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Bureau of Pipefitters, Refrigeration Technicians, and Sprinkler Fitters

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AND PUBLIC COMMENT

Pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws c. 30A, s. 2; c. 22, s. 10A; and c. 146, s. 82, the Bureau of Pipefitters, Refrigeration Technicians, and Sprinkler Fitters will hold a public hearing regarding amendments to regulations 528 CMR 2.00, 3.00 and 11.00, which establish licensing requirements for pipefitters, refrigeration technicians and sprinkler fitters. **The hearing will be held at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, January 23, 2024.** in person at the Division of Occupational Licensure, 1000 Washington Street – Room 1D, Boston, Massachusetts 02118 and by videoconference at <https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/microsoft-teams/join-a-meeting>, Meeting ID: 257 249 666 227, Passcode: 3XXkxM, or call in to (857) 327-9245, Phone Conference ID: 938 800 959#. Interested parties will be given an opportunity to present testimony orally or in writing at the hearing. Written comments may be emailed to martin.edwards@mass.gov or mailed to the Bureau of Pipefitters, Refrigeration Technicians and Sprinkler Fitters, 1000 Washington Street, Suite 710, Boston, Massachusetts, 02118-6100, Attention: Martin Edwards. A copy of the proposed amendments to the Bureau's regulations may be obtained at the Bureau's website at [Bureau of Pipefitters, Refrigeration Technicians, and Sprinkler Fitters | Mass.gov](#) or by contacting Mr. Edwards at Phone (617) 701-8752. The Bureau will also accept written comments regarding the regulations until 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 23, 2024.



Small Business Impact Statement

(As required by M.G.L. c. 30A §§ 2, 3 & 5)

CMR No: 528 CMR 2.00

Estimate of the Number of Small Businesses Impacted by the Regulation: The Bureau of Pipefitters, Refrigeration Technicians, and Sprinkler Fitters presently has issued approximately 7,907 pipefitting personal licenses, 5,310 refrigeration personal licenses, and 3,340 sprinkler fitting personal licenses; the great majority of these licensees are believed to be, or work within, small businesses.

Select Yes or No and Briefly Explain

Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Will small businesses have to create, file, or issue additional reports? This regulation only supplies definitions, it does not create a reporting requirement.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Will small businesses have to implement additional recordkeeping procedures? This regulation only supplies definitions, it does not create recordkeeping procedures.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Will small businesses have to provide additional administrative oversight? This regulation does not create new mandates requiring administrative oversight.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Will small businesses have to hire additional employees in order to comply with the proposed regulation? This regulation does not create regulatory burdens necessitating additional employees.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Does compliance with the regulation require small businesses to hire other professionals (e.g. a lawyer, accountant, engineer, etc.)? This regulation does not create regulatory burdens necessitating the hiring of professionals.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Does the regulation require small businesses to purchase a product or make any other capital investments in order to comply with the regulation? This regulation does not mandate purchasing a product or making other investments.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Are performance standards more appropriate than design/operational standards to accomplish the regulatory objective? (Performance standards express requirements in terms of outcomes, giving the regulated party flexibility to achieve regulatory objectives and design/operational standards specify exactly what actions regulated parties must take.) Prerequisites for licensure must be based on operational standards to ensure a minimum baseline and ensure licensees are adequately trained in these sensitive public safety professions.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Do any other regulations duplicate or conflict with the proposed regulation? No other regulations are known to duplicate/conflict with this section.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Does the regulation require small businesses to cooperate with audits, inspections or other regulatory enforcement activities?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	This definitional regulation does not mandate cooperation with regulatory enforcement activities (other related regulations do).
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Does the regulation require small businesses to provide educational services to keep up to date with regulatory requirements? This regulation does not mandate continuing education
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Is the regulation likely to <i>deter</i> the formation of small businesses in Massachusetts? This regulation adopts definitions only, it would not impact formation of businesses.
Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Is the regulation likely to <i>encourage</i> the formation of small businesses in Massachusetts? This regulation adopts definitions only, it would not impact formation of businesses.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Does the regulation provide for less stringent compliance or reporting requirements for small businesses? This definitional regulation does not create compliance or reporting requirements.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Does the regulation establish less stringent schedules or deadlines for compliance or reporting requirements for small businesses? This definitional regulation does not create compliance or reporting requirements.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Did the agency consolidate or simplify compliance or reporting requirements for small businesses? This definitional regulation does not create compliance or reporting requirements.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Can performance standards for small businesses replace design or operational standards without hindering delivery of the regulatory objective? Prerequisites for licensure must be based on operational standards to ensure a minimum baseline is met to ensure licensees are adequately trained in these sensitive public safety professions.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Are there alternative regulatory methods that would minimize the adverse impact on small businesses? This regulation creates common sense definitions for the profession, it could not fairly reduce those requirements for any one sector of the industry.

