

**Act Number:** 09-153

**Bill Number:** 849

**Senate Pages:** 2195-2199, 2292-2294, 5173-5185 **21**

**House Pages:** 6509-6515 **7**

**Committee:** Public Safety: 222-224, 259-264 **9**

**Page Total:** **37**

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**CONNECTICUT  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
SENATE**

**PROCEEDINGS  
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2006 - 2343**

Mr. Clerk.

THE CLERK:

Calendar Number 144, File Number 121, Substitute for Senate Bill 849, AN ACT CONCERNING MUNICIPAL ENFORCEMENT OF OCCUPATIONAL LICENSURE LAWS, favorable report of Committees on Public Safety and Security, General Law and Planning and Development. Clerk is in possession of amendments.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Stillman.

SENATOR STILLMAN:

Thank you, Mr. President. Good afternoon.

THE CHAIR:

Good afternoon, ma'am.

SENATOR STILLMAN:

Nice to see you here today.

THE CHAIR:

Good to be here.

SENATOR STILLMAN:

Thank you. Mr. President, I move the joint committee's favorable report and passage of the bill.

THE CHAIR:

Acting on approval and acceptance of the bill, ma'am, would you like to remark further?

SENATOR STILLMAN:

Yes. Thank you. This bill was voted upon by the Public Safety Committee as well as a couple of others. What it does is it codifies a local building official's authority to notify the Consumer Protection Commissioner of anyone working at a building construction site without the requisite permits or license.

With that, Mr. President, I have an amendment. If the Clerk would kindly call LCO Number 6409, and that I be allowed to summarize.

THE CHAIR:

Mr. Clerk.

THE CLERK:

LCO 6409, which will be designated Senate Amendment Schedule A. It is offered by Senator Stillman of the 20th District, et al.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Stillman.

SENATOR STILLMAN:

Thank you, Mr. President. I move adoption of the amendment.

THE CHAIR:

Please proceed, ma'am.

SENATOR STILLMAN:

Thank you, sir. This amendment adds an -- adds additional categories of work that are added to the definition of plumbing and piping work for which the Department of Consumer Protection requires a licensing fee. And with that, I have one item that I would like to codify just for legislative intent, which has to do with electrical work.

Just to state that the definition of the mill right work in the statute will not authorize the performance of any action for which licensure is required under the provisions of this chapter. Thank you.

THE CHAIR:

Thank you, ma'am.

Will you remark further? Senator Roraback.

SENATOR RORABACK:

Thank you, Mr. President. Through you, if I may, a question to the proponent of the amendment.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Stillman.

SENATOR STILLMAN:

Yes.

SENATOR RORABACK:

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Thank you, Mr. President. Senator, through you, Mr. President, I don't believe this amendment is intended to impact any employees of a manufacturing facility who are exempted under Connecticut General Statute Section 20-340. It's also my belief that this amendment is not intended to impact the outside specialty contractors of such manufacturers who are working on machinery and equipment inside of those manufacturing facilities for the production of goods.

Through you, Mr. President to Senator Stillman, does she have a common understanding of the intent of this amendment?

THE CHAIR:

Senator Stillman.

SENATOR STILLMAN:

Thank you, Mr. President. Through you, Senator Roraback is correct.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Roraback.

SENATOR RORABACK:

Thank you. Every once in a while, Mr. President, Senator Stillman says those words and I'm glad she did in this case and I urge support of the amendment.

THE CHAIR:

We can get you the video of it later if you like.

SENATOR RORABACK:

Thank you, Mr. President, and thank Senator Stillman.

THE CHAIR:

Will you remark further on Senate A? If not I will try your minds. All those in favor please signify by saying, aye.

SENATORS:

Aye.

THE CHAIR:

Opposed, nays.

The ayes have it. Senate A passes.

Will you remark further on Senate Bill 849 as amended by Senate A? Senator Stillman.

SENATOR STILLMAN:

Thank you, Mr. President. If there's no objection I'd like to place this on the consent calendar.

THE CHAIR:

There is a motion on the floor to place the item on consent. Seeing no objection, so ordered.

Mr. Clerk.

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Yes. Thank you, Mr. President. If the Clerk might move now to call the consent calendar, and read the items on that calendar and then call the calendar.

THE CHAIR:

Mr. Clerk, please call for a roll call vote on the consent calendar.

THE CLERK:

Immediate roll call has been ordered in the Senate on the consent calendar. Will all senators please return to the chamber. Immediate roll call has been ordered in the Senate on the consent calendar. Will all senators please return to the chamber.

