

HB 553 -- Missouri Home Inspectors Professional Competency and Financial Responsibility Act

Sponsor: Nance

This bill establishes the Missouri Home Inspectors Professional Competency and Financial Responsibility Act to promote consumer protection, ensure professional competency, and ensure the presence of a viable home inspection industry in Missouri. In its main provisions, the bill:

- (1) Requires, on or after January 1, 2012, any person conducting a home inspection to be registered with the Division of Professional Registration within the Department of Insurance, Financial Institutions and Professional Registration;
- (2) Establishes the five-member Missouri Home Inspectors Registration Board to implement the registration program and specifies its duties, powers, membership, and the members' terms of office;
- (3) Creates the Home Inspectors Registration Fee Fund to be administered by the division for use by the board;
- (4) Authorizes the board to establish registration qualifications, an application process, examination content, the licensing fee, criteria for courses of instruction, continuing education requirements, and procedures for the issuance of a license on a reciprocal basis and to develop and publish standards of professional conduct;
- (5) Exempts certain individuals from registering as a home inspector;
- (6) Specifies that anyone performing a home inspection without being registered will be guilty of a class A misdemeanor; and
- (7) Authorizes the board to refuse to issue or renew, suspend, deny, or revoke any registration or impose probationary conditions on an applicant or registrant for certain specified actions.