

# **WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE**

## **2025 REGULAR SESSION**

**Introduced**

### **House Bill 3471**

By Delegate Green

Introduced March 17, 2025; referred to the Committee

on Government Organization

1 A BILL to amend and reenact §29-3D-2 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating  
2 to removing the requirement for an individual to be certified by a specific manufacturer to  
3 perform work on suppression systems.

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:*

## **ARTICLE 3D. SUPERVISION OF FIRE PROTECTION WORK.**

### **§29-3D-2. Definitions.**

1 As used in this article and the legislative rules promulgated pursuant to this article:

2 "Combination fire/smoke damper" means a device that meets both fire damper and smoke  
3 damper requirements.

4 "Damper" means a fire damper, smoke damper, or combination fire/smoke damper.

5 "Damper work" means to install, test, maintain, or repair a damper.

6 "Engineered suppression systems installer" means a person certified ~~by a manufacturer to~~  
7 install, alter, extend, maintain, lay out, or repair an agent suppression system.

8 "Engineered Suppression Systems Technician" means a person certified by a  
9 manufacturer to maintain or repair an agent suppression system.

10 "Fire damper" means a device installed in an air distribution system, designed to close  
11 automatically upon detection of heat, to interrupt migratory airflow, and to restrict the passage of  
12 flame. Fire dampers are classified for use in either static systems or for dynamic systems, where  
13 the dampers are rated for closure under airflow.

14 "Fire protection layout technician" is an individual who has achieved National Institute for  
15 Certification in Engineering Technologies (NICET) Level III, or has achieved from the National Fire  
16 Protection Association a certification in Certified Water Based Systems Professional (CW BSP), or  
17 has passed an exam approved by the state Fire Marshal from the National Inspection Testing  
18 Certification (NITC) organization, or higher certification as recognized by the state Fire Marshal,  
19 and who has the knowledge, experience, and skills necessary to lay out fire protection systems  
20 based on engineering design documents.

21 "Fire protection system" means any fire protection suppression device or system  
22 designed, installed, and maintained in accordance with the applicable National Fire Protection  
23 Association (NFPA) codes and standards, but does not include public or private mobile fire  
24 vehicles.

25 "Fire protection work" means the installation, alteration, extension, maintenance, or testing  
26 of all piping, materials, and equipment inside a building, including the use of shop drawings  
27 prepared by a fire protection layout technician, in connection with the discharge of water, other  
28 special fluids, chemicals, or gases, and backflow preventers for fire protection for the express  
29 purpose of extinguishing or controlling fire.

30 "Journeyman sprinkler fitter" means a person qualified by at least 2,000 hours of work  
31 experience installing, adjusting, repairing, and dismantling fire protection systems and who is  
32 competent to instruct and supervise fire protection work: *Provided*, That current license renewal  
33 exemptions to examinations apply.

34 "License" means a valid and current license issued by the State Fire Marshal in  
35 accordance with the provisions of this article.

36 "Portable fire extinguisher technician" means a person certified in accordance with NFPA  
37 10 to install, maintain, repair, and certify portable fire extinguishers as defined by NFPA 10.

38 "Preengineered suppression systems installer" means a person certified by a  
39 manufacturer to install, alter, extend, maintain, lay out, or repair an agent suppression system.

40 "Preengineered suppression systems technician" means a person certified to maintain or  
41 repair an agent suppression system.

42 "Single family dwelling" means a building which is occupied as, or designed or intended for  
43 occupancy as, a single residence for one or more persons.

44 "Smoke damper" means a device within an operating (dynamic) air distribution system to  
45 control the movement of smoke.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to remove the requirement for an individual to be certified by a specific manufacturer to perform work on suppression systems.

Strike-throughs indicate language that would be stricken from a heading or the present law and underscoring indicates new language that would be added.