Mr. President, those items placed on the 1st Consent Calendar begin on calendar page 1, Calendar 647, Senate Resolution Number 27; calendar page 2, Calendar 648, Senate Joint Resolution Number 77; calendar page 5, Calendar 381, substitute for Senate Bill 1079; calendar page 22, Calendar Number 114 substitute for Senate Bill 894; calendar page 23, Calendar 138, substitute for Senate Bill 817; calendar 144, substitute for Senate Bill 849; calendar page 29, Calendar Number 274, Senate Bill 824; calendar page 31, Calendar 321, Senate Bill 271; calendar 323, Senate Bill 497; and calendar 365,

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Senate Bill 384; calendar page 32, Calendar 367,  
substitute for Senate Bill 785; calendar page 37,  
Calendar 490, Senate Bill 898; calendar page 40,  
Calendar 556, Senate Bill 1061; calendar 558,  
substitute for Senate Bill 1063; and calendar page 41,  
Calendar 328, substitute for Senate Bill 814.

Mr. President, that completes those items placed on  
the 1st Consent Calendar.

THE CHAIR:

Please call for the consent calendar. The  
machine will be open. Oh, Senator Looney. Yes, sir.

SENATOR LOONEY:.

Yes. Mr. President, just for purpose of  
clarification. I believed I had earlier marked on  
calendar page 21, 2 items on the consent. Initially  
we had removed -- placed calendar 103, but I believe  
we also had Calendar 82 on page 21, Senate Bill 761.

THE CHAIR:

No, sir. Those are not noted here on our  
calendar.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Okay. We'd like to place that item on the  
consent calendar, Mr. President, calendar page 21,  
Calendar 82, Senate Bill 761.

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THE CHAIR:

There's a motion to place that item on the consent here. Seeing no objection, so ordered.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Mr. President.

THE CLERK:

The Senate is now voting by roll call on the consent calendar. Will all senators please return to the chamber. The Senate is voting by roll call on the consent calendar. Will all senators please return to the chamber.

THE CHAIR:

Have all Senators voted? If all Senators have voted, please check your vote. The machine will be closed. The Clerk will call the tally.

THE CLERK:

Motion is on adoption of Consent Calendar  
Number 1.

Total Number Voting	35
Those voting Yea	35
Those voting Nay	0
Those absent and not voting	1

THE CHAIR:

The consent calendar passes.

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Yes, thank you, Mr. President. Mr. President, I would like to mark as the next item to be taken up is on Calendar page 36, Calendar Number 144, Senate Bill 849, if that might be -- be marked as the next go item and called next.

THE CHAIR:

Would the Clerk kindly call Calendar 144.

THE CLERK:

Calendar page 36, Disagreeing Actions, Calendar Number 144, Files Number 121 and 1000, Substitute for Senate Bill 849, AN ACT CONCERNING MUNICIPAL ENFORCEMENT OF OCCUPATIONAL LICENSURE LAWS AND DEFINING MILLWRIGHT WORK, as amended by Senate Amendment Schedule A and House Amendment Schedule A, favorable report of the Committees on Public Safety, General Law, and Planning and Development.

THE CHAIR:

The Chair recognizes gentlelady from the 20th District.

SENATOR STILLMAN:

Good afternoon, Mr. President.

THE CHAIR:

Good afternoon.

SENATOR STILLMAN:

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Thank you, I'd like to move the Joint Committee's favorable report and passage of the bill in concurrence with the House.

THE CHAIR:

The question for consideration of the Senate is passage in concurrence with the House, will you remark further?

SENATOR STILLMAN:

Yes, thank you, Mr. President. This bill was before us, it was amended by Senate A, which was defining millwright work. It then went down to the House, where it was further clarified as to what millwright work means in relationship to occupational licensing. It is to now include work on power generation machinery and exclude any action requiring licensure. And I move passage of the bill.

THE CHAIR:

Thank you, Senator Stillman.

Senator Roraback.

SENATOR RORABACK:

Thank you, Mr. President, through you, if I may, a couple of questions to the proponent of the bill as amended.

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Please frame your question.

SENATOR RORABACK:

Thank you, Mr. President. Through you to Senator Stillman, is it my understanding that the bill which left the Senate has now come back, through you, Mr. President.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Stillman.

SENATOR STILLMAN:

Yes, through you, Mr. President, that is correct.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Roraback.

SENATOR RORABACK:

Thank you, Mr. President. And through you to Senator Stillman, is that because the bill that we passed was changed in the House of Representatives? Through you, Mr. President to Senator Stillman.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Stillman.

