

2019 MINNESOTA LEGISLATIVE SESSION BAM PRIORITIES SUMMARY



CONSTRUCTION CAREERS ARE ESSENTIAL FOR THE ECONOMY

In partnership with Build Minnesota, we seek to empower young women and men to view construction as a life-long career choice.

- Require high school career counseling to emphasize careers in residential construction
- Seek methods to allow minors to work on construction sites – currently minors are banned from this work unless work is for a parent’s business, done by a 17 year-old high school graduate, or outside the area of hazardous operation, materials, or equipment.

UNLICENSED BUILDERS HURT CONSUMERS

Unlicensed contractors deprive consumers from statutory protections. In addition, it is an unfair business practice that puts licensed contractors at a significant competitive disadvantage.

- **Homeowners can Sue Unlicensed Contractor** to recover payments
- **Unlicensed Contractors Not Eligible** for payment for work requiring a license
- **Require Homeowners Acting as Contractor to be Responsible for Warranty**
- **Eliminate the Handyman and “1 Home Every 2 Years” Unlicensed Exceptions**
- **Require Lenders and Insurers to Verify Licensure** before Issuing mortgages and insurance general liability or workers compensation policies
- **Increase Penalties for Unlicensed Activities** from misdemeanor to gross misdemeanor
- **Require DLI to Dedicated All Fines to Enforcement** of unlicensed activity
- **Comprehensive Code Inspection and Licensure Enforcement Restructure**
 - Work with industry regulators to implement public health, wellness, and safety enforcement tools in non-code enforced areas to make sure all new residential construction is built by a licensed contractor and subject to code inspections.
- **Repeal Licensure: *As a last resort***, repeal licensure and pre-empt local government licensure if regulators and industry are unable to create reliable, meaningful, statewide enforcement of code and licensure.

AND MORE...

- ***PROTECT the Contractor Recovery Fund from being used to offset problems caused by unlicensed contractors***
- Seek **Housing Policy** that allows the private market to deliver more housing in a more affordable manner
- Make sure state and local governments are prohibited from adopting by ordinance that allow expensive stretch energy codes
- Require codes increasing the cost of housing to be reviewed by the Legislature

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