

SESSION OF 2005

**CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT BRIEF
ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2058**

As Agreed to March 30, 2005

Brief*

HB 2058, as amended, concerns licenses and fees in cities. Specifically, the bill would:

- Require the governing bodies of counties and cities to adopt rules and regulations requiring all persons receiving plumbers' and mechanical heating, ventilation, and air conditioning contractors' licenses annually to obtain continuing education. The bill specifies the training consist of not less than 12 hours biennially and be approved by the local governing body. The continuing education can be provided by either the local governing body or a nationally recognized trade association. All 12 hours may consist of code update training on the locally adopted code. The bill also would establish a two-year minimum amount of field experience before a person can take the journeyman's examination; an additional minimum of two years of field experience would be required before a person can take the examination for a master certificate.
- Amend state law regarding imposition of licensing requirements and fees for vendors of agricultural, farm, garden or aquaculture products or fruits grown in Kansas. The bill would:
 - Restate current law prohibiting cities from imposing licensing fees on producers and growers or growers' agents or employees when selling agricultural, farm, garden or aquacultural products grown by the growers residing in Kansas.
 - Permit a city to require any producer, grower or grower's agent or employee to obtain a temporary license or permit to sell the agricultural, farm, garden, or aquacultural products they grow in

*Conference committee report briefs are prepared by the Legislative Research Department and do not express legislative intent. No summary is prepared when the report is an agreement to disagree. The conference committee summary report may be accessed on the Internet at <http://www.kslegislature.org>

this state. The license or permit must be valid for at least six months from the date of issuance.

Conference Committee Action

In Conference Committee, the House conferees agreed to the Senate amendments to the bill, with the following additions and revisions:

- Add the contents of HB 2484, as amended by the House Committee of the Whole, regarding imposition of licensing requirements and fees for vendors of agricultural, farm, garden or aquaculture products or fruits grown by growers residing in Kansas. The Conference Committee clarified this provision would apply to produce grown by those residing in the state.

Background

Currently, state law permits any county or city that requires its practicing plumbers and mechanical heating, ventilation, and air conditioning contracts be licensed to conduct competency examinations. The boards of county commissioners and governing bodies of cities are currently required to adopt rules and regulations (1) governing the conduct and grading of the examinations; (2) prescribing a minimum score of 75 percent for passage; and (3) fixing a uniform examination fee.

Proponents of HB 2058, as introduced, included representatives of the City of Topeka and the Sedgwick County Board of County Commissioners, as well as plumbers', pipefitters', and contractors' unions, organizations, or companies. Testifying in opposition to the bill was a representative of the League of Kansas Municipalities.

The fiscal note indicated passage of the bill would result in no fiscal effect.

Proponents of HB 2484, as introduced, included Representative Ray Merrick and Brian Driskell of Overland Park. Appearing in opposition was a spokesperson for the City of Wichita, who later submitted additional testimony.

The House Committee on Governmental Organization and Elections amended the bill to permit a city to require producers and growers to obtain temporary licenses or permits. The original bill prohibited cities from requiring such a license or permit.

The House Committee of the Whole extended, from 60 days to six months, the minimum amount of time a temporary license or permit is valid.

HB 2484, as introduced, has no fiscal effect on the state budget.