

Plumbing and Mechanical Association of Georgia

Legislative Report

February 8, 2010

The Georgia General Assembly has now completed 13 of its prescribed 40 legislative days. The lawmakers will meet Monday through Thursday of this week, and then are expected to meet Tuesday through Thursday for much of the remainder of the session.

Companion water bills introduced.

Governor Sonny Perdue has introduced his “Georgia Water Stewardship Act” in both the House of Representatives and the Senate. SB 370 and HB 1094 are identical bills focusing primarily on residential and commercial water conservation. The bills are now in the natural resource committees of the two chambers, and will probably move quickly.

The Administration bills would amend minimum standard codes to require the installation of high-efficiency plumbing fixtures in all new construction after July 1, 2012. Standards for high-efficiency plumbing fixtures include:

- Toilets with average flush volume of 1.28 gallons or less;
- Dual flush toilets that meet ASME standard A112.19.2-2008 and A112.19.14-2006, and are listed in Tank-Type High Efficiency Toilet Specification.
- Single flush toilets that meet ASME standard A112.192/CSA B45.1 or A112.19.14. and are listed in the Tank-Type High Efficiency Toilet Specification.
- Shower heads that allow a flow of no more than 2.5 gallons per minute at 60 psi.
- Urinals that use no more than 0.5 gallons per flush and meet ASME standard A112.19.2/DSA B45.1.
- Lavatory faucets that allow a flow of no more than 1.5 gallons per minute and kitchen faucets that allow no more than 2.0 gallons per minute.

The bills specifically prohibit the sale of gravity tank-type flushometer-valve, or flushometer-tank toilets that use more than 1.28 gallons per flush. While other water conservation bills have been introduced, only the Administration’s legislation is likely to receive serious consideration this year.

Other bills of interest.

HR 1293 – Dodson of Clayton County: a resolution calling for a study committee on the licensing of residential and general contractors. Referred to Regulated Industries Committee.

SB 339 – Seabaugh of Sharpsburg: to make it unlawful to disqualify a licensed utility contractor from doing work on a utility system on the basis that the utility contractor does not hold a general contractor license. In Senate Regulated Industries Committee.

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