

SESSION OF 2012

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2666

As Amended by House Committee on
Commerce and Economic Development

Brief*

HB 2666, as amended, would require cities or counties—if they require the licensing of plumbers, electricians, or mechanical heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) contractors—to verify the applicant’s respective documented proof of minimum necessary experience prior to issuing a journeyman or master certificate.

Background

In 2005 an informal group of stakeholders, comprised of code enforcement officials, business owners, elected local government officials, legislators, technical educators, and wholesale suppliers, was formed to review issues of common concern. This bill was introduced at their request.

Representatives John Grange and Brian Weber spoke as proponents. Some local code jurisdictions have a restriction as to when a license can be issued. Typically, two years of field experience is required before a person may receive a journeyman license. Then an additional two years beyond a journeyman level is required before qualifying for master certification. A master plumber and a representative of the Kansas Mechanical Trade Stakeholders also spoke in favor. The bill allows a technician to take the approved test and receive a certificate of completion at the most opportune time, while retaining the restriction for the licensing process and reinforcing the field experience provision. There was no opponent testimony.

*Supplemental notes are prepared by the Legislative Research Department and do not express legislative intent. The supplemental note and fiscal note for this bill may be accessed on the Internet at <http://www.kslegislature.org>

The House Committee on Commerce and Economic Development amended the bill to clarify internal references contained within the legislation.

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget, in consultation with the Kansas Association of Counties and the League of Kansas Municipalities, the bill could cause a slight increase in expenditures for some local governments due to the amendment and publication of local ordinances to comply with the changes proposed in the bill.