



M E C H A N I C A L

8401 AIRPORT BLVD, SUITE 201
JUNEAU, AK 99801
907.780.2250

January 21, 2026

Re: HB260

IP Mechanical Contractors LLC fully supports HB 260. There needs to be strict enforcement of all licenses.

Legitimate Contractors pay to be licensed and must compete against unlicensed Contractors daily. There also needs to be funding for enforcement.

Thanks,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Larry White".

Larry White



Ketchikan Mechanical Inc.

1220 Copper Ridge Lane • Ketchikan, AK 99901

Phone (907) 225-9466 Fax (907) 225-9467

February 6, 2026

Jason Jurczak
6064 Churchill Ct.
Ketchikan, AK 99901

Dear Elected Officials / Members of the Legislature,

On behalf of Ketchikan Mechanical, Inc. (KMI), I am writing to express our strong support for HB 260, introduced by Representative Josephson, which strengthens enforcement of Alaska's Certificate of Fitness (COF) requirements.

KMI believes that the Certificate of Fitness program is a critical component of maintaining safety, professionalism, and accountability in Alaska's construction and mechanical trades. Licensed and certified workers invest significant time and resources to comply with state requirements, and it is essential that the law be enforced meaningfully to ensure a level playing field.

HB 260 provides necessary enforcement tools by allowing the Department of Labor to issue fines to individuals performing COF-required work without proper certification and to employers who knowingly assign unlicensed workers to perform such work. The bill also allows for suspension or revocation of contractor licenses when violations occur. These measures appropriately place responsibility not only on the worker but also on the contractor, with oversight and accountability required.

This legislation will improve jobsite safety, protect the public, and uphold the integrity of Alaska's skilled trades. Contractors who follow the law should not be undercut by those who choose to ignore certification requirements. HB 260 helps ensure that qualified, certified professionals are performing work that directly impacts public safety and infrastructure.

Ketchikan Mechanical, Inc. appreciates the Legislature's consideration of this important issue and urges your support for HB 260.

Thank you for your time and dedication to protecting Alaska's workforce and communities.

Respectfully,

Jason Jurczak, Vice President



Ketchikan Mechanical Inc.
1220 Copper Ridge Lane • Ketchikan, AK 99901
Phone (907) 225-9466 Fax (907) 225-9467

February 6, 2026

Micah Henrick
2374 South Tongass
Ketchikan, AK 99901

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Respectfully,



Micah Henrick, Project Superintendent



MECHANICAL CONTRACTORS
of Fairbanks, Inc.



April 14, 2026

U.A. Local 375
3980 Boat Street
Fairbanks, AK 99709

Attn: Clayton Bessette

RE: Support for Proposed Legislation Regarding Certificates of Fitness

Dear Members of the Alaska State Legislature,

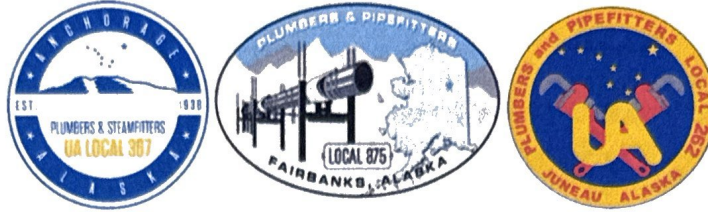
I am writing on behalf of the Mechanical Contractors to express my firm support for the proposed House Bill introduced by Representative Josephson, which addresses critical issues surrounding certificates of fitness. This legislation is a vital step toward ensuring a fair, transparent, and accountable construction industry in Alaska.

The proposed House Bill provides an enforcement mechanism that is essential for maintaining the competitive integrity of the industry and it does this by ensuring professional accountability. The bill strengthens the integrity of our trade by imposing stricter penalties for "knowing" violations of certificate of fitness requirements. By instituting a 90-day suspension for a first offense and permanent revocation for a second, the bill ensures that only qualified, law-abiding contractors operate in our state. Also, by imposing such significant administrative consequences, the legislation effectively disincentivizes the utilization of unqualified individuals and protects the health and safety of the public.

This legislation serves as a definitive mandate for fiscal and professional accountability across the entire Alaskan construction industry. It aggressively targets the systemic issue of uncertified labor, specifically individuals performing plumbing or other specialized trades without a mandatory certificate of fitness by imposing rigorous administrative sanctions. We strongly urge the legislature to adopt these measures to fortify the professional standards in Alaska's construction industry.

