

1971 Senate Bill 181

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CHAPTER 255, Laws of 1971

AN ACT to amend chapter 145 (title) and 145.12 (1); to create 15.197 (4) (g), 145.01 (8) to (11), 145.08 (1) (k) to (n) and 145.15 to 145.18 of the statutes, relating to creating an automatic fire sprinkler system contractors and journeymen examining council in the department of health and social services, licensing of automatic fire sprinkler system contractors and journeymen and regulation of the installation of such systems, granting rule-making authority and providing a penalty.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. 15.197 (4) (g) of the statutes is created to read:

15.197 (4) (g) Automatic fire sprinkler system contractors and journeymen. There is created an automatic fire sprinkler system contractors and journeymen examining council consisting of 5 members. One member shall be an employe of the division of health, selected by the state health officer, to serve as secretary of the council. Two members shall be licensed journeymen automatic fire sprinkler fitters and 2 members shall be persons representing licensed automatic fire sprinkler contractors, all appointed by the state health officer for staggered 4-year terms.

SECTION 2. Chapter 145 (title) of the statutes is amended to read:

CHAPTER 145.  
PLUMBING AND FIRE PROTECTION SYSTEMS.

SECTION 3. 145.01 (8) to (11) of the statutes are created to read:

145.01 (8) AUTOMATIC FIRE SPRINKLER SYSTEM. An automatic fire sprinkler system, for fire protection purposes, is an integrated system of underground and overhead piping designed in accordance with fire protection engineering standards. The system includes a suitable water supply, such as a gravity tank, fire pump, reservoir or pressure tank or connection beginning at the building side of an approved check valve or approved backflow preventing device located at or near the property line where the pipe or piping

system provides water used exclusively for fire protection and related appurtenances and to standpipes connected to automatic sprinkler systems. The portion of the sprinkler system above ground is a network of specially sized or hydraulically designed piping installed in a building, structure or area, generally overhead, and to which sprinklers are connected in a systematic pattern. The system includes a controlling valve and a device for actuating an alarm when the system is in operation. The system is usually activated by heat from a fire and discharges water over the fire area.

(9) **AUTOMATIC FIRE SPRINKLER CONTRACTOR.** An automatic fire sprinkler contractor is any individual, firm or corporation who has paid the annual license fee and obtained a license to conduct a business in the design, installation, maintenance or repair of automatic fire sprinkler systems.

(10) **JOURNEYMAN AUTOMATIC FIRE SPRINKLER FITTER.** A journeyman automatic fire sprinkler fitter is any person other than an automatic fire sprinkler contractor who is engaged in the practical installation of automatic fire sprinkler systems.

(11) **AUTOMATIC FIRE SPRINKLER SYSTEM APPRENTICE.** An automatic fire sprinkler system apprentice is any person other than an automatic fire sprinkler system contractor or a journeyman automatic fire sprinkler system fitter who is engaged in learning and assisting in the installation of automatic fire sprinkler systems and who is indentured under ch. 106.

SECTION 4. 145.08 (1) (k) to (n) of the statutes are created to read:

145.08 (1) (k) For an automatic fire sprinkler contractor's examination, \$50.

(L) For an automatic fire sprinkler contractor's license, \$500 and \$500 for each renewal of the license.

(m) For a journeyman automatic fire sprinkler fitter's examination, \$10 and \$10 for each subsequent examination.

(n) For a journeyman automatic fire sprinkler fitter's license, \$15 and \$15 for each renewal of the license.

SECTION 5. 145.12 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

145.12 (1) Any person, firm or corporation who engages in or follows the business or occupation of, or advertises or holds himself or itself out as or acts temporarily or otherwise as a master plumber or as an automatic fire sprinkler contractor without first having secured the required license or permit, or who otherwise violates any provisions of this chapter, shall be deemed guilty of a ~~misdemeanor and, upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by a fine of fined~~ not less than ~~ten dollars~~ \$10 nor more than ~~one hundred dollars or by imprisonment in the county jail \$100 or imprisoned for not less than thirty 30 days, or by both such fine and imprisonment.~~ Each day during which a such violation continues shall be a separate offense.

SECTION 6. 145.15 to 145.18 of the statutes are created to read:

**145.15 LICENSES.** (1) No city, village, town or county may require the licensing of any person licensed or registered under ss. 145.15 to 145.18 for any activity regulated under ss. 145.15 to 145.18 or rules adopted thereunder.

(2) All licenses issued under ss. 145.15 to 145.18 shall be issued by the department. The department shall not restrict the work done by any licensed journeyman sprinkler system fitter of any automatic fire sprinkler contractor or apprentice to any geographical territory.

(3) Any person not licensed under this chapter prior to the effective date of this subsection (1971) who was regularly engaged in the occupation of installing automatic fire sprinkler systems on or before March 1, 1967, shall be licensed under ss. 145.15 to 145.18 without being required to pass any written, oral or practical examination qualifying him for a license under ss. 145.15 to 145.18. Any such person shall apply for the appropriate license and pay the appropriate license fee.

**145.16 REGISTRATION OF APPRENTICES.** Automatic fire sprinkler system apprentices shall not be required to apply for any license but shall register with the department as an apprentice. Such apprentices shall be enrolled in a qualified apprenticeship sprinkler fitters program recognized by the department of industry, labor and human relations.

**145.17 INSPECTORS AND RULE-MAKING.** (1) The department may employ competent supervisors, who shall be licensed automatic fire sprinkler contractors or journeymen automatic fire sprinkler system fitters, and may employ other persons. The department may accept as certification of inspection, inspection by the insurance services organization of Wisconsin, the FIA, the factory mutual engineering corporation or other fire insurance rating organization.

(2) The department shall prescribe rules as to the qualifications, examination and licensing of journeymen automatic fire sprinkler system fitters and automatic fire sprinkler contractors and for the registration and training of automatic fire sprinkler system apprentices.

**145.18 TEMPORARY PERMITS.** The department shall issue temporary permits to journeymen automatic fire sprinkler system fitters or to automatic fire sprinkler system contractors pending examination of applicants for licenses. Examination fees shall be paid at the time the permit is issued.

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