



Senate of Pennsylvania

Senator Larry Farnese
1st Senatorial District

MEMO

Date: *January 13, 2012*
To: *All Senators*
From: *Lawrence M. Farnese, Jr.*
Subject: *Co-sponsorship – Fire Sprinkler Contractors Licensing Act*

In the near future, I plan to introduce legislation that would create uniform, statewide standards for the licensure of fire sprinkler contractors. Currently, no such licensure is required for the planning, design, installation, service or inspection of these life and property-saving water-based suppression systems in Pennsylvania.

The bill would require contractors to be certified according to standards of the National Institute for the Certification in Engineering Technologies (NICET) in order to be eligible for licensure. This is to ensure work is being done is in line with industry best practices, as well as state and local fire codes. Because water-based fire suppression is extremely technical work, defining minimum qualifications for licensure will guarantee the highest standard of work is being performed and that property owners are assured an appropriate level of safety on their properties.

Several other states, including our neighbors, Maryland and New Jersey, have uniform statewide standards for licensure of fire sprinkler contractors.

Please contact Brandie Pifer at 7-5662 or bpifer@pasenate.com if you would like to co-sponsor this legislation.