

HB 1348 -- REGISTRATION OF CERTAIN CONTRACTORS

SPONSOR: Casteel

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Professional Registration and Licensing by a vote of 19 to 1.

STATEWIDE ROOFING CONTRACTOR REGISTRATION (Sections 324.800 to 324.835)

This bill creates a statewide roofing contractor registration which allows a registrant to practice in any jurisdiction regardless of local requirements. The bill specifies the requirements for the registration.

Political subdivisions can establish local requirements but must recognize statewide registration for roofing contractors. Local subdivisions cannot require additional examinations or special requirements for statewide registered contractors.

If a political subdivision fails to recognize statewide registration, the Division of Professional Registration can investigate and enforce compliance by notifying the Department of Revenue to withhold funds from local sales tax until compliance is achieved.

This bill creates a "Missouri Roofing Contracting Fund". The State Treasurer manages the Fund, which is used exclusively for administering the provisions of the bill. Funds can't be transferred to general revenue until the fund exceeds three times the previous year's appropriation.

Registrations must be renewed every five years. Failure to renew results in inactive registration and reinstatement is required to practice. The registration will be restored if the application for reinstatement is received within two years of the renewal date.

The division of professional registration can refuse, renew, or suspend registrations for specific causes specified in the bill.

Applicants are notified of refusals and have the right to file a complaint. The Division publishes a list of registered contractors and current enforcement actions. Disciplinary actions can include censure, probation, suspension, or revocation of registration. Individuals with revoked registrations must wait at least one year to reapply.

Any person who knowingly violates any provision of sections 324.800, RSMo, to 324.835 will be guilty of a class B misdemeanor.

STATEWIDE SOLAR CONTRACTOR REGISTRATION (Sections 324.1025-324.1060)

This bill creates a statewide solar contractor registration which allows a registrant to practice in any jurisdiction regardless of local requirements. The bill specifies the requirements for the registration.

Political subdivisions can establish local requirements but must recognize statewide registration for registered solar contractors. Local subdivisions cannot require additional examinations or special requirements for statewide registered solar contractors.

If a political subdivision fails to recognize statewide registration, the Division of Professional Registration can investigate and enforce compliance by notifying the Department of Revenue to withhold funds from local sales tax until compliance is achieved.

This bill creates a "Missouri Solar Contracting Fund". The State Treasurer manages the Fund, which is used exclusively for administering the provisions of the bill. Funds can't be transferred to general revenue until the fund exceeds three times the previous year's appropriation.

Registrations must be renewed every five years. Failure to renew results in inactive registration; reinstatement is required to practice. The registration must be restored if the application for reinstatement is received within two years of the renewal date.

The Division of Professional Registration can refuse, renew, or suspend registrations for specific causes specified in the bill.

Applicants are notified of refusals and have the right to file a complaint. The division publishes a list of registered contractors and enforcement actions. Disciplinary actions can include censure, probation, suspension, or revocation of registration. Individuals with revoked registrations must wait at least one year to reapply.

Any person who knowingly violates any provision of Sections 324.1025 to 324.1606 will be guilty of a class B misdemeanor.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that this will help consumers know if roofing companies and solar contractors are reputable. This is a good consumer protection bill.

Testifying in person for the bill were Representative Casteel; Arnie Dienoff; Jonathan Dolan, Missouri Solar Energy Industries Association (MOSEIA).

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

Written testimony has been submitted for this bill. The full written testimony and witnesses testifying online can be found under Testimony on the bill page on the House website.