



SUPPORT HB 19-1086 Plumbing Inspections Ensure Compliance – Committee Amendment L005 & L006

Compromise Amendment L005 & L006

Plumbers Local 3 has agreed to a compromise with CML and CCI that would address the concerns with the original bill.

- With L005's passage, Section 1 of the original bill dealing with requiring a plumbing license to inspect plumbing installations would be entirely removed from the bill.
- CCI and CML change their position. CCI will support bill with L005, CML will be neutral on the bill.
- CCI and CML have agreed to hold stakeholder meetings over the summer and members of House leadership have offered to participate to revisit the issue of qualifications.
- Plumbers Local 3 and the Plumbers Contractors Associations agreed to strip out Section 1 if we could instead add Continuing Education Requirement for Plumbers that is the Exact Same at the requirement established for electricians in HB 10-16-1073. (See Amendment L005)
- The amendment would give the State Plumbing Board the authority to set curriculum for the CE that includes allowing credit for those plumbers who are seeking to complete courses for nationally recognized building and plumbing inspection certifications. In the future this will help ensure we have more licensed plumbers qualified to inspect buildings and plumbing installations.
- DORA will **NOT** oppose the new CE program for plumbers in L005.
- The two plumbing and mechanical associations, MCA and PHCC, will support the bill with L005.
- L006 gives State Plumbing Board flexibility in Determining requirements for license reinstatement for those who allow their license to lapse.

Industry Parity

HB 19-1086 brings forward the “contemporaneous review” provision of HB 16-1073 for electricians and carries that exact same language over to the plumbing industry. Should HB 19-1086 pass, it will bring the same license and apprentice ratio enforcement provisions to the plumbing profession. As the two licensed construction trades in Colorado, it only makes sense that both professions have similar enforcement mechanisms. If L005 passed, it would also ensure the two licensed trades in Colorado, plumbing and electrical, have the same continuing education requirements.

Local Flexibility

HB 16-1073 was carefully negotiated with stakeholders, including the Colorado Municipal League and the Associated General Contractors, to ensure that building departments would have flexibility in how they conducted the “contemporaneous review” and to ensure that nothing would delay the timeliness of the electrical inspections. HB 19-1086 preserves that exact same flexibility for local, regional and state building departments. HB 19-1086 requires that:

- Each building department shall develop standard procedures for the contemporaneous review and post on their website.
- The inspector is not required to conduct a review for compliance on every job site visit or at every inspection point in the project.
- The building department's procedures cannot prevent the inspector from verifying compliance with license requirements and apprenticeship ratios at any time they suspect non-compliance.

Continuing Education = Stronger Training & Safety

Plumbers are one of the last professionally licensed skilled tradespersons in Colorado without a continuing education requirement. This means we have many plumbers who have never upgraded their skills. If L005 passes onto HB 19-1086, we will begin to have plumbers who upgrade their skills to meet the needs of new technology and new types of systems (gray water, reclaimed water).