

HOUSE BILL NO. 399

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

**BY THE HOUSE RULES COMMITTEE BY REQUEST OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION
REVIEW COMMITTEE**

Introduced: 2/11/02

Referred: Labor and Commerce

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act relating to the Uniform Mechanical Code and other safety codes; annulling**
2 **certain regulations adopted by the Department of Community and Economic**
3 **Development relating to the mechanical code that applies to certain construction**
4 **contractors and mechanical administrators; and providing for an effective date."**

5 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

6 *** Section 1.** AS 08.18.171(7) is amended to read:

7 (7) "mechanical contractor" means a contractor whose business
8 operations involve plumbing, pipe fitting, sheet metal, heating, air conditioning,
9 ventilating, or sprinkler and dry chemical fire protection trades in order to install or
10 modify mechanical piping and systems, devices, fixtures, and equipment or other
11 mechanical materials subject to the **edition of the Uniform Mechanical Code**
12 **adopted under AS 18.70.080(c) and to the** following codes as published by the
13 International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials [OR THE

1 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF BUILDING OFFICIALS]:

2 (A) Uniform Plumbing Code;

3 (B) Uniform Swimming Pool, Spa, and Hot Tub Code; **and**

4 (C) Uniform Solar Energy Code; [AND

5 (D) UNIFORM MECHANICAL CODE;]

6 * **Sec. 2.** AS 08.40.270(a) is amended to read:

7 (a) Each applicant shall be examined to determine the applicant's

8 (1) ability to understand plans, design specifications, and engineering
9 terms commonly used in the mechanical field;

10 (2) knowledge of mechanical installations and piping;

11 (3) familiarity with the requirements of the Uniform Plumbing Code,
12 Uniform Swimming Pool, Spa, and Hot Tub Code, **and** Uniform Solar Energy Code
13 **currently in effect in the state**, and **the edition of** the Uniform Mechanical Code
14 **adopted under AS 18.70.080(c)** [CURRENTLY IN EFFECT IN THE STATE];

15 (4) [REPEALED

16 (5)] personal skill and ability.

17 * **Sec. 3.** AS 08.40.490(3) is amended to read:

18 (3) "mechanical administrator" means a person who is responsible for

19 (A) installing or modifying mechanical piping and systems,
20 devices, fixtures, equipment, or other mechanical materials subject to the
21 Uniform Plumbing Code, Uniform Swimming Pool, Spa, and Hot Tub Code,
22 **and** Uniform Solar Energy Code, [AND THE UNIFORM MECHANICAL
23 CODE] as published by the International Association of Plumbing and
24 Mechanical Officials, and the **edition of the Uniform Mechanical Code**
25 **adopted under AS 18.70.080(c)** [INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF
26 BUILDING OFFICIALS]; or

27 (B) certifying that an installation or modification described in

28 (A) of this paragraph complies with the applicable codes;

29 * **Sec. 4.** AS 18.56.300(e)(3) is amended to read:

30 (3) "state building code" means

31 (A) for building standards, the standards set out in the version

1 of the Uniform Building Code adopted by the Department of Public Safety
 2 under AS 18.70.080, including the provisions of that code applicable to
 3 buildings used for residential purposes containing fewer than four dwelling
 4 units, notwithstanding the exclusion of those buildings from the Department of
 5 Public Safety's jurisdiction made by AS 18.70.080(a)(2);

6 (B) for mechanical standards, the standards set out in the
 7 **edition** [VERSION] of the Uniform Mechanical Code adopted [BY THE
 8 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY] under **AS 18.70.080(c)**
 9 [AS 18.70.080], including the provisions of that code applicable to buildings
 10 used for residential purposes containing fewer than four dwelling units,
 11 notwithstanding the exclusion of those buildings from the Department of
 12 Public Safety's jurisdiction made by AS 18.70.080(a)(2);

13 (C) for plumbing standards, the minimum plumbing code
 14 adopted for the state under AS 18.60.705; and

15 (D) for electrical standards, the minimum electrical standards
 16 prescribed by AS 18.60.580.

17 * **Sec. 5.** AS 18.70.080(a) is amended to read:

18 (a) **Subject to (c) of this section, the** [THE] Department of Public Safety
 19 shall adopt regulations for the purpose of protecting life and property from fire and
 20 explosion by establishing minimum standards for

21 (1) fire detection and suppression equipment;

22 (2) fire and life safety criteria in commercial, industrial, business,
 23 institutional, or other public buildings, and buildings used for residential purposes
 24 containing four or more dwelling units;

25 (3) any activity in which combustible or explosive materials are stored
 26 or handled in commercial quantities;

27 (4) conditions or activities carried on outside a building described in
 28 (2) or (3) of this **subsection** [SECTION] likely to cause injury to persons or property.

29 * **Sec. 6.** AS 18.70.080 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

30 (c) The 2000 edition of the Uniform Mechanical Code published by the
 31 International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials is adopted for use in

1 the state. As a subsequent version of the Uniform Mechanical Code is published from
2 time to time, the Department of Public Safety shall adopt a subsequent version of the
3 Uniform Mechanical Code published by the International Association of Plumbing
4 and Mechanical Officials when the Department of Public Safety determines that the
5 subsequent version meets the state's needs better than the preceding adopted version.

6 * **Sec. 7.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to
7 read:

8 ANNULMENT OF REGULATIONS. The following regulations adopted by the
9 Department of Community and Economic Development establishing the mechanical code that
10 applies to certain construction contractors and mechanical administrators are annulled: 12
11 AAC 21.990(7) and 12 AAC 39.992(b).

12 * **Sec. 8.** This Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).