

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON Federal & State AffairsThe meeting was called to order by Chairman Robert H. Miller at
Chairperson1:30 a.m./p.m. on March 12, 1984 in room 526S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Representatives Smith & Peterson

Committee staff present:

Russ Mills, Research
Mary Torrence, Revisor of Statutes Office

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Roger Puget
J.B. McClure
Herb Whitlow
Jim Smith
Ron Trembly
Jim Kaup, Kansas League of Municipalities

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Miller.

Representative Aylward made a motion, seconded by Representative Sallee, to approve the minutes of the February 29 and March 6 meeting. The motion carried.

Chairman Miller explained that SB703 had been referred to this committee and that it was very similar to HB2865 which passed out of committee earlier.

Representative Matlack made a motion, seconded by Representative Ott, to amend SB703 so it would be identical to HB2865. and to report it favorably. The motion carried.

HB2389 - Licensure of professional plumbers

Mary Torrence explained the bill which would create a State Plumbing Board consisting of 5 members appointed by the Governor. This bill would adopt a statewide plumbing code; issue licenses to journeyman plumbers and master plumbers and plumbing contractors. Ms. Torrence explained the penalties for violation of this law. A person practicing as a master plumber or journeyman on or before December 31, 1984, could be issued a license without taking the exam.

There was discussion about what kinds of codes cities and counties use and the qualifications of inspectors.

Roger Puget, Prairie Village, gave testimony in support of the bill representing the Kansas Plumbing, Heating and Cooling Contractors. He highlighted the state plumbing code and why one is needed.

There was discussion on who would do the inspecting if this bill were to pass.

J.B. McClure, President of McClure Heating & Plumbing of Goodland and Colby, gave testimony in support of the bill. He explained the differences in codes and licensing between Goodland & Colby. This bill would protect people in rural areas from shabby workmanship.

There was discussion about the definition of "plumbing works and systems" and "potable water". Also discussed were the educational requirements of inspectors. Mr. McClure explained why rural water districts were exempt from this bill.

CONTINUATION SHEET

Minutes of the F&SA Committee on March 12, 19⁸⁴

Herb Whitlow, Latta-Whitlow of Topeka, gave testimony in support of the bill. See attachment A.

There was discussion concerning surety bond requirements and whether the definition of master plumber was sufficient.

Jim Smith, College Hill Heating & Plumbing, an instructor at Vo-tech, gave testimony in support of the bill and answered some of the questions which had been asked.

Ron Trembly, an inspector for the City of Salina, gave testimony in support of the bill. He explained that there was nothing in this bill that talks about inspectors. He presented the committee with a list of signatures in support of the bill. See attachment B.

Jim Kaup, Kansas League of Municipalities, gave testimony in opposition to the bill. He stated that there are 627 cities in the state and a great many of these do not have inspectors and do not have plumbing codes. Uniform code is not just a few pages and is extremely technical. A lot of cities do not have anyone who could understand it. The problem is with inspection not licensing. If the State of Kansas really wants to help this situation, they should have a voluntary or permissive licensing program.

Hearings were concluded.

The chairman asked the committee members to keep a close watch on revised agendas and the daily calendar for new bills. Bills re-referred are fair game and do not require another hearing. Some of these bills were re-referred to be held, worked or merely to be kept alive.

The meeting was adjourned.

A

HOUSE BILL # 2389

As a member of the Kansas Plumbing, Heating, Cooling Contractors' Ass'n. of The State of Kansas, I ask for the members of the PHCC of Kansas that this proposal be given your utmost consideration. We feel that there is an urgent need for this type of legislation.

This bill asks that all plumbing contractors will thereby show a degree of professionalism and knowledge by having taken an examination; and obtaining a state license.

The reasons for such an act are:

1. To give protection to Homeowners who live outside the jurisdiction of cities which already have this requirement, by requiring a license that could be revoked by an act unbecoming a professional plumbing contractor, and a bond which could be used to reimburse the Homeowner of any cost they might incur.
2. Having once acquired this license, after exhibiting the knowledge and professionalism required, anyone then doing business as a Plumbing Contractor would more than likely keep in mind the best interest of the Homeowner and his trade.
3. Further by recommending that the Uniformed Plumbing Code be established as the Plumbing Code state-wide, it will give uniformity to all plumbing performed under this Act. This will also allow a Homeowner the satisfaction of knowing that he will receive the type of professionalism that he is paying for.

Atch. A

Thank you.

Subat Whitlow

TO: THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF KANSAS
MONDAY MARCH ,12, 1984
WE THE UNDERSIGNED CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS HEREBY
ENDORSE THE ADOPTION OF THE KANSAS PLUMBERS LICENSING
ACT

| NAME | CITY OR COUNTY |
|------------------------|---------------------------|
| <i>Ronald Bigler</i> | <i>Manhattan</i> |
| <i>Alan Wilkinson</i> | <i>Manhattan KS Riley</i> |
| <i>Ally Stacey</i> | <i>Manhattan</i> |
| <i>St. B. S. S. S.</i> | <i>Manhattan</i> |
| <i>M. P. Johnson</i> | <i>M. P. Johnson</i> |
| <i>Kenneth Cain</i> | <i>Abilene</i> |
| <i>Francis Johnson</i> | <i>Topeka</i> |
| <i>Don. C. Jensen</i> | <i>Topeka</i> |
| <i>Gary E. Parks</i> | <i>Cratt</i> |

