

HB 10-1204

REPRESENTATIVE SOPER AND SENATOR TOCHTROP

CONCERNING THE INCLUSION OF CONSERVATION STANDARDS IN THE PLUMBING CODE

SUMMARY

House Bill 1204 encourages the Colorado State examining board of Plumbers to consider conservation when choosing the plumbing code for the state. House Bill 1204 simply adds conservation measures to the list of factors.

House Bill 1204 does not speak to one code over the other but rather promotes conservation and efficiency measures be used when safe and effective.

House Bill 1204 promotes conservation of Colorado's precious resource without a fiscal impact to the State.

ECONOMIC BENEFITS

- Money saving opportunity for Colorado residents with water efficient measures through reduced consumption and lowered water bills; the average household spends \$500 per year on water and sewer bills by making efficiency changes each household could save \$170 per year;
- Lower energy bills; water heating accounts for 14-25% of a homes total energy use;
- Promotion of Colorado companies when practicable; and encouraging Colorado companies and local distributors and manufacturers to locate in Colorado;
- Jobs creation; installation of more efficient fixtures and retrofitting of existing fixtures;
- Installation guidelines guarantee money saving opportunities;
- The population of the state is expected to double in the next 40 years resulting in a doubling of the water demand. Now is the time to recognize that water efficiency and conservation is the best way to reduce the environmental impacts, ensure our population has a secure water supply, and save money.

ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS

- Every gallon of water saved also saves energy; energy used to pump, treat and distribute water;
- Pumping and treating just one gallon of water requires the equivalent amount of electricity as turning on a 60 watt light bulb for 15 minutes;
- Promoting the use of water efficient faucets and showerheads would help to reduce greenhouse gas emissions of 274,000 metric tons of CO2 each year;
- High efficiency fixtures use 40% less water than conventional fixtures;
- Plumbing code impacts 1/2 of all water used in the built environment; we have the opportunity to promote conservation through efficiency.

SUPPORTERS

- Alliance for Sustainable Colorado
- Colorado Environmental Coalition
- US Green Building Council-Colorado Chapter
 - Western Resource Advocates
- Colorado Cleantech Industry Association



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