SENATOR STILLMAN:

Yes, thank you, Mr. President. That is correct, they adopted another amendment.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Roraback.

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SENATOR RORABACK:

Thank you, Mr. President. And could Senator Stillman briefly explain what amendment they adopted and why they adopted it, if she knows, through you, Mr. President.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Stillman.

SENATOR STILLMAN:

Yes, thank you, Mr. President. Through you, they adopted what is called House Amendment A, LCO Number 7643, which defines millwright work, meaning "A) installation, repair, replacement, maintenance, or alteration of a power generation machinery or B) industrial machinery including related interconnection of piping and tubing using the manufacturing process, but does not include the performance of any action for which licensure is required under this chapter." It is my understanding this is a further clarification.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Roraback.

SENATOR RORABACK:

Thank you, Mr. President. Through you to Senator Stillman, this doesn't really represent an alteration of the bill that we passed here, but rather it just

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includes some language which makes clearer our intent in terms of what passed out of the Senate.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Stillman.

SENATOR STILLMAN:

Thank you, through you, Mr. President, that is correct, sir.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Roraback.

SENATOR RORABACK:

Thank you, Mr. President. And Senator Stillman and I had a conversation when this bill first came before the Chamber, and through you, Mr. President, to Senator Stillman, nothing in House Amendment A would alter the conversation that we had previously about the reach of this bill, is that correct, Mr. President, through you to Senator Stillman.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Stillman.

SENATOR STILLMAN:

Thank you. Through you, Mr. President, that is correct.

President in the Chair.

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THE CHAIR:

Senator Roraback.

SENATOR RORABACK:

Thank you, Mr. President. It's nice to see you,  
back, Mr. President.

THE CHAIR:

You know, we're kind of like a tag team, we're  
just, you know, one switch off. We need some rest at  
my age a little bit, you know.

SENATOR RORABACK:

Naps are good.

THE CHAIR:

Yes.

SENATOR RORABACK:

Thank you, Mr. President. I support the bill. I  
appreciate explanation of Senator Stillman and this  
bill was good the first time we saw and it sounds like  
it's better the second time around. Thank you, Mr.  
President.

THE CHAIR:

Will you remark further on the bill?

Senator Debicella.

SENATOR DEBICELLA:

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Thank you, Mr. President. Mr. President, just very quickly, through you to Senator Stillman, and just for my own understanding of it with House Amendment A and redefining millwright work -- just because I'm not a millwright. What exactly is the legislative definition of "millwright work"? Through you, Mr. President.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Stillman.

SENATOR STILLMAN:

Yes, thank you, Mr. President. Through you, I am not a millwright worker either, so if I may just have a moment and give you the exact definition, I'd be more than happy to do that.

Through you, Mr. President, it's my understanding that millwright worker is someone -- first of all, they have to be licensed, and they have to be engaged in installation and repair of a variety of machinery.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Debicella.

SENATOR DEBICELLA:

Thank you, Mr. President. I thank Senator Stillman for that clarification on this. I think that this is a commonsense bill. The amendment from the

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House seems to simply put a clarification on it. I support this bill and thank Senator Stillman for her work on it.

THE CHAIR:

Thank you, Senator.

Will you remark further on Senate Bill 849?

Senator Caligiuri.

SENATOR CALIGIURI:

Thank you, Mr. President. If I may, a question through you to Senator Stillman, please.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Stillman.

SENATOR STILLMAN:

Yes.

SENATOR CALIGIURI:

Thank you, Mr. President. I understand the need for the clarification and this is what may be a very technical question, but when I was looking the -- the area in the original bill where we are now adding the definition of millwright work, is the section that talks about the definition of heating, and cooling -- and I'm paraphrasing because I don't have the language in front of me -- and that also talked about tubing, piping, and that sort of thing. And the definition of

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millwright work also talked about tubing, piping and the like, and I guess I'd like to better understand, if I could, through you, Mr. President.

And I know this is intended to carve millwright work from that broader definition of heating, cooling, if memory serves, but does Senator Stillman think we've got it clearly enough? Because when I look at the definition of millwright work, as opposed to the definition of the plumbing and cooling within which that resides, they seem to be so similar. I'm not sure I could explain what the difference between the two is, through you, Mr. President.

And I guess the question twofold to Senator Stillman is, if she could elaborate on that distinction I would appreciate it. And to Senator Stillman, a second question, believe that it's clear enough now between the two? Because if you look at it, it still seems very similar, through you, Mr. President.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Stillman.

