

Plumbing Board
c/o Department of Labor and Industry
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NOTICE OF FINAL INTERPRETATION

On July 19, 2022, the Minnesota Plumbing Board issued a Final Interpretation, which is printed below, pursuant to Minnesota Statutes §§ 326B.435, subd. 2(a)(4), and 326B.127, subd. 5.

Any person aggrieved by this Final Interpretation may appeal it within 30 days of its issuance in accordance with Minnesota Statutes chapter 14.

Questions may be directed to Brittany Wysokinski, telephone number: 651-284-5295, email: brittany.wysokinski@state.mn.us.

FINAL INTERPRETATION

Inquiry:	PB0156
Subject:	Isolation and Bypass Requirements for Water Conditioning Installations
Code Reference:	2020 Minnesota Plumbing Code: 2018 Uniform Plumbing Code (UPC) sections 611.5, as incorporated in the Minnesota Plumbing Code by Minnesota Rules, part 4714.0611.5.
Submitted by:	Brian Soderholm Minnesota Water Quality Association (MWQA) 3180 County Dr, Little Canada, MN 55117
Approved by:	Minnesota Plumbing Board, by Richard Becker, P.E., Chair
Date Received:	July 01, 2022
Issue Date:	July 19, 2022

Question: Do the integral bypass appurtenances supplied with residential water softeners and filters meet the requirements of the Plumbing Code?

Answer: Yes, the integral bypass appurtenances supplied with residential water softeners and filters can meet the requirements of the Plumbing Code so long as they allow the equipment to be serviced or removed without the need for shutting off the water service completely.

Analysis: The Plumbing Code requires that every water conditioning installation include “the installation of isolation valves and a bypass valve that would allow the equipment to be serviced or removed without the need for shutting off the water service completely.” The Board determined that if an integral bypass appurtenance provides the functionality of an isolation valve and a bypass valve and allows the equipment to be serviced or removed without the need

to shut off water service completely, then the integral bypass appurtenance meets the requirements of the Plumbing Code.

Commentary: This request for interpretation was considered and decided at the regular meeting of the Board on July 19, 2022. All parties had an opportunity to be heard. As required by Minnesota Statutes, section 326B.127, subd. 5, the Minnesota Plumbing Board will consider this final interpretation for adoption as part of the Minnesota Plumbing Code



Date: August 1, 2022

Richard Becker, P.E., Chair
Minnesota Plumbing Board