

1 AN ACT concerning regulation.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**  
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Illinois Plumbing License Law is amended by  
5 changing Section 2.5 as follows:

6 (225 ILCS 320/2.5)

7 (Section scheduled to be repealed on January 1, 2013)

8 (Text of Section before amendment by P.A. 94-101)

9 Sec. 2.5. Irrigation contractors; lawn sprinkler systems.

10 (a) Every irrigation contractor doing business in this  
11 State shall annually register with the Department. Every  
12 irrigation contractor shall provide to the Department his or  
13 her business name and address, telephone number, name of  
14 principal, and FEIN number. Every irrigation contractor doing  
15 business in this State shall also register with the Department  
16 each and every employee who installs or supervises the  
17 installation of lawn sprinkler systems. The registration shall  
18 include the employee's name, home address, and telephone  
19 number. The Department may provide by rule for the  
20 administration of registrations under this subsection. The  
21 annual registration fee shall be set by the Department pursuant  
22 to Section 30 of this Act.

23 (b) A licensed plumber or licensed apprentice plumber may

1 install a lawn sprinkler system connected to any water source  
2 without registration under this Section.

3 (c) A licensed plumber shall inspect every sprinkler system  
4 installed by an irrigation contractor to ensure the provisions  
5 of this Section have been met and that the system works  
6 mechanically. A licensed plumber shall make the physical  
7 connection between a lawn sprinkler system and the backflow  
8 prevention device.

9 Upon the installation of every lawn sprinkler system in  
10 this State from the effective date of this amendatory Act of  
11 the 91st General Assembly forward, a licensed plumber shall  
12 affix to the backflow prevention device a tag certifying that  
13 the installation of that system has been completed in  
14 compliance with the minimum code of plumbing standards  
15 promulgated under this Act. The Department shall provide by  
16 rule for the registration of every lawn sprinkler system  
17 installed after the effective date of this amendatory Act of  
18 the 91st General Assembly, including the means by which the  
19 Department shall be able to identify by registration number the  
20 identity of the responsible irrigation contractor and by  
21 license number the identity of the responsible licensed  
22 plumber. No lawn sprinkler system installed after the effective  
23 date of this amendatory Act of the 91st General Assembly may be  
24 operated without the certification tag required under this  
25 Section.

26 The registered irrigation contractor and the licensed

1 plumber whose identifying information is contained on the  
2 certification tag shall both be subject to the penalty  
3 provisions of this Act for violations for improper installation  
4 of a lawn sprinkler system installed after the effective date  
5 of this amendatory Act of the 91st General Assembly.

6 (d) An irrigation contractor that has registered with the  
7 Department 7 or fewer persons who are authorized to install or  
8 supervise the installation of lawn sprinkler systems shall  
9 either employ or contract with at least one licensed plumber  
10 who shall install or be responsible for the installation of  
11 every lawn sprinkler system installed after the effective date  
12 of this amendatory Act of the 91st General Assembly. The  
13 licensed plumber shall inspect the risers and sprinkler heads  
14 before backfilling.

15 An irrigation contractor that has registered with the  
16 Department 8 to 12 persons who are authorized to install or  
17 supervise the installation of lawn sprinkler systems shall  
18 either employ or contract with at least 2 licensed plumbers who  
19 shall install or be responsible for the installation of every  
20 lawn sprinkler system installed after the effective date of  
21 this amendatory Act of the 91st General Assembly. A licensed  
22 plumber shall inspect the risers and sprinkler heads before  
23 backfilling.

24 An irrigation contractor that has registered with the  
25 Department 13 to 20 persons who are authorized to install or  
26 supervise the installation of lawn sprinkler systems shall

1 either employ or contract with at least 3 licensed plumbers who  
2 shall install or be responsible for the installation of every  
3 lawn sprinkler system installed after the effective date of  
4 this amendatory Act of the 91st General Assembly. A licensed  
5 plumber shall inspect the risers and sprinkler heads before  
6 backfilling.