SENATOR STILLMAN:

Thank you, Mr. President. Through you, one of the concerns was -- that was -- that came up due to

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this language and this continuing clarification, was a concern in the electrical industry. So as you'll notice, it's mostly piping, tubing, and plumbing work as opposed electrical work.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Caligiuri.

SENATOR CALIGIURI:

Thank you, Mr. President. And I thank Senator Stillman for that. And I apologize for not having the legislation in front of me, but if we look at one of the sections that's being amended here, where we add the definition of millwright work, I believe that they use the terms "tubing" and "piping," as well. And when I looked at that, it wasn't clear to me that it was -- it made a sharp enough distinction between the two types of things that we're trying to clarify really don't relate to one another. If I may, through you, Mr. President.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Stillman.

SENATOR STILLMAN:

Thank you, Mr. President. I do believe that this bill clarifies all those matters concerning the different types of installation.

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THE CHAIR:

Senator Caligiuri.

SENATOR CALIGIURI:

Thank you, Mr. President. And perhaps the easier way of asking the question, because neither of us is experts in this field is, does Senator Stillman know whether -- when the amendment, House A, was crafted, it was done in consultation with subject matter experts who had a clear enough handle on the differences that we're confident that because of their involvement, the distinction is one that will be clear to those that work within this field? Through you, Mr. President.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Stillman.

SENATOR STILLMAN:

Thank you, Mr. President. Through you, yes.

SENATOR CALIGIURI:

Okay.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Caligiuri.

SENATOR CALIGIURI:

Thank you, Mr. President. And I thank Senator Stillman for that. I, of course, will be supporting

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this and I just wanted to make sure I understood as best I could the distinctions that we're trying make, because they weren't readily apparent to me. And I thank you, Mr. President. And I thank Senator Stillman, once again. Thank you.

THE CHAIR:

Thank you, sir.

Will you remark further on Senate Bill 849? Will you remark further on Senate Bill 849?

If not, Mr. Clerk, please call for roll call vote, the machine will be open.

THE CLERK:

Immediate roll call has been ordered in the Senate, will all Senators please return to the chamber. Immediate roll call has been ordered in the Senate, will all Senators please return to the chamber.

THE CHAIR:

Have all Senators voted?

If all Senators have voted, please check your vote. The machine will be closed, the Clerk will call the tally.

THE CLERK:

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amended in concurrence with action in the House.

Total Number Voting	35
Those Voting Yea	35
Those Voting Nay	0
Those Absent/Not Voting	1

THE CHAIR:

The bill passes.

Senator Looney.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Mr. President. Returning to a couple of bills marked go earlier, and that is -- first one was Calendar page 34, Calendar 530, House Bill 6087, if the Clerk might call that item next.

THE CHAIR:

Mr. Clerk.

THE CLERK:

Calendar page 34, Calendar Number 530, File Number 505, House Bill 6087, AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT TO RECEIVE AND TREAT SEWAGE FROM THE TOWN OF MANSFIELD, favorable reported Committee on Environment and Higher Education.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Meyer.

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DEPUTY SPEAKER McCLUSKEY:

The bill passed as amended.

Will the chamber please stand at ease.

(Chamber at ease.)

DEPUTY SPEAKER McCLUSKEY:

Will the House please come back to order. Will the Clerk please call Calendar 631.

THE CLERK:

On page 21, Calendar 631, substitute for Senate Bill 849, AN ACT CONCERNING MUNICIPAL ENFORCEMENT OF OCCUPATIONAL LICENSURE LAWS, favorable report of the Committee On Planning and Development.

DEPUTY SPEAKER McCLUSKEY:

Honorable Chair of the Public Safety Committee, Representative Dargan, you have the floor, sir.

REP. DARGAN (115th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move acceptance of the Committee's favorable report and passage of the bill in concurrence with the Senate.

DEPUTY SPEAKER McCLUSKEY:

The question before the Chamber is acceptance of the Joint Committee's favorable report and passage of

the bill in concurrence with the Senate. Will you  
remark, sir?

REP. DARGAN (115th):

Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. This bill  
allows reporting of violations of occupational  
licensing to the Department of Consumer Protection by  
a municipal building official rather than by all  
public officials. This really narrows the  
circumstances for reporting licensing violations which  
will have positive results to ensure that the reported  
violations are legitimate.

Building officials are trained in code  
enforcement along with building code, mechanical code,  
and electrical code and have a great understanding on  
a local level of what is and what isn't licensable.  
So any public official that believes that there is a  
violation taking place, they can notify that building  
official. Mr. Speaker, the Clerk has in his  
possession Senate Amendment A, LCO 6409. May we  
please call and I'd be allowed to summarize.

