

HB 425 -- Manufactured Housing

Co-Sponsors: Sutherland, Dempsey

This bill prohibits anyone from contracting to install manufactured housing at occupancy sites without obtaining a license from the Public Service Commission. Individuals working under the direct supervision of a licensed contractor are not required to be licensed, and political subdivisions may not require additional licenses. Contractors must affix licensing decals purchased from the commission to each installed home.

All applicants must be at least 18 years old, complete a training program of at least eight hours approved by the commission, pass a licensing examination, and have general liability insurance of at least \$300,000 or a higher minimal amount set by the commission. Applicants not associated with a housing dealer or manufacturer must also have workers' compensation insurance. The commission may waive education and examination requirements for applicants that are licensed in other states with equivalent licensing requirements and may negotiate with other states for reciprocal agreements. Individuals currently working as contractors are exempt from training and examination requirements until January 1, 2005.

The commission may establish annual licensing fees up to \$75. Fee revenue must not substantially exceed the cost of administration. The commission will also establish requirements for annual renewal; inactive status; and license suspension, revocation, denial, and reinstatement. Violators of licensing requirements are guilty of a class C misdemeanor. The commission must investigate complaints and may reprimand licensees for unprofessional conduct. Affected individuals may seek resolution through the commission's dispute resolution process before filing a complaint with the Administrative Hearing Commission.