
Wisconsin Legislative Council

AMENDMENT MEMO



Memo published: February 11, 2022

Contact: Steve McCarthy, Senior Staff Attorney

2021 Assembly Bill 152

Assembly Amendment 1

2021 ASSEMBLY BILL 152

Under current law, building plans for commercial buildings and plumbing plans for plumbing systems must be examined for compliance with the rules promulgated by the Department of Safety and Professional Services (DSPS).

Assembly Bill 152 creates an exemption from the examination requirement for certain building plans and plumbing plans and modifies other aspects of the building plan review process.

Specifically, DSPS may not require the submission or examination of building plans for a commercial building that: (1) is a single story containing less than 200,000 cubic feet of volume; (2) is not classified by DSPS as intended for certain occupancies and uses; and (3) a registered architect, registered professional engineer, or designer permit holder prepares and signs, dates, and seals or stamps the building plans.

The bill also creates a similar exception for plumbing plan examination requirements. Specifically, DSPS may not require the examination of plumbing plans for a plumbing system that: (1) involves no more than 25 plumbing fixtures; (2) is in connection with a building or structure that is not classified by DSPS as intended for certain occupancies and uses; and (3) a registered architect, registered professional engineer, or designer permit holder in the field of plumbing systems prepares and signs, dates, and seals or stamps, or a licensed master plumber, licensed master plumber (restricted), or utility contractor signs and dates, the plumbing plans.

Lastly, under current law, DSPS must fix and collect fees that, as closely as possible, equal the cost of examining building plans. The bill provides that 50 percent of building plan examination fees must be submitted as a nonrefundable deposit at the time an appointment for examination of building plans is scheduled.

Assembly Amendment 1

The amendment does all of the following:

- Removes “designer permit holders” from the list of professions that may prepare and sign, date, and seal or stamp building plans that are exempt from DSPS review under the bill.
- Modifies the type of plumbing plans exempt for review by requiring the plans involve at least 16, but no more than 25 plumbing fixtures.
- Provides that the act takes effect on the 45th day after the day of publication.

BILL HISTORY

Representative Jessie Rodriguez introduced Assembly Amendment 1 on August 4, 2021. On September 29, 2021, the Assembly Committee on Regulatory Licensing Reform voted to recommend adoption of the amendment, and passage of the bill, as amended, on votes of Ayes, 6; Noes, 3.

On February 9, 2022, the Joint Committee on Finance recommended adoption of the amendment and passage of the bill, as amended, on votes of Ayes 11; Noes, 4.

SM:jal