



SB 580-A Improves Landscape Contractor Regulatory Program

The Oregon Landscape Contractors Association (OLCA), the trade association for landscape professionals in Oregon, urges your adoption of SB 580-A. Approved in the Senate by a unanimous vote, SB 580-A is the product of a work group convened by the Senate Business and Transportation Committee to address issues with the Oregon Landscape Contractors Board (LCB) and its regulations. Other stakeholders and work group participants who support the adoption of this measure include: Oregon Landscape Contractors Board, Oregon Construction Contractors Board, League of Oregon Cities, Oregon Association of Nurseries and Southern Oregon Landscape Association.

Some of the Changes Recommended in SB 580-A

- Clarifies activities a licensed landscape contracting business so they may plan, install, maintain or repair ornamental water features, drainage systems, irrigation systems, fences, decks, arbors, patios, landscape edging, driveways, walkways and retaining walls.
- Eliminates the requirement for written contracts when the contract amount is less than \$2,000.
- Gives the licensing board broader discretion in dealing with compliance issues and assessing civil penalties..
- Allows for a variety of procedural changes for the landscape licensing board including the process of filing complaints and stop work orders.
- Increases the time allowed for address change notification to LCB from 10 days to 30 days.
- Provides for increased bonding requirements of \$20,000 for landscape jobs that exceed \$50,000 which protects the licensed landscape contractor and consumer for a minimal cost.
- Reduