



## **State Law Implementation to Have Big Impact on Local Mechanical Work**

### **Water Heaters Can ONLY Be Installed by Master Plumbers**

**El Paso County** – The State of Colorado is cracking down on its enforcement of water heater installations and replacements. The implementation will have substantial changes for the Pikes Peak region.

Starting on June 14, mechanical contractors will no longer be able to install or replace water heaters in residential or commercial structures. State Statute C.R.S. 12-155-118 (6) (I) says water heaters, not equipped with a backflow preventer, must be installed or replaced by a licensed master plumber.

Several building departments around the state, including PPRBD, have opposed this implementation, but to no avail. As the local building authority we are required to comply with state law.

Permits obtained before the implementation takes effect will be honored.

Questions and concerns should be directed to the Colorado Department of Regulatory Agencies, or DORA. You can contact their office by phone at 303-894-7800 or via email – [dora\\_dpo\\_licensing@state.co.us](mailto:dora_dpo_licensing@state.co.us).

Mechanical contractors can still do work like furnace and AC replacements, but in order for an HVAC business to continue installing and replacing water heaters, a master plumber license will be required.

PPRBD understands this will have a significant impact on many mechanical contractors in the Pikes Peak region, and that is why we're trying to get the word out about this implementation.

Again, since this is a STATE requirement, questions should be directed to DORA.