

5/12/2015

Plumbing License Law Plumbers Licensing Code Plumbing Code

Subject: State Plumbing Code

Mayor:

Below is a message from Orland Park Mayors and Mayors Caucus Board Chairman Dan McLaughlin on a recent conference call with the Illinois Department of Public Health and the Governor's Office regarding the Department's view of local plumbing codes which restrict the use of certain plumbing materials.

Last week, I held a conference call with the Governor's Office and the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) to discuss issues surrounding the Illinois Plumbing Code – mainly on whether local units of government could adopt ordinances to restrict the use of certain plumbing materials.

As you well remember, we've heard from numerous Mayors that prefer copper to plastic, including myself in Orland Park. Over the past month, IDPH has been reviewing the issue where it concluded that material restrictions related to water distribution and drain/waste/vent piping may be determined by each local unit of government. With that in mind, IDPH may now approve amendment requests when a municipality wishes to further restrict use of certain plumbing materials.

However, the process of IDPH approving amendments to the Illinois Plumbing Code, through municipal ordinances, remains intact. Any amendments, including material restrictions, will need to go through IDPH's current process, which includes sending appropriate back up information and is still subject to Agency approval.

**Dan McLaughlin, Mayor of Orland Park
Mayors Caucus Executive Board Chairman**

The bottom line is that towns must still submit amendments to their plumbing codes to IDPH for approval. The Department, however, will now allow municipalities to have more stringent local codes regarding the installation of copper vs. plastic piping.

Dave

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