

**JOINT LEGISLATIVE TASK FORCE ON THE HVAC/R INDUSTRY
RESPONSES TO REQUEST FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

After meeting on October 22, 2008, the co-chairs asked the members to indicate whether the Task Force should recommend that certain requirements be: (1) approved as set forth in ESSB 5831 (as passed House); or (2) modified (and if so, how). Below is a matrix summarizing the responses. Attached are the full responses.

	T. Risley	K. Collins L. Deyette K. Hanson T. Prezeau (Joint Response)	Sen. Kastama	E. Pound	Sen. Holmquist	Sen. King	Rep. Condotta	M. Frickberg	G. Smith
1. Requirements for certifying HVAC/R mechanics.	Approve.	Approve.	Modify: Create additional path to Mechanic I certification: a coursework path that would allow an individual to take the exam upon completion of a Board recognized training course.	Modify: Fitters and welders installing, fabricating, etc. industrial refrigeration (ammonia) systems shouldn't be required to have a license, but should be supervised by a licensed person.	Retain current law.	Retain and enforce the current laws and requirements. No additional requirements are needed.	Retain current law.	No HVAC/R mechanic worker certification is needed.	Oppose.
2. Methods of registering HVAC/R contractors who qualify for two or more registrations or licenses.	Approve.	Approve.	Approve.		Retain current law.	Retain and enforce the current laws and requirements. No additional requirements are needed.	Retain current law.	No HVAC/R contractor registration or licensing combining is needed.	Unnecessary.

Prepared For: Joint Legislative Task Force on the HVAC/R Industry
Work Session on November 13, 2008

Prepared By: Jill Reinmuth, Office of Program Research
Mac Nicholson, Senate Committee Services

	T. Risley	K. Collins L. Deyette K. Hanson T. Prezeau <i>(Joint Response)</i>	Sen. Kastama	E. Pound	Sen. Holmquist	Sen. King	Rep. Condotta	M. Frickberg	G. Smith
3. Establishing at least three levels of HVAC/R mechanics, with the ability to be certified in several specialties including HVAC, refrigeration, and gas piping.	Approve.	Approve.	Modify: Replace 3-level system with 2-level system. Mechanic I would allow work on residential and light commercial systems. Mechanic II would have an unlimited scope of work. Retain different specialties.		Retain current law.	Retain and enforce the current laws and requirements. No additional requirements are needed.	Retain current law.	No need for establishing any levels of HVAC/R mechanic certification.	Oppose.
4. The experience requirements for each mechanic level.	Approve.	Approve.	Modify. <u>Mechanic I</u> : three paths to certification—work experience, course work, or apprenticeship. In the work experience path—a person needs 1000 hours at 100%		Retain current law.	Retain and enforce the current laws and requirements. No additional requirements are needed.	Retain current law.	No need for experience requirement for any HVAC/R mechanic certification	Oppose.

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			<p>supervision or 2000 hours at 75% supervision in order to take the exam. No experience requirement for those taking course work or apprenticeship paths.</p> <p><u>Mechanic II:</u> must have 2 years or 4000 hours of work as Mechanic I, or complete an apprenticeship program in order to take the exam. Up to 2000 hours of technical college training may be substituted for up to 2000 hours of work experience.</p>						

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5. The methods by which apprentices and other persons learning to perform HVAC/R work obtain training certificates.	Approve.	Approve.	Modify: An individual pursuing the work experience path to certification would need a training certificate. An individual pursuing the course work path would not.		Retain current law.	Retain and enforce the current laws and requirements. No additional requirements are needed.	Retain current law.	No need to require training certificates because there is no need to certify HVAC/R mechanics.	Oppose.

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6. Exemptions § 5(1)(d) (propane) § 5(1)(g) (owners and their employees, but not HVAC/R operators in Seattle) § 5(1)(o) (hearth products) § 6(1) (temporary exemption for certain refrigeration work in food and beverage stores, but not in Seattle)	Approve.	Approve.	Modify: Further discussion.	Modify: Chilled water piping, fabricating, etc needs to be exempted from this bill.	Retain current law.	If we do as suggested above, this topic would not be required.	Retain current law.	No certification of HVAC/R mechanics is needed and thus no exemptions from certification are needed.	Superfluous.

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7. The role and composition of the HVAC/R Board.	Approve.	Approve.	Modify: Require the board to develop a list of recognized training schools or programs an individual could complete in order to (1) take the Mechanic I exam; and (2) substitute training hours for work experience hours required by the Mechanic II certification.		Retain current law.	If we do as suggested above, there would be no need for a HVAC/R board.	Retain current law.	No need to establish an HVAC/R board.	Oppose.

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