7 An irrigation contractor that has registered with the  
8 Department 21 to 28 persons who are authorized to install or  
9 supervise the installation of lawn sprinkler systems shall  
10 either employ or contract with at least 4 licensed plumbers who  
11 shall install or be responsible for the installation of every  
12 lawn sprinkler system installed after the effective date of  
13 this amendatory Act of the 91st General Assembly. A licensed  
14 plumber shall inspect the risers and sprinkler heads before  
15 backfilling.

16 An irrigation contractor that has registered with the  
17 Department 29 to 35 persons who are authorized to install or  
18 supervise the installation of lawn sprinkler systems shall  
19 either employ or contract with at least 5 licensed plumbers who  
20 shall install or be responsible for the installation of every  
21 lawn sprinkler system installed after the effective date of  
22 this amendatory Act of the 91st General Assembly. A licensed  
23 plumber shall inspect the risers and sprinkler heads before  
24 backfilling.

25 An irrigation contractor that has registered with the  
26 Department 36 or more persons who are authorized to install or

1 supervise the installation of lawn sprinkler systems shall  
2 either employ or contract with at least 6 licensed plumbers who  
3 shall install or be responsible for the installation of every  
4 lawn sprinkler system installed after the effective date of  
5 this amendatory Act of the 91st General Assembly. A licensed  
6 plumber shall inspect the risers and sprinkler heads before  
7 backfilling.

8 The Department may provide by rule for the temporary waiver  
9 process for registered irrigation contractors who are unable to  
10 comply with the requirements of this subsection. When a  
11 temporary waiver is granted, it shall not be for a duration of  
12 more than 3 consecutive months. Upon the expiration of a  
13 temporary waiver issued by the Department, the registered  
14 irrigation contractor shall demonstrate that justifiable  
15 reasons exist why he or she is still unable to comply with the  
16 requirements of this subsection, despite good faith efforts to  
17 comply with the requirements. In no case shall a temporary  
18 waiver be granted for an irrigation contractor for more than a  
19 total of 6 months in a two-year period. In no case shall an  
20 irrigation contractor be relieved of the requirement that a  
21 licensed plumber shall inspect every sprinkler system  
22 installed by an irrigation contractor to ensure the provisions  
23 of this Section have been met and that the system works  
24 mechanically and make the physical connection between a  
25 sprinkler system and the backflow prevention device.

26 (e) No person shall attach to a lawn sprinkler system any

1 fixture intended to supply water for human consumption.

2 No person shall attach to a lawn sprinkler system any  
3 fixture other than the backflow prevention device, sprinkler  
4 heads, valves, and other parts integral to the operation of the  
5 system, unless the fixture is clearly marked as being for  
6 non-potable uses only.

7 (Source: P.A. 91-678, eff. 1-26-00; 92-778, eff. 8-6-02.)

8 (Text of Section after amendment by P.A. 94-101)

9 Sec. 2.5. Irrigation contractors; lawn sprinkler systems.

10 (a) Every irrigation contractor doing business in this  
11 State shall annually register with the Department. Every  
12 irrigation contractor shall provide to the Department his or  
13 her business name and address, telephone number, name of  
14 principal, FEIN number, and an original certificate of  
15 insurance documenting that the irrigation contractor carries  
16 general liability insurance with a minimum of \$100,000 per  
17 occurrence, bodily injury insurance with a minimum of \$300,000  
18 per occurrence, property damage insurance with a minimum of  
19 \$50,000, and worker's compensation insurance with a minimum of  
20 \$500,000. No registration may be issued in the absence of the  
21 certificate of insurance. The certificate must be in force at  
22 all times for registration to remain valid.

23 On a form provided by the Department, every irrigation  
24 contractor must provide to the Department an indemnification  
25 bond in the amount of \$20,000 or an irrevocable letter of

1 credit from a financial institution guaranteeing that funds  
2 shall be available only to the Department and shall be released  
3 upon written notification by the Department in the same amount  
4 for any work on lawn sprinkler systems performed by the  
5 registered irrigation contractor. The letter of credit shall be  
6 printed on the letterhead of the issuing financial institution,  
7 be signed by an officer of the same financial institution, name  
8 the Department as the sole beneficiary, and expire on February  
9 28 of each year.