Small Business Impact Statement

(As required by M.G.L. c. 30A §§ 2, 3 & 5)

CMR No: 528 CMR 3.00

Estimate of the Number of Small Businesses Impacted by the Regulation: The Bureau of Pipefitters, Refrigeration Technicians, and Sprinkler Fitters presently has issued approximately 7,907 pipefitting personal licenses, 5,310 refrigeration personal licenses, and 3,340 sprinkler fitting personal licenses; the great majority of these licensees are believed to be, or work within, small businesses.

Select Yes or No and Briefly Explain

Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Will small businesses have to create, file, or issue additional reports? This regulation only supplies standards applicable to licensure, it does not create a reporting requirement.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Will small businesses have to implement additional recordkeeping procedures? This regulation only supplies standards applicable to licensure, it does not create new recordkeeping procedures.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Will small businesses have to provide additional administrative oversight? This regulation does not create new mandates requiring administrative oversight.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Will small businesses have to hire additional employees in order to comply with the proposed regulation? This regulation does not create regulatory burdens necessitating additional employees.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Does compliance with the regulation require small businesses to hire other professionals (e.g. a lawyer, accountant, engineer, etc.)? This regulation does not create regulatory burdens necessitating the hiring of professionals.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Does the regulation require small businesses to purchase a product or make any other capital investments in order to comply with the regulation? While this regulation adopts third party standards for licensure purposes which would need to be purchased, businesses engaged in the subject regulatory activities would have already needed to possess these standards to meet other regulations (such as 527 CMR and 780 CMR). Accordingly, this regulation section does not mandate purchasing a new product or making other investments.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Are performance standards more appropriate than design/operational standards to accomplish the regulatory objective? (Performance standards express requirements in terms of outcomes, giving the regulated party flexibility to achieve regulatory objectives and design/operational standards specify exactly what actions regulated parties must take.) Prerequisites for licensure must be based on operational standards to ensure a minimum baseline is met to ensure licensees are adequately trained in these sensitive public safety professions.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Do any other regulations duplicate or conflict with the proposed regulation?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No other regulations are known to duplicate/conflict with this section.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Does the regulation require small businesses to cooperate with audits, inspections or other regulatory enforcement activities? This regulation only supplies standards applicable to licensure, it does not mandate cooperation with regulatory enforcement activities (other related regulations do).
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Does the regulation require small businesses to provide educational services to keep up to date with regulatory requirements? This regulation only supplies standards applicable to licensure, it does not mandate continuing education
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Is the regulation likely to <i>deter</i> the formation of small businesses in Massachusetts? This regulation only supplies standards applicable to licensure, it would not impact formation of businesses.
Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Is the regulation likely to <i>encourage</i> the formation of small businesses in Massachusetts? This regulation only supplies standards applicable to licensure, it would not impact formation of businesses.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Does the regulation provide for less stringent compliance or reporting requirements for small businesses? This regulation only supplies standards applicable to licensure, it does not create compliance or reporting requirements.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Does the regulation establish less stringent schedules or deadlines for compliance or reporting requirements for small businesses? This regulation only supplies standards applicable to licensure, it does not create compliance or reporting requirements.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Did the agency consolidate or simplify compliance or reporting requirements for small businesses? This definitional regulation does not create compliance or reporting requirements.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Can performance standards for small businesses replace design or operational standards without hindering delivery of the regulatory objective? Prerequisites for licensure must be based on operational standards to ensure a minimum baseline is met to ensure licensees are adequately trained in these sensitive public safety professions.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Are there alternative regulatory methods that would minimize the adverse impact on small businesses? This regulation adopts third party standards (already adopted by other Massachusetts government bodies) as the baseline for the profession, it could not fairly reduce those requirements for any one sector of the industry.

