associated with the holding of a temporary certificate of  
34 competency, subject to the penalties contained in this chapter.

35 (6) To become a licensed fire protection sprinkler system  
36 contractor under this chapter, a person or firm must comply with the  
37 following:

38 (a) Must be or have in his or her full-time employ a holder of a  
39 valid certificate of competency;

1 (b) Comply with the minimum insurance requirements of this chapter;  
2 and

3 (c) Make application to the state director of fire protection for  
4 a license and pay the fees required.

5 (7) Each license and certificate of competency issued under this  
6 chapter must be posted in a conspicuous place in the fire protection  
7 sprinkler system contractor's place of business.

8 (8) All bids, advertisements, proposals, offers, and installation  
9 drawings for fire protection sprinkler systems must prominently display  
10 the fire protection sprinkler system contractor's license number.

11 (9) A certificate of competency or license issued under this  
12 chapter is not transferable.

13 (10) In no case shall a certificate of competency holder be  
14 employed full time by more than one fire protection sprinkler system  
15 contractor at the same time. If the certificate of competency holder  
16 should leave the employment of the fire protection sprinkler system  
17 contractor, he or she must notify the state director of fire protection  
18 within thirty days. If the certificate of competency holder should  
19 leave the employment of the fire protection sprinkler system  
20 contractor, the contractor shall have six months or until the  
21 expiration of the current license, whichever occurs last, to submit a  
22 new application identifying another certificate of competency holder  
23 who is at the time of application an owner of the fire protection  
24 sprinkler system business or a full-time employee of the fire  
25 protection sprinkler system contractor, in order to be issued a new  
26 license. If such application is not received and a new license issued  
27 within the allotted time, the state director of fire protection shall  
28 revoke the license of the fire protection sprinkler system contractor.

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