



Legislative  
Council Staff

*Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature*

HB 19-1086

# FINAL FISCAL NOTE

---

<b>Drafting Number:</b>	LLS 19-0635	<b>Date:</b>	June 12, 2019
<b>Prime Sponsors:</b>	Rep. Duran Sen. Pettersen	<b>Bill Status:</b>	Signed Into Law
		<b>Fiscal Analyst:</b>	Katie Ruedebusch   303-866-3001 Katie.Ruedebusch@state.co.us

---

**Bill Topic:** PLUMBING INSPECTIONS ENSURE COMPLIANCE

---

**Summary of Fiscal Impact:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State Revenue ( <i>minimal</i> )	<input type="checkbox"/> TABOR Refund
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State Expenditure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local Government
<input type="checkbox"/> State Transfer	<input type="checkbox"/> Statutory Public Entity

The bill modifies renewal and reinstatement requirements for plumber licenses and requires that all entities conducting plumbing inspections create procedures for contemporaneous plumbing inspections. The bill increases state and local government workload and expenditures on an ongoing basis.

**Appropriation Summary:** No appropriation is required.

**Fiscal Note Status:** This fiscal note reflects the enacted bill.

---

## Summary of Legislation

The bill modifies renewal and reinstatement requirements for plumber licenses. To reinstate a plumbing license that has been expired for two years, persons must:

- provide verification of good standing and active practice in another state;
- pass the state plumbing examination; or
- meet any other competency requirements determined by the State Plumbing Board.

In addition, starting on May 1, 2021, persons renewing their plumbing license must have completed at least eight hours of continuing education for every year that has passed since their last renewal. This continuing education requirement does not apply to persons renewing or reinstating their licenses for the first time after passing the state exam. The State Plumbing Board (board) must adopt rules for continuing education requirements and standards by July 1, 2020.

The bill also requires any plumbing inspection performed by the state, a local government, or qualified state institution of higher education to include a review of plumbers and apprentices compliance with state plumbing laws. The review is not required for each inspection of the project, but standard procedures must preserve an inspector's ability to conduct a review at any time and allow for occasional on-site inspections of large commercial or multi-family residential projects while the work is being conducted. The bill requires that the state, local building departments, and institutions of higher education develop standard procedures for plumbing inspectors conducting

reviews; post these procedures on a public website; and provide the website link or standard procedures to the Division of Professions and Occupations in the Department of Regulatory Agencies (DORA). These requirements take effect January 1, 2020.

Finally, the board, as a result of a formal complaint, may require an inspecting entity to show cause as to why the board should not issue a final cease and desist order to the inspecting entity for not complying with inspection procedures. If a final cease and desist order is issued and state plumbing inspectors are needed to conduct inspections, the inspecting entity must reimburse the board for any expenses in addition to required permit fees.

## **Background**

The board, within DORA, regulates plumbers, apprentices, and plumbing contractors in Colorado. State general qualifications for plumber registration range from two to five years of practical experience in the field.

## **State Revenue**

To the extent that additional plumbing inspectors are registered with the State Plumbing Board in DORA and state plumbing inspectors are used to conduct additional inspections after a final cease and desist order, state revenue will increase. This increase is expected to be minimal.

## **State Expenditures**

The bill will increase state expenditures beginning in FY 2019-20 as described below. No change in appropriation is required.

**Department of Regulatory Agencies.** The State Plumbing Board and Division of Professions and Occupations in DORA will have a workload increase to update licensing requirements, conduct rulemaking, implement a continuing education program, issue additional show cause or cease and desist orders, and conduct outreach and education efforts. This workload can be accomplished within existing resources.

**Institutions of Higher Education.** The bill may increase expenditures for institutions of higher education in order to develop review standards and post those review standards on their websites.

## **Local Government**

The bill increases local government expenditures to develop review standards and post those review standards on the jurisdiction's website.

## **Effective Date**

The bill was signed into law by the Governor on April 23, 2019, and takes effect January 1, 2020, assuming no referendum petition is filed.

**State and Local Government Contacts**

Counties  
Municipalities

Higher Education  
Regulatory Agencies

Information Technology