



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

Department of Labor and
Workforce Development

Labor Standards and Safety Division
Office of the Director

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To whom it may concern,

Amendment A.3 to Senate Bill 204 will provide a pathway for the Department and Workforce Development to recognize an individual's out-of-state license and to allow for the issuance of a provisional certificate of fitness (COF) for the journeyman electrical and plumbing trades.

Currently, all workers applying for a COF in Alaska must submit proof of hours and pass an examination before they receive approval to work. This is true even if they hold a comparable license in another state. In a time when there is a significant shortage of journey level tradesman and an increase in construction projects in Alaska, this makes it harder for employers to find workers, and delays workers' entry into the workforce.

A path for provisional certification will allow a licensed journeyman to apply for and be quickly granted a provisional license to work in-state, based on the training or testing they have already completed, while they are in the process of completing the COF requirements. Alaska will see benefits of increased migration, job creation, and higher levels of economic growth. This solution is a simple and effective means of supporting work in the trades and supporting economic growth in Alaska.

For all these reasons, the Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Labor Standards & Safety Division supports Amendment A.3 to Senate Bill 204.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tanya Keith".

Tanya Keith
Director, Labor Standards and Safety