



**State Board of Examiners of Plumbing,
Heating & Fire Sprinkler Contractors**

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To: North Carolina Licensed HVAC Contractors:

Greetings,

I am pleased to announce that the North Carolina General Assembly advanced House Bill 243 to Governor Roy Cooper and the Governor signed this legislation yesterday, March 17, 2022. This new law temporarily changes the Commercial and Residential insulation R-value for ducts installed in ventilated and non-ventilated non-conditioned spaces (crawlspaces and attics). This law will allow for reduced duct insulation values for a period of two years. This law is now in effect.

Based on this legislation, contractors can install ducts in Residential ventilated and non-ventilated unconditioned spaces (crawlspaces and attics) with a minimum of R-4.2 insulation. Any changes in duct insulation values are required to be included in your load calculation. Please be aware that if you install any duct work under R-6 in an attic space, you will be increasing the potential of condensation formation on the ducts and the potential for mold growth in the attic and the home.

That actual language for this legislation can be viewed at the following link:

<https://www.ncleg.gov/BillLookUp/2021/h243>

Once you click on the link, you will need to click on "SL 2022-6" in the tool bar on the left side of the webpage. The duct work language is on pages 46 – 47.

For changes to commercial projects please see the specifics in this legislation.

If you are questioned by an inspection department in reference to the duct R-values, please refer them to House Bill 243.

Sincerely,

Dale L. Dawson
Executive Director
State Board of Examiners of Plumbing,
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