

HOUSE BILL NO. 548

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
TWENTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Introduced: 3/29/04

Referred: Labor and Commerce, Finance

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act relating to the state's mechanical code, to mechanical contractors and**
2 **mechanical administrators, to mechanical standards and inspections involved in certain**
3 **housing loans, and to the adoption of the state's mechanical code; and providing for an**
4 **effective date."**

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

6 * **Section 1.** AS 08.18.171(12) is amended to read:

7 (12) "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 **mechanical code adopted under AS 18.60.870,**
12 **and the** following codes as published by the International Association of Plumbing
13 and Mechanical Officials or the International Conference of Building Officials:

14 (A) Uniform Plumbing Code;

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

2 (C) Uniform Solar Energy Code; [AND

3 (D) UNIFORM MECHANICAL CODE;]

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

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

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

8 (2) knowledge of mechanical installations and piping;

9 (3) familiarity with the requirements of the **mechanical code adopted**
10 **under AS 18.60.870, and the** Uniform Plumbing Code, Uniform Swimming Pool,
11 Spa, and Hot Tub Code, **and** Uniform Solar Energy Code [, AND THE UNIFORM
12 MECHANICAL CODE] currently in effect in the state;

13 (4) [REPEALED

14 (5)] personal skill and ability.

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

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

17 (A) installing or modifying mechanical piping and systems,
18 devices, fixtures, equipment, or other mechanical materials subject to the
19 **mechanical code adopted under AS 18.60.870, and the** Uniform Plumbing
20 Code, Uniform Swimming Pool, Spa, and Hot Tub Code, **and** Uniform Solar
21 Energy Code [, AND THE UNIFORM MECHANICAL CODE] as published
22 by the International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials and the
23 International Conference of Building Officials; or

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

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

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

27 (3) "state building code" means

28 (A) for building standards, the standards set out in the version
29 of the Uniform Building Code adopted by the Department of Public Safety
30 under AS 18.70.080, including the provisions of that code applicable to
31 buildings used for residential purposes containing fewer than four dwelling

1 units, notwithstanding the exclusion of those buildings from the Department of
2 Public Safety's jurisdiction made by AS 18.70.080(a)(2);

3 (B) for mechanical standards, the standards set out in the
4 **mechanical code** [VERSION OF THE UNIFORM MECHANICAL CODE]
5 adopted by the **Department of Labor and Workforce Development under**
6 **AS 18.60.870** [DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY UNDER
7 AS 18.70.080], including the provisions of that code applicable to buildings
8 used for residential purposes containing fewer than four dwelling units [,
9 NOTWITHSTANDING THE EXCLUSION OF THOSE BUILDINGS FROM
10 THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY'S JURISDICTION MADE BY
11 AS 18.70.080(a)(2)];

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

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

16 * **Sec. 5.** AS 18.60 is amended by adding a new section to read:

17 **Article 12A. Mechanical Code.**

18 **Sec. 18.60.870. Mechanical code.** The Department of Labor and Workforce
19 Development shall adopt by regulation a mechanical code to be the minimum
20 mechanical code for the state.

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

23 TRANSITION. Notwithstanding the other provisions of this Act, the mechanical code
24 that has been adopted by the Department of Public Safety under AS 18.56.300(e)(3), as that
25 paragraph exists before the effective date of this Act, and that is in effect immediately before
26 the effective date of this Act, continues to be the mechanical code referred to under
27 AS 08.18.171(12); AS 08.40.270(a)(3), 08.40.490(3); and AS 18.56.300(e)(3), as amended by
28 secs. 1 - 4 of this Act, until the Department of Labor and Workforce Development adopts a
29 mechanical code under AS 18.60.870, enacted by sec. 5 of this Act.

30 * **Sec. 7.** This Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).