DEPUTY SPEAKER McCLUSKEY:

Will the Clerk please call LCO 6409, previously  
designated Senate Amendment Schedule "A".

THE CLERK:

LCO Number 6409 Senate A offered by Senators

Stillman and Daily and Representative Dargan.

DEPUTY SPEAKER McCLUSKEY:

The Representative has asked leave of the Chamber to summarize the amendment. Is there any objection? Is there any objection? If not, sir, please summarize the amendment.

REP. DARGAN (115th):

Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.. This Senate Amendment A simply clarifies that the definition of a plumbing and piping worker and heating, piping, cooling work include tubing and piping mains in the branch lines up to and including the closest valve or machine and equipment. What I need to just verify for members of the Chamber that this amendment is not intended to impact any employees of manufacturing facilities who are exempted underneath current State Statute.

It is also is not intended to impact the outside specialty contractors of such manufacturers who are working on this type of machinery and, finally, the equipment inside those manufacturing facilities for productions of those goods. And I move its adoption.

DEPUTY SPEAKER McCLUSKEY:

Will you remark on Senate Amendment Schedule "A"?

The distinguished Ranking Member of the Environment Committee, Representative Chapin, you have the floor, sir.

REP. CHAPIN (67th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wanted to take the opportunity to thank the Chairman of the Public Safety Committee for clarifying the legislative intent of the amendment. I did have questions to do just that, and I appreciate that he preempted me on that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER McCLUSKEY:

Thank you, sir, for your remarks. Will you remark on Senate Amendment Schedule "A"? Will you remark? If not, I will try your minds. All those in favor please signify by saying aye.

REPRESENTATIVES:

Aye.

DEPUTY SPEAKER McCLUSKEY:

All those opposed nay.

The ayes have it. The amendment is adopted.

Will you remark further on the bill as amended?

Representative Dargan.

REP. DARGAN (115th):

Yes, Mr. Speaker. The Clerk is in possession of LCO Number 7643. May he please call and I be allowed to summarize.

DEPUTY SPEAKER McCLUSKEY:

Will the Clerk please call LCO 7643 to be designated House Amendment Schedule "A".

THE CLERK:

LCO Number 7643 House "A" offered by  
Representatives Dargan and Perillo, and Senators  
Stillman and Guglielmo.

DEPUTY SPEAKER McCLUSKEY:

The Representative has asked leave of the Chamber to summarize the amendment. Is there any objection to summarizing? If not, please proceed with summarizing amendment.

REP. DARGAN (115th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This amendment, through the assistance of our LCO attorney, stated that this language is just -- makes the definition of millwright work clear underneath the current statute, and I move for its adoption.

DEPUTY SPEAKER McCLUSKEY:

Question before the Chamber is adoption of House Amendment Schedule "A". Will you remark?

The distinguished Ranking Member of the Public Safety Committee, Representative Perillo, so nice to see you. Sir, you have the floor.

REP. PERILLO (113th):

Mr. Speaker, thank you very much. I rise very briefly in support of the amendment before us. It is very technical in nature and simply clarifies some of the wording as it pertains to millwright work, and I would urge adoption. Thank you, sir.

DEPUTY SPEAKER McCLUSKEY:

Question before the Chamber is adoption of House Amendment Schedule "A". Will you remark? Will you remark?

Representative Dargan?

Okay. If not, I will try your minds. All those in favor of the amendment please signify by saying aye.

REPRESENTATIVES:

Aye.

DEPUTY SPEAKER McCLUSKEY:

All those opposed nay.

The ayes have it. The amendment is adopted.

Will you remark further on the bill as amended?

Will you remark further on the bill as amended? If

not, will staff guests please come to the well of the House. Will the members please take your seat. The machine will be open.

THE CLERK: The House of Representatives is voting by roll call. Members to the chamber. The House is voting by roll call. Members to the chamber.

DEPUTY SPEAKER McCLUSKEY:

Have all the members voted? Have all the members voted? Will the members please check the board to determine if your vote is properly cast. If all the members have voted, the machine will be locked and the Clerk will please take a tally. Will the Clerk please announce that tally?

THE CLERK:

Senate Bill 849 as amended by Senate A and House "A".

Total number voting	144
Necessary for Passage	73
Those voting Yea	144
Those voting Nay	0
Those absent and not voting	7

DEPUTY SPEAKER McCLUSKEY:

The bill passes as amended.

Will the Clerk please call Calendar 326.