10 Every irrigation contractor doing business in this State  
11 shall also register with the Department each and every employee  
12 who installs or supervises the installation of lawn sprinkler  
13 systems. The registration shall include the employee's name,  
14 home address, and telephone number. The Department may provide  
15 by rule for the administration of registrations under this  
16 subsection. The annual registration fee shall be set by the  
17 Department pursuant to Section 30 of this Act. Each registered  
18 irrigation contractor must provide proof that he or she employs  
19 at least one irrigation employee who has completed and passed  
20 an approved class in the design and installation of lawn  
21 sprinkler systems.

22 (b) A licensed plumber or licensed apprentice plumber may  
23 install a lawn sprinkler system connected to any water source  
24 without registration under this Section.

25 (c) A licensed plumber shall inspect every sprinkler system  
26 installed by an irrigation contractor to ensure the provisions

1 of this Section have been met and that the system works  
2 mechanically. A licensed plumber shall make the physical  
3 connection between a lawn sprinkler system and the backflow  
4 prevention device.

5 Upon the installation of every lawn sprinkler system in  
6 this State from the effective date of this amendatory Act of  
7 the 91st General Assembly forward, a licensed plumber shall  
8 affix to the backflow prevention device a tag certifying that  
9 the installation of that system has been completed in  
10 compliance with the minimum code of plumbing standards  
11 promulgated under this Act. The Department shall provide by  
12 rule for the registration of every lawn sprinkler system  
13 installed after the effective date of this amendatory Act of  
14 the 91st General Assembly, including the means by which the  
15 Department shall be able to identify by registration number the  
16 identity of the responsible irrigation contractor and by  
17 license number the identity of the responsible licensed  
18 plumber. No lawn sprinkler system installed after the effective  
19 date of this amendatory Act of the 91st General Assembly may be  
20 operated without the certification tag required under this  
21 Section.

22 The registered irrigation contractor and the licensed  
23 plumber whose identifying information is contained on the  
24 certification tag shall both be subject to the penalty  
25 provisions of this Act for violations for improper installation  
26 of a lawn sprinkler system installed after the effective date



1 of this amendatory Act of the 91st General Assembly.

2 (d) An irrigation contractor who has registered with the  
3 Department 7 or fewer persons who are authorized to install or  
4 supervise the installation of lawn sprinkler systems shall  
5 either employ or contract with at least one licensed plumber  
6 who shall install or be responsible for the installation of  
7 every lawn sprinkler system installed after the effective date  
8 of this amendatory Act of the 91st General Assembly. The  
9 licensed plumber shall inspect the risers and sprinkler heads  
10 before backfilling.

11 An irrigation contractor who has registered with the  
12 Department 8 to 12 persons who are authorized to install or  
13 supervise the installation of lawn sprinkler systems shall  
14 either employ or contract with at least 2 licensed plumbers who  
15 shall install or be responsible for the installation of every  
16 lawn sprinkler system installed after the effective date of  
17 this amendatory Act of the 91st General Assembly. A licensed  
18 plumber shall inspect the risers and sprinkler heads before  
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21 Department 13 to 20 persons who are authorized to install or  
22 supervise the installation of lawn sprinkler systems shall  
23 either employ or contract with at least 3 licensed plumbers who  
24 shall install or be responsible for the installation of every  
25 lawn sprinkler system installed after the effective date of  
26 this amendatory Act of the 91st General Assembly. A licensed

1 plumber shall inspect the risers and sprinkler heads before  
2 backfilling.

3 An irrigation contractor who has registered with the  
4 Department 21 to 28 persons who are authorized to install or  
5 supervise the installation of lawn sprinkler systems shall  
6 either employ or contract with at least 4 licensed plumbers who  
7 shall install or be responsible for the installation of every  
8 lawn sprinkler system installed after the effective date of  
9 this amendatory Act of the 91st General Assembly. A licensed  
10 plumber shall inspect the risers and sprinkler heads before  
11 backfilling.