Small Business Impact Statement

(As required by M.G.L. c. 30A §§ 2, 3 & 5)

CMR No:528 CMR 11.00

Estimate of the Number of Small Businesses Impacted by the Regulation: The Bureau of Pipefitters, Refrigeration Technicians, and Sprinkler Fitters presently has issued approximately 7,907 pipefitting personal licenses, 5,310 refrigeration personal licenses, and 3,340 sprinkler fitting personal licenses; the great majority of these licensees are believed to be, or work within, small businesses.

Select Yes or No and Briefly Explain

Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Will small businesses have to create, file, or issue additional reports? This regulation does not create reporting requirements.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Will small businesses have to implement additional recordkeeping procedures? This regulation does not mandate recordkeeping provisions.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Will small businesses have to provide additional administrative oversight? This regulation does not require administrative oversight
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Will small businesses have to hire additional employees in order to comply with the proposed regulation? This regulation does not impose requirements mandating hiring of employees.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Does compliance with the regulation require small businesses to hire other professionals (e.g. a lawyer, accountant, engineer, etc.)? This regulation does not require hiring of professionals.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Does the regulation require small businesses to purchase a product or make any other capital investments in order to comply with the regulation? This regulation mandates prospective licensees obtain education and experience which is necessary to ensure licensees are properly trained in the safe installation of pipefitting, refrigeration, and sprinkler systems.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Are performance standards more appropriate than design/operational standards to accomplish the regulatory objective? (Performance standards express requirements in terms of outcomes, giving the regulated party flexibility to achieve regulatory objectives and design/operational standards specify exactly what actions regulated parties must take.) Prerequisites for licensure must be based on exact operational standards to ensure fairness and enforceability.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Do any other regulations duplicate or conflict with the proposed regulation? There are no other regulations known to be duplicative with this section.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Does the regulation require small businesses to cooperate with audits, inspections or other regulatory enforcement activities?

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	This regulation mandates all licensees to cooperate with Bureau investigations.
Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Does the regulation require small businesses to provide educational services to keep up to date with regulatory requirements? This regulation mandates education and work experience as a prerequisite to licensure.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Is the regulation likely to <i>deter</i> the formation of small businesses in Massachusetts? As education and work experience prerequisites to licensure are necessary to ensure pipefitters, refrigeration technicians and sprinkler fitters are qualified to perform their work, its mandate will not deter formation of businesses.
Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Is the regulation likely to <i>encourage</i> the formation of small businesses in Massachusetts? The requirement of education and experience prerequisites to licensure may create business in the form of schools and other education providers.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Does the regulation provide for less stringent compliance or reporting requirements for small businesses? This regulation mandates equal requirements for all prospective and current licensees, it could not fairly reduce those requirements for any one sector of the industry.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Does the regulation establish less stringent schedules or deadlines for compliance or reporting requirements for small businesses? This regulation mandates equal requirements for all prospective and current licensees, it could not fairly reduce those requirements for any one sector of the industry.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Did the agency consolidate or simplify compliance or reporting requirements for small businesses? This regulation mandates equal requirements for all prospective and current licensees, it could not fairly reduce those requirements for any one sector of the industry.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Can performance standards for small businesses replace design or operational standards without hindering delivery of the regulatory objective? Prerequisites for licensure must be based on exact operational standards to ensure fairness and enforceability.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Are there alternative regulatory methods that would minimize the adverse impact on small businesses? This regulation mandates equal requirements for all prospective and current licensees, it could not fairly reduce those requirements for any one sector of the industry.