**JOINT  
STANDING  
COMMITTEE  
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it's very vague, and from my perspective it addresses a -- the least dangerous, if you will, type of explosive, blasting agents. It doesn't take into consideration the more potent explosives. Maybe that's not the intent, but, again, I believe that the comprehensive approach of that revised code will provide that protection to the public, those safe limits of the unwanted effects of vibration, and these tools given to the regulatory authority, used in the appropriate hands, will give the public and the industry what it needs to co-exist.

SENATOR STILLMAN: Thank you. Any questions for the gentlemen? Thank you very much.

MATTHEW HALLISEY: Thank you.

SENATOR STILLMAN: Joyce Wojtas, followed by Nick Morrione.

JOYCE WOJTAS: Good afternoon Senator Stillman and members of the public safety and security committee. My name is Joyce Wojtas, and I represent the Mechanical Contractors Association of Connecticut and the Plumbers and Pipefitters Local 777. I'm here today to support Raised Bill Number 849, and I appreciate the committee raising this bill. It's An Act Concerning Municipal Enforcement of the Occupational Licensing Laws.

Although the Department of Consumer Protection enforces these laws, there is a lot of work going on out there, and it is almost impossible for their limited staff of inspectors to get to many of these project sites. In drafting this bill, there was a big debate among the supporters, which includes most of the licensed trades, both union and

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slm PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY 11:00 A.M.  
COMMITTEE

nonunion, about whether or not we should mandate that the building inspector notify the commissioner when he finds a violation, and of course we understand the problems with mandates and they push to eliminate municipal mandates, so the language does say that if a violation is found, that the building official may notify the commissioner of that violation.

Now, the other part of this would allow the building official or his department, his or her department, to share in the fines. Currently the law allows 50 percent of the fine collected for a violation that's reported by a municipal building official to be remitted to the town. We're redirecting that to the municipal building department because of the fact that, number one, there might be a problem with staffing in order to check for these licenses when they're on site, but in addition to that we understand that permits are down, and they also have -- share in the permit fee for their educational fund, I believe, and we thought that this might be an incentive to get better enforcement from the municipal end.

It's important because of the downturn in the economy, of course, brings out all those people that are going to give everybody a bargain on the work they get done, whether it be electrical, plumbing or sheet metal work out in the field, and the unsuspecting homeowner can oftentimes have a very dangerous situation occur if the person who is doing the work is not licensed. Our people are trained. Most of them go through a four to five-year apprenticeship program before they can take the test for an examination, and they earn a livelihood this way and they pay a license fee, and according to the Governor's proposal

their license fee is going to double if this budget goes through the way it is.

We'd appreciate your support for this. We don't feel as though there's a fiscal impact. If anything, there's a positive fiscal impact because the enforcement, that end is not taking place today to any extent, so this would all be new revenue for the municipal building departments and for the State of Connecticut, who will get the other 50 percent of the fine.

Thank you very much.

REP. JUTILA: Good timing. Thank you, Joyce.

JOYCE WOJTAS: You're welcome.

REP. JUTILA: Questions by any committee members?  
No questions? Thank you.

JOYCE WOJTAS: Thank you.

REP. JUTILA: Next speaker will be Nick Morrione,  
followed by Chris O'Grady.

NICK MORRIONE: Good afternoon members of the committee. My name is Nick Morrione, and I'm the owner of Hogan's Alley Paintball. We're a commercial paintball field in Meriden, Connecticut. We employ over 25 people, and we service thousands of paintball players each year. We've been operating for over ten years and never had any serious injury.

I appreciate the opportunity to represent my organization on the matter of Bill 825 regarding paintball safety. I am against this bill. About 70 percent of our players are under 18. Section 1 requires that

**Public Safety & Securities Committee – Public Hearing February 10, 2009**

**Testimony: SB849 – AAC Enforcement by Municipal Building Officials of Occupational Licensure Laws**

**Presented by: Cameron Champlin, UA Plumbers & Pipefitters Local 777**

Senator Stillman, Representative Dargan and members of the Public Safety and Security Committee.

My name is Cameron Champlin and I represent Plumbers and Pipe Fitters Local 777. I am submitting this testimony in support of SB-849. We believe that with an incentive, which this bill provides, for the enforcement of Occupational Licensing Laws by Municipal Officials, the municipalities, but also the State of Connecticut and the citizens of Connecticut will benefit from such legislation.

The municipality that issues permits for projects, whether new or renovations, are the best source for enforcement. They are the first to know when a project is started and therefore could very easily ask for confirmation of either the proper license or apprentice registration while performing their normal duties of inspecting such premises for installation of systems in accordance with the building codes.

