



**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 passed a Bill to amend its previous legislation on duct work insulation values, and Governor Roy Cooper signed this legislation on July 7, 2022. This amended 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 allows reduced duct insulations values for a period of two years from the date of the original legislation and is now in effect.

Based on this amended legislation, contractors can install ducts in residential ventilated and non-ventilated unconditioned spaces with a minimum of R-4.2 insulation (in areas other than attics) but requires that a minimum of R-6.0 shall be the minimum insulation value for supply and return ducts in attics. Any changes in duct insulation values are required to be included in your load calculation.

That actual language for this amended legislation can be viewed at the following link (duct work language is on page 71). For changes to commercial projects please see the specifics in this legislation.

<https://www.ncleg.gov/Sessions/2021/Bills/Senate/PDF/S496v5.pdf>

If you are questioned by an inspection department in reference to the duct R-values, please refer them to SL (Session Law) 2022-46.

Sincerely,

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