



J W Crouse, Inc.
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Our PA Contractor Registration Number is: PA013261

Residential / Commercial Plumbing, Heating and Renewable Energy Services

BEFORE THE

PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE COMMITTEE

PENNSYLVANIA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING

HOUSE BILL #1357

TESTIMONY OF

JESSE W. CROUSE

PRESIDENT

J. W. CROUSE, INC.

I am a licensed, registered and insured master plumber from Southeastern, Pennsylvania. I started my professional plumbing career in 1969, while enrolled in the PA. state higher education system at West Chester State College graduating in 1971. Being in the professional plumbing industry has enabled me to attain a college degree and also an extensive and varied mechanical trades career.

The key to providing the consumer the assurance of using a "professional" plumber is to give them the ability to search through a state data base of "Licensed Plumbing Contractors" who, have attained through education, testing and physically demonstrating competence by employment to be an actual "PLUMBER".

We are not asking for an additional layer of government regulations, but an enhancement "to the current State Attorney Generals role for consumer protection" - a partnership with state government.

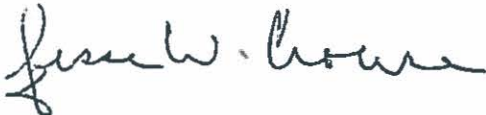
As to the economic costs of this:

Such a system would require "Reciprocity" with states bordering Pennsylvania, who now send their contractors here, but will not allow our plumbers to work there - losing payroll and corporate and business taxes. State revenue is being lost by the millions which could be used to help solve the current budget crisis and provide future funding for vital programs such as education, after school programs, elder care, etc. An additional benefit would be reduced costs of multiple local licenses passed onto the consumer.

As I am sure you know in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, a state license is required to cut, style or braid hair. I feel that in as much as "the plumber protects the health of the nation" the same level of "PROFESSIONALISM" is a common goal for all of us.

In closing, I again ask you to please support passage of House Bill #1357, as I feel it is an important step to not only protect the consumers of the Commonwealth, but to promote the business of all Professional Plumbers and Plumbing Contractors in the state of Pennsylvania.

Sincerely,



Jesse W. Crouse
President
J. W. Crouse, Inc.