

# SB2702



## 103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2023 and 2024

SB2702

Introduced 1/10/2024, by Sen. Ram Villivalam

### SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

225 ILCS 317/10  
225 ILCS 317/17

Amends the Fire Sprinkler Contractor Licensing Act. Provides that "fire sprinkler inspector" means an individual who is qualified to perform routine inspection or testing of fire sprinkler systems and who is exclusively employed by a single fire sprinkler contractor (instead of employed or contracted by a fire sprinkler contractor). Provides that any individual who performs routine inspection or testing of any fire sprinkler system under the Act shall be exclusively employed by a single licensed fire sprinkler contractor (instead of be employed by a licensed fire sprinkler contractor) and meet certain minimum qualifications.

LRB103 36180 RPS 66272 b

A BILL FOR

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 Fire Sprinkler Contractor Licensing Act is  
5 amended by changing Sections 10 and 17 as follows:

6 (225 ILCS 317/10)

7 Sec. 10. Definitions. As used in this Act, unless the  
8 context otherwise requires:

9 "Designated certified person" means an individual who has  
10 met the qualifications set forth under Section 20.

11 "Fire protection system layout documents" means layout  
12 drawings, catalog information on standard products, and other  
13 construction data that provide detail on the location of  
14 risers, cross mains, branch lines, sprinklers, piping per  
15 applicable standard, and hanger locations. "Fire protection  
16 system layout documents" serve as a guide for fabrication and  
17 installation of a fire sprinkler system and shall be based  
18 upon applicable standards pursuant to Section 30.

19 "Fire sprinkler contractor" means a person who holds  
20 himself or herself out to be in the business of providing  
21 service for a fire sprinkler system or contracts with a person  
22 to provide service for a fire sprinkler system.

23 "Fire sprinkler contractor license" means a license issued

1 to a qualified fire sprinkler contractor.

2 "Fire sprinkler inspector" means an individual who is  
3 qualified to perform routine inspection or testing of fire  
4 sprinkler systems pursuant to Section 17 and who is  
5 exclusively employed ~~or contracted~~ by a single fire sprinkler  
6 contractor.

7 "Fire sprinkler inspector license" means a license issued  
8 to a qualified fire sprinkler inspector.

9 "Fire sprinkler system" means any water-based automatic  
10 fire extinguishing system employing fire sprinklers, including  
11 accessory fire pumps and associated piping, fire standpipes,  
12 or underground fire main systems starting at the connection to  
13 the water service after the approved backflow device is  
14 installed under the requirements of the Illinois Plumbing Code  
15 and ending at the most remote fire sprinkler. "Fire sprinkler  
16 system" includes but is not limited to a fire sprinkler system  
17 in a residential, commercial, institutional, educational,  
18 public, or private occupancy. "Fire sprinkler system" does not  
19 include single sprinkler heads that are in a loop of the  
20 potable water system, as referenced in 77 Ill. Adm. Code  
21 890.1130 and 890.1200.

22 "Licensee" means a person or business organization  
23 licensed in accordance with this Act.

24 "NICET" means the National Institute for Certification in  
25 Engineering Technologies.

26 "Office" means the Office of the State Fire Marshal.

1 "Person" means an individual, group of individuals,  
2 association, trust, partnership, corporation, limited  
3 liability company, firm, business, person doing business under  
4 an assumed name, the State of Illinois, or department thereof,  
5 any other state-owned and operated institution, or any other  
6 entity.

7 "Responsible managing employee" means the individual  
8 designated by the fire sprinkler contractor that is not  
9 required to have a designated certified person under Section  
10 120.

11 "Routine inspection or testing" means inspection or  
12 testing to verify the condition of an existing fire sprinkler  
13 system at predetermined intervals in accordance with the  
14 standards of the National Fire Protection Association.

15 "Rules" means the rules adopted pursuant to this Act.

16 "Service" means work on a fire sprinkler system,  
17 including, but not limited to, installation, repair,  
18 inspection, testing, and maintenance, within the scope of this  
19 Act.

20 "Standards" means those standards or codes referenced in  
21 this Act or its rules.

22 "Supervision" means the direction and management by a  
23 designated certified person or responsible managing employee  
24 of the activities of non-certified personnel in the service of  
25 fire sprinkler systems.

26 (Source: P.A. 102-612, eff. 8-27-21.)

1 (225 ILCS 317/17)

2 Sec. 17. Fire sprinkler inspector license; application;  
3 minimum qualifications for routine inspection or testing.

4 (a) Any individual who performs routine inspection or  
5 testing of any fire sprinkler system under this Act shall: (i)  
6 be exclusively employed by a single licensed fire sprinkler  
7 contractor; and (ii) meet the minimum qualifications of this  
8 Section except where the individual is exempted by subsection  
9 (c).

10 Beginning January 1, 2024, any individual who performs  
11 routine inspection or testing of any fire sprinkler system  
12 under this Act shall be individually licensed and possess on  
13 his or her person a fire sprinkler inspector license including  
14 a photo identification issued by the Office.

15 A person applying for an initial fire sprinkler inspector  
16 license or renewing a fire sprinkler inspector license shall  
17 demonstrate to the Office proof of minimum qualifications as  
18 required by subsection (b) of this Section, except where the  
19 individual is exempted by subsection (c).

20 (b) Any individual who performs routine inspection or  
21 testing of any fire sprinkler system under this Act shall  
22 possess proof of:

23 (1) current certification by a nationally recognized  
24 certification organization, such as NICET certification in  
25 Inspection and Testing of Water Based Systems, at an

1 appropriate level, or the equivalent; on or after the  
2 effective date of this amendatory Act of the 102nd General  
3 assembly through December 31, 2022, an appropriate level  
4 in NICET certification in Inspection and Testing of Water  
5 Based Systems shall be level II; on and after January 1,  
6 2023, an appropriate level in NICET certification in  
7 Inspection and Testing of Water Based Systems shall be  
8 level III;

9 (2) current ASSE 15010 certification in inspection,  
10 testing, and maintenance for water-based fire protection  
11 systems by the American Society of Sanitary Engineering;  
12 or

13 (3) satisfactory completion of a certified sprinkler  
14 fitter apprenticeship program approved by the U.S.  
15 Department of Labor.

16 (c) The following are exemptions to the licensing  
17 requirements of this Section:

18 (1) State employees who perform routine inspection or  
19 testing on behalf of State institutions and who meet the  
20 requirements of subsection (b) need not be licensed under  
21 this Section or employed by a fire sprinkler contractor  
22 under this Act in order to perform routine inspection or  
23 testing duties while engaged in the performance of their  
24 official duties.

25 (2) The requirements of this Section do not apply to  
26 individuals performing inspection or testing of fire

1           sprinkler systems on behalf of a municipality, a county, a  
2           fire department, a fire protection district, or the Office  
3           while engaged in the performance of their official duties.

4           (3) The requirements of this Section do not apply to a  
5           stationary engineer, operating engineer, or other  
6           individual employed on a full-time basis by the facility  
7           owner or owner's representative performing weekly and  
8           monthly inspections and tests in accordance with  
9           applicable standards adopted under the rules.

10          (d) Each fire sprinkler inspector shall be subject to the  
11          requirements for license renewal and continuing education  
12          under Section 35.

13          (Source: P.A. 102-612, eff. 8-27-21.)