12 An irrigation contractor who has registered with the  
13 Department 29 to 35 persons who are authorized to install or  
14 supervise the installation of lawn sprinkler systems shall  
15 either employ or contract with at least 5 licensed plumbers who  
16 shall install or be responsible for the installation of every  
17 lawn sprinkler system installed after the effective date of  
18 this amendatory Act of the 91st General Assembly. A licensed  
19 plumber shall inspect the risers and sprinkler heads before  
20 backfilling.

21 An irrigation contractor who has registered with the  
22 Department 36 or more persons who are authorized to install or  
23 supervise the installation of lawn sprinkler systems shall  
24 either employ or contract with at least 6 licensed plumbers who  
25 shall install or be responsible for the installation of every  
26 lawn sprinkler system installed after the effective date of

1 this amendatory Act of the 91st General Assembly. A licensed  
2 plumber shall inspect the risers and sprinkler heads before  
3 backfilling.

4 The Department may provide by rule for the temporary waiver  
5 process for registered irrigation contractors who are unable to  
6 comply with the requirements of this subsection. When a  
7 temporary waiver is granted, it shall not be for a duration of  
8 more than 3 consecutive months. Upon the expiration of a  
9 temporary waiver issued by the Department, the registered  
10 irrigation contractor shall demonstrate that justifiable  
11 reasons exist why he or she is still unable to comply with the  
12 requirements of this subsection, despite good faith efforts to  
13 comply with the requirements. In no case shall a temporary  
14 waiver be granted for an irrigation contractor for more than a  
15 total of 6 months in a two-year period. In no case shall an  
16 irrigation contractor be relieved of the requirement that a  
17 licensed plumber shall inspect every sprinkler system  
18 installed by an irrigation contractor to ensure the provisions  
19 of this Section have been met and that the system works  
20 mechanically and make the physical connection between a  
21 sprinkler system and the backflow prevention device.

22 (e) No person shall attach to a lawn sprinkler system any  
23 fixture intended to supply water for human consumption.

24 No person shall attach to a lawn sprinkler system any  
25 fixture other than the backflow prevention device, sprinkler  
26 heads, valves, and other parts integral to the operation of the

1 system, unless the fixture is clearly marked as being for  
2 non-potable uses only.

3 (f) A college, university, trade school, vocational  
4 school, or association that has established a program providing  
5 a course of instruction in lawn sprinkler design and  
6 installation may submit a letter to the Department requesting  
7 approval of its program or course of instruction.

8 The request for approval shall include information on the  
9 curriculum offered by the program and the qualifications of the  
10 organization. The course shall consist of a minimum of 2 days  
11 of classroom education and an exam and shall include a  
12 provision for continuing education.

13 The Department shall evaluate the curriculum and  
14 organization before making a determination to approve or deny a  
15 request for approval.

16 In addition to providing to the Department the names of  
17 licensed plumbers who are employed by or contract with an  
18 irrigation contractor, an irrigation contractor must also  
19 provide to the Department the names of employees who have  
20 successfully completed an approved course on the installation  
21 of lawn sprinkler systems and proof that the course was  
22 successfully completed and that continuing education is also  
23 being completed.

24 (g) All automatically operated lawn sprinkler systems  
25 shall have furnished and installed technology that inhibits or  
26 interrupts operation of the landscape irrigation system during

1 periods of sufficient moisture or rainfall. The technology must  
2 be adjustable either by the end user or the irrigation  
3 contractor.

4 This subsection (g) does not apply to systems operating on  
5 golf courses or agricultural lands.

6 The requirements of this subsection (g) apply to all  
7 landscape irrigation systems installed after January 1, 2009.

8 (Source: P.A. 94-101, eff. 1-1-08.)

9 Section 95. No acceleration or delay. Where this Act makes  
10 changes in a statute that is represented in this Act by text  
11 that is not yet or no longer in effect (for example, a Section  
12 represented by multiple versions), the use of that text does  
13 not accelerate or delay the taking effect of (i) the changes  
14 made by this Act or (ii) provisions derived from any other  
15 Public Act.

16 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect January  
17 1, 2009.