

Before The  
Professional Licensure Committee  
Pennsylvania House of Representatives  
Public Hearing Regarding  
House Bill #1357  
State Licensure of Plumbers

Testimony Of  
Brian Nowak  
Bank Examiner  
Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia

Dear Chairwoman Harhart and Chairman Readshaw and the members of the Professional Licensure Committee:

My name is Brian Nowak and I am a Bank Examiner for the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia. Please accept my written testimony in support of HB-1357, the State Licensure of Plumbers. As I consumer, I felt that it was imperative to write to you in order to get my voice heard.

As I thought about what to say, I could not stop thinking about what Plumbers do. It's not just changing a leaky faucet or replacing a toilet. *The Plumber Protects The Health Of The Nation*. That has been the motto for decades and I believe Pennsylvania does not honor that the right way. The great State that I love allows people to work in this trade without ever obtaining the proper training and designated license like so many other States require. With today's technology, a consumer goes online and sometimes runs into a handyman special. As someone who has had the misfortune of seeing a job gone wrong vs. seeing how the job is supposed to get done is something that I do not take lightly. It sickens me that unlicensed professionals can do so much harm to one's home. As a consumer, you want to feel that your Plumber will do the right thing. Unfortunately, we live in a world where anyone can claim they can do anything. It sometimes can be a good thing, but most of the time it turns out that it will cost more money to fix the original problem. With the health of our great State at risk, I urge you to please pass this bill.

In closing, I again ask you to please support the passage of House Bill #1357 as I feel it is an important step to not only protect the consumers of the Commonwealth but to promote the business interest of all Professional Plumbers and Plumbing Contractors in the State of Pennsylvania.

Sincerely,

Brian Nowak