

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS21594

The exception in Section 54-2602(1)(e), Idaho Code, currently allows a property owner who regularly employs maintenance or construction plumbers to perform on such premises alterations, extensions and new construction without a certificate of competency (license). This provision has been utilized by owners of commercial properties to perform their own plumbing work under the guise of "construction plumbers" employed by themselves as owners of the facility. The Plumbing Board and the industry believe such application of the statutory language does not fall within the original intent of this statute, and that continued misuse of it poses a real threat to public health and safety. The Board does feel that such maintenance plumbers should be able to perform repairs and replacement of fixtures and equipment, but any alterations, extensions or new construction must be done by a licensed plumbing contractor. This amendment would not prevent large entities or employers from utilizing unlicensed staff to perform routine repairs or replacements necessary for the maintenance of commercial properties.

FISCAL NOTE

No impact on the dedicated Plumbing Board Fund or General Fund is expected, as permits are required regardless. There could potentially be a negative impact on those facility owners currently utilizing uncertified plumbers to perform new work.

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