I acquired my journeyman's license in 1970 after completing a five year apprenticeship. In all that time I have only been asked for proof of license or apprenticeship three times. If this bill is passed I believe it would stop shoddy workmanship and ensure that contractors performing such work are using qualified licensed personnel and properly registered apprentices. In turn this helps the good contractors who obey the law to compete on an even basis when bidding on any project in a municipality where the building official is conscientious and wants to ensure that projects within his jurisdiction are properly constructed.

If there are any questions please contact me at cell (860) 287-0020 or Fax/Phone (860) 443-9485.

Thank you for your time in considering my testimony..



**TESTIMONY  
JOHN YUSZA, JR.  
CONNECTICUT ALARM & SYSTEMS INTEGRATORS ASSOCIATION  
(CASIA)  
BEFORE THE  
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE  
FEBRUARY 10, 2009**

The Connecticut Alarm & Systems Integrators Association (CASIA) *supports* efforts to increase enforcement of the state's occupational licensing laws, as called for SB-849, An Act Concerning Municipal Enforcement of Licensure Laws. .

Clearly, contractors who utilize unlicensed workers to perform work requiring a license or registration should be punished. Although the state Department of Consumer Protection does a tremendous job with the resources it has, the department lacks the resources and staff needed to conduct field inspections or stings to ensure that contractors and apprentices on projects are duly licensed or registered. As a result, these contractors continue to operate, knowing that it is unlikely that they will get caught.

Contractors that do not abide by the regulations that govern their trade and who create potentially unsafe work environments should be punished. Those of us who have worked hard to promote the professionalism of the industry through licensure and continuing education support efforts to enhance enforcement. This is also in the best interest of consumers.

Municipal building officials are in the best position to assist in enforcement because they must be project sites checking for compliance as part of their regular duties. Authorizing them to review licenses and registrations and refer violations to the state Department of Consumer Protection will utilize their expertise in ways that will benefit the state's consumers.

**CASIA therefore urges lawmakers to support SB-849. Thank you.**

*CASIA / Connecticut Alarm & Systems Integrators Association, established, in 1974, is a statewide trade association formerly known as the Connecticut Burglar and Fire Alarm Association / CBF AA. Dedicated to protecting lives and property through the responsible use of electronic security, fire and supervisory alarm systems, digital technologies have enabled member companies to offer enhanced services through integrated network systems.*



**Independent Electrical Contractors of New England**  
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**TESTIMONY  
 LISA HUTNER  
 INDEPENDENT ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS OF NEW ENGLAND  
 BEFORE THE  
 PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE  
 FEBRUARY 10, 2009**

**RE: SB-849, AN ACT CONCERNING MUNICIPAL ENFORCEMENT OF  
 OCCUPATIONAL LICENSURE LAWS**

The Independent Electrical Contractors of New England (IEC-NE) supports SB-849, which authorizes municipal building officials to enforce the state's occupational licensing laws.

IEC-NE strongly supports efforts to strengthen the enforcement of occupational licensing and apprenticeship registration requirements. Unfortunately, far too many contractors do not maintain the proper licenses, creating public safety concerns. In addition, individuals who have worked as apprentices but whose employers failed to properly register them, are unable to pursue licensing without repeating their apprenticeship hours. We continue to work with the state Department of Consumer Protection to enhance enforcement efforts and address these concerns. However, particularly in this economic climate, their resources are limited.

We believe that local building inspectors are well-positioned to assist the state in enforcing occupational licensing and apprenticeship registration requirements. Inasmuch as they are on-site on building projects reviewing code compliance issues, inspectors could also check for compliance with state licensing and registration laws. We therefore urge your support in clarifying that local building inspectors are authorized to check for such compliance and refer licensing and registration violations to the state Department of Consumer Protection for handling.

Authorizing local building officials to assist in licensing enforcement will help ensure that laws and regulations are consistently enforced and send a signal to contractors that violations will not be tolerated.

We urge your support for this bill.

*The Independent Electrical Contractors of New England is the premier trade association representing Connecticut, Massachusetts and Rhode Island independent electrical contractors aggressively working with the industry to establish a free environment for merit shop -- a philosophy that promotes the concept of free enterprise, open competition and economic opportunity for all.*



**TESTIMONY  
ROBERT MACCA  
LEGISLATIVE CHAIR  
CT PLUMBING, HEATING & COOLING CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION  
BEFORE THE  
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE  
FEBRUARY 10, 2009**

The Connecticut Plumbing, Heating and Cooling Contractors Association (CT-PHCC) **supports SB-849, An Act Concerning Municipal Enforcement of Licensure Laws.**

As professionals in the skilled trades, we must assist the state Department of Consumer Protection in vigorously enforcing the state's occupational licensing laws. Authorizing municipal building officials to refer licensing violations to the state Department of Consumer Protection and targeting a share of such fines to municipal building departments will go a long way toward ensuring stronger enforcement at the local level and strengthening the state's licensing enforcement efforts.

