



# Update: Study on the Regulation of General Building Contractors by the OPLR Committee

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## **CURRENT LICENSURE**

- General contractors are licensed in Title 58, Ch. 55, Construction Trades Licensing Act
- Specialty contractors are also licensed in Title 58, Ch. 55
  - ▶ Electricians
  - ▶ Plumbers

## **LEGISLATIVE BACKGROUND**

During the 2005 General Session, House Business and Labor Standing Committee requested that the Occupational and Professional Licensure Review (OPLR) Committee study the regulation of general building contractors, including a consideration of the following options:

- total deregulation
- modification of licensing requirements and elimination of the board for general building contractors
- transfer of the regulatory responsibility from DOPL to another entity
- maintain the current licensing and regulatory program.

## **OCCUPATIONAL AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE REVIEW COMMITTEE MEETING, OCT. 20, 2005**

- Received testimony from Construction Services Commission, DOPL, and industry representatives
  - ▶ Parties agreed that the issue warranted further study and requested an additional year before action was taken
- OPLR Committee recommended to the Business and Labor Interim Committee on November 9, 2005, that the issue should be studied for another year before action is taken.

## **RULE CHANGES**

- R156-55a-302a and 302b (rule modification)
  - ▶ Requires that licensure applicants for a contractor or construction trades instructor taking the Trade Classification Specific Examination or the Utah Contractor Business - Law Examination must now wait 30 days after failing the exam before retaking the exam. After three failed attempts, the applicant must wait 6 months in between taking tests.
  - ▶ Addresses work experience requirements.
- R156-55a-303a and 303b (proposed rule)
  - ▶ Allows continuing education requirement to be tied to 2-year renewal cycle of license, and outlines and creates continuing education standards.
- R156-55a-503 (proposed rule)
  - ▶ Increases fine schedule for citations and establishes guidelines for issuance of citations and fines.

## **FUTURE ACTION BY OPLR**

- OPLR plans to follow up during the 2006 Interim.