

ESTABLISH PLUMBER APPRENTICE RATIO

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Senate Bill 740 (S-1) as passed by the Senate

Sponsor: Sen. Darrin Camilleri

House Committee: Labor

Senate Committee: Labor

Complete to 9-25-24

Analysis available at
<http://www.legislature.mi.gov>

SUMMARY:

Senate Bill 740 would amend the Skilled Trades Regulation Act to establish a ratio of one journey or master plumber to up to two apprentice plumbers.

The Skilled Trades Regulation Act requires apprentice plumbers, as their principal occupation, to be engaged in learning and assisting in the installation of plumbing under the direct supervision of a journey plumber or master plumber.

Under Senate Bill 740, one journey plumber or master plumber could provide direct, on-site, in-person supervision to not more than two apprentices. The Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA) or an enforcing agency (the governmental agency that, in accordance with the Stille-DeRossett-Hale Single State Construction Code Act, is responsible for administering and enforcing the State Construction Code within a county, city, village, or township) would be responsible for enforcing this ratio on a jobsite basis.

A plumbing contractor that violates these provisions would be subject to a \$5,000 administrative fine for a first violation, a \$10,000 administrative fine for a second violation, and a minimum 90 days' suspension of their plumbing contractor's license for a third violation. After 90 days, the contractor could have their license reinstated if they pass a plumbing contractor examination.

LARA would have to pay any money collected from a fine to the enforcing agency that discovered the violation. If LARA issues an order for a violation, it would be entitled to actual costs and attorney fees related to the investigation and adjudication of the violation.

MCL 339.6117 (amended) and MCL 339.6117a (proposed)

FISCAL IMPACT:

Senate Bill 740 would have an indeterminate fiscal impact on state and local government units. It is expected that the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs and local agencies that enforce the Michigan Plumbing Code would receive increased revenues from collected violation fines. The amount of the increase would depend on the number of violations, and the impact on a specific agency would depend on how many violations the agency discovers. The bill would likely require additional enforcement costs as well, which would depend on the volume of complaints and investigations.

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■ This analysis was prepared by nonpartisan House Fiscal Agency staff for use by House members in their deliberations and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.