While the state has taken several steps to enhance occupational licensing enforcement, and we thank you for that, we need to continue to support policies that will effectively deter contractors from operating in Connecticut without the proper licenses and apprenticeship registrations. We are aware of instances where contractors have operated in Connecticut without benefit of licensure and shrugged off the penalty because the risk of enforcement was so low.

Allowing unlicensed contractors to operate in Connecticut hurts our entire industry by exposing workers and consumers to potentially unsafe situations. Employees, who should have been given credit for hours on the job, are unfairly penalized by unscrupulous contractors who fail to register apprentices. This has to end.

We **fully support SB-849** as a means of beefing up occupational licensing enforcement and deterring unlicensed contractors from doing business in this state.

*CT-PHCC is a not-for-profit trade association that represents the professional plumbing, heating and cooling contractors in the state of Connecticut. CT-PHCC and its members are committed to protecting the health and safety of the public. Contractors who belong to the association have demonstrated reliability and trustworthiness and are licensed by the state of Connecticut.*



LOCAL 90

**INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS**2 NORTH PLAINS INDUSTRIAL ROAD WALLINGFORD, CT 06492  
203-265-9267 FAX 203-265-9312**SEAN W. DALY**  
REPRESENTATIVE

Senators Stillman and Guglielmo, Representatives Dargan and Perillo, I am submitting written testimony on behalf of the IBEW in support of SB 849 AAC Municipal Enforcement of Occupational Laws.

It is our understanding the Department of Consumer Protection (DCP) has only three inspectors to check licenses for trades people in Connecticut. Those three people are responsible for every construction project from houses, schools, and hospitals to power plants. Every city and town has an inspector or inspectors that go to every jobsite in their town. This law would better serve the public, the state, and individual municipalities in terms of collecting fines and making sure individuals are properly licensed. Licensed individuals are imperative to maintaining public safety, and to ensure workers are following proper standards for construction and maintenance of buildings and homes.

In these economic times it would benefit both the state and individual municipalities to have enforcement operations which allow the residents of our state to feel confident the buildings and homes they spend time in are safe.

**IBEW**

**PUBLIC SAFETY & SECURITY COMMITTEE  
PUBLIC HEARING – FEBRUARY 10, 2009**

**Testimony in Support of:**

**SB 849 – AAC Concerning Municipal Enforcement of Occupational Licensure Laws**

**Presented by: Joyce Wojtas, Mechanical Contractors Association of Connecticut  
And UA Plumbers & Pipefitters Local 777**

Senate Bill 849 is a much needed enforcement arm for compliance with the occupational licensure laws in Chapter 393 of the C.G.S. and an enhancement for enforcement of the State Building Code. Not only will increased enforcement protect the consumer, it will protect the safety of all citizens of the state.

To adequately enforce the State Building Code and the Plumbing, Electrical, Mechanical and Fire Safety Codes it incorporates, it is necessary to have qualified, licensed individuals performing this work, who have been properly trained under these codes for four to five years.

The Building Official is the “first responder” on most construction projects. Even though a license is required to obtain an electrical, plumbing, fire sprinkler, sheet metal, etc. permit, often, the people actually performing the work are not licensed or are not appropriately registered as an apprentice.

In hard economic times, this type of illegal activity increases because the person who cheats with unlicensed people performing this safety-sensitive work is usually cheating on other laws involving a business, i.e., workers’ compensation, unemployment compensation, liability insurance, wage and hour laws, etc. This helps the illegal operator low ball the price for this work and ultimately get the job!

There are around 35,000 licensed contractors and journeymen in the construction trades that abide by the law, pay their annual license fees and operate as legitimate tax-paying individuals.

This bill will have a positive fiscal impact for both the municipality and the state because more violations are expected to be reported and fines for violations are \$1,000 – first offense, \$1,500 – second offense and \$3,000 – third offense within 3 years.

Although this bill does not mandate that the Building Official report violations to the Consumer Protection Commissioner, we are hopeful that the persons responsible for code enforcement will recognize the importance of such action. As funds from building permits diminish, this bill offers a way to get the funding necessary to continue training programs for municipal building officials and enforcement activity without placing the burden on the town’s general fund.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.  
Joyce A. Wojtas, Lobbyist - cell 860-280-4623  
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