

By the Committee on Regulated Industries; and Senator Perry

580-02308-21

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1                   A bill to be entitled  
2       An act relating to fire sprinklers; amending s.  
3       633.102, F.S.; revising the definition of the term  
4       "Contractor V"; authorizing certain fire protection  
5       system contractors to design certain systems; revising  
6       the definition of the term "fire protection system";  
7       providing an effective date.

8  
9   Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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11       Section 1. Subsections (3) and (11) of section 633.102,  
12       Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

13       633.102 Definitions.—As used in this chapter, the term:

14       (3) (a) "Contractor I" means a contractor whose business  
15       includes the execution of contracts requiring the ability to lay  
16       out, fabricate, install, inspect, alter, repair, and service all  
17       types of fire protection systems, excluding preengineered  
18       systems.

19       (b) "Contractor II" means a contractor whose business is  
20       limited to the execution of contracts requiring the ability to  
21       lay out, fabricate, install, inspect, alter, repair, and service  
22       water sprinkler systems, water spray systems, foam-water  
23       sprinkler systems, foam-water spray systems, standpipes,  
24       combination standpipes and sprinkler risers, all piping that is  
25       an integral part of the system beginning at the point of service  
26       as defined in this section, sprinkler tank heaters, air lines,  
27       thermal systems used in connection with sprinklers, and tanks  
28       and pumps connected thereto, excluding preengineered systems.

29       (c) "Contractor III" means a contractor whose business is

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30 limited to the execution of contracts requiring the ability to  
31 fabricate, install, inspect, alter, repair, and service carbon  
32 dioxide systems, foam extinguishing systems, dry chemical  
33 systems, and Halon and other chemical systems, excluding  
34 preengineered systems.

35 (d) "Contractor IV" means a contractor whose business is  
36 limited to the execution of contracts requiring the ability to  
37 lay out, fabricate, install, inspect, alter, repair, and service  
38 automatic fire sprinkler systems for detached one-family  
39 dwellings, detached two-family dwellings, and mobile homes,  
40 excluding preengineered systems and excluding single-family  
41 homes in cluster units, such as apartments, condominiums, and  
42 assisted living facilities or any building that is connected to  
43 other dwellings. A Contractor IV is limited to the scope of  
44 practice specified in NFPA 13D.

45 (e) "Contractor V" means a contractor whose business is  
46 limited to the execution of contracts requiring the ability to  
47 fabricate, install, ~~inspect~~, alter, repair, and service the  
48 underground piping for a fire protection system using water as  
49 the extinguishing agent beginning at the point of service as  
50 defined in this act and ending no more than 1 foot above the  
51 finished floor. A Contractor V may inspect underground piping  
52 for a water-based fire protection system under the direction of  
53 a Contractor I or Contractor II.

54  
55 ~~The definitions in~~ This subsection may not be construed to  
56 include engineers or architects within the defined terms and  
57 does ~~de~~ not limit or prohibit a licensed fire protection  
58 engineer or architect with fire protection design experience

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59 from designing any type of fire protection system. A distinction  
60 is made between system design concepts prepared by the design  
61 professional and system layout as defined in this section and  
62 typically prepared by the contractor. However, a person  
63 certified under this chapter as a Contractor I or Contractor  
64 II, or Contractor IV under this chapter may design new fire  
65 protection systems of 49 or fewer sprinklers; ~~and may design~~  
66 ~~the alteration of an existing fire sprinkler system if the~~  
67 ~~alteration consists of the relocation, addition, or deletion of~~  
68 ~~not more than 49 or fewer~~ sprinklers, notwithstanding the size  
69 of the existing fire sprinkler system; or may design the  
70 alteration of an existing fire sprinkler system if the  
71 alteration consists of the relocation or deletion of 249 or  
72 fewer sprinklers, notwithstanding the size of the existing fire  
73 sprinkler system, if there is no change of occupancy of the  
74 affected areas, as defined in the Florida Building Code and the  
75 Florida Fire Prevention Code, and there is no change in the  
76 water demand as defined in NFPA 13, "Standard for the  
77 Installation of Sprinkler Systems," and if the occupancy hazard  
78 classification as defined in NFPA 13 is reduced or remains the  
79 same as a result of the alteration. A person certified as a  
80 Contractor I, Contractor II, or Contractor IV may design a new  
81 fire protection system or design the alteration of an existing  
82 fire protection system, the scope of which complies with NFPA  
83 13D, "Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems in One-  
84 and Two-Family Dwellings and Manufactured Homes," as adopted by  
85 the State Fire Marshal, notwithstanding the number of fire  
86 sprinklers. Contractor-developed plans may not be required by  
87 any local permitting authority to be sealed by a registered

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88 professional engineer.

89 (11) "Fire protection system" means a system individually  
90 designed to protect the interior or exterior of a specific  
91 building or buildings, structure, or other special hazard from  
92 fire. Such systems include, but are not limited to, water  
93 sprinkler systems, water spray systems, foam-water sprinkler  
94 systems, foam-water spray systems, carbon dioxide systems, foam  
95 extinguishing systems, dry chemical systems, and Halon and other  
96 chemical systems used for fire protection use. Such systems also  
97 include any overhead and underground fire mains, fire hydrants  
98 and hydrant mains, standpipes and hoses connected to sprinkler  
99 systems, sprinkler tank heaters, air lines, thermal systems used  
100 in connection with fire sprinkler systems, ~~and~~ tanks providing  
101 water supply or pump fuel, including piping for such tanks, and  
102 pumps connected to fire sprinkler systems.

103 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2021.