Sincerely,

Megan Bunch
President
Mechanical Contractors of Fairbanks



Alaska Pipe Trades Association

610 West 54th Avenue Anchorage, Alaska 99518

March 4, 2026

Representative Andy Josephson
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 505
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Re: Support for House Bill 260

Dear Representative Josephson,

On behalf of the Alaska Pipe Trades Association (APTA), representing Alaska's highly skilled plumbers, pipefitters, welders, and HVAC technicians, we write to express our strong support for House Bill 260.

APTA supports the bill in its entirety. However, we are particularly focused on Sections 1 and 2, which establish meaningful enforcement mechanisms for contractors who hire plumbers without the required State of Alaska Certificate of Fitness (COF). Specifically, HB 260 imposes a \$1,000 administrative fine for a contractor who employs a plumbing professional without a valid COF, suspends a contractor's license for 90 days upon a first offense, and permanently revokes that license upon a second offense.

The Certificate of Fitness requirement exists in Alaska statute for only two trades: electricians and plumbers. This distinction is not arbitrary. These professions involve work that, if performed improperly, can lead to catastrophic consequences — including gas leaks, fires, flooding, structural damage, contamination of potable water systems, and even loss of life. Electrical and plumbing systems are integral to the health, safety, and welfare of every Alaskan home, school, hospital, and commercial building.

The COF ensures that individuals performing this critical work have met state-established standards of training, competency, and safety. When contractors circumvent these requirements by hiring unlicensed or uncertified individuals, they put the public at risk, undercut law-abiding businesses, and devalue the extensive training and apprenticeship investments made by Alaska's skilled trades.

Unfortunately, the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development is currently under-resourced and unable to provide consistent and proactive enforcement of existing licensing laws. While the COF requirement is already in statute, the lack of sufficient enforcement capacity has allowed bad actors to operate with minimal accountability. HB 260 provides a deterrence against violation along with necessary and practical tools for the state to better enforce COF statutes for contractors violating this law.

The \$1,000 administrative fine is a reasonable and appropriate deterrent and sends a clear message that knowingly employing unlicensed plumbers is not a minor paperwork violation, but a serious breach of public trust and safety. Contractors who repeatedly disregard the law should not be permitted to continue operating in Alaska.

Legitimate contractors who follow the law and invest in properly trained, certified workers should not be forced to compete with businesses that cut corners at the expense of safety. HB 260 helps level the playing field, protects consumers, and reinforces the integrity of Alaska's construction industry.

APTA appreciates your leadership in sponsoring this important legislation. We urge the Legislature to pass House Bill 260 and strengthen Alaska's commitment to safety, professionalism, and accountability in the skilled trades.

Thank you for your service and for your continued support of Alaska's working men and women.

Sincerely,

Aaron Plikat, Business Manager
UA Local 367, Anchorage



Clayton Bessette, Business Manager
UA Local 375, Fairbanks



Aldon Zellhuber, Business Manager
UA Local 262, Juneau





WESTERN STATES REGIONAL COUNCIL OF CARPENTERS

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1281 Anchorage, AK

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1607 Millwrights

1912 Arizona

1977 Las Vegas, NV

2520 Pile Drivers & Divers, AK

Dear Members of the House Labor and Commerce Committee,

My name is Chris Dimond, and I am writing in support of House Bill 260, particularly the provisions beginning in Section 3 that address unpaid construction wages.

I offer this perspective both as a former construction worker who has personally experienced payroll discrepancies and as a representative who now regularly sees these same issues affecting workers across Alaska.

Construction projects often involve multiple layers of contractors and subcontractors. When a subcontractor fails to pay workers, the people who performed the work are often left chasing companies that have closed, left the state, or existed only long enough to complete a project. Section 3 of HB 260 helps address this problem by ensuring accountability exists throughout the contracting chain and by requiring greater transparency through payroll documentation.

You may hear concerns that legislation like this could increase construction costs. But if a project is cheaper because workers were underpaid, misclassified, or not paid at all, those lower costs are not the result of efficiency. They are the result of workers absorbing the loss.

Ensuring workers are paid properly does not raise construction costs. It ensures the market is honest.

As states around the country increase enforcement against wage theft and labor violations, contractors who rely on those practices often look for places where oversight is weaker. Alaska should not become a refuge for companies seeking to continue illegal business practices that are no longer tolerated elsewhere.

Most Alaska contractors want to compete on skill, productivity, and quality of work, not on who can most effectively cut corners on payroll. House Bill 260 helps ensure that responsible contractors are not undercut by those who ignore the law.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge your support for House Bill 260.

Sincerely,

Chris Dimond
Government Affairs Representative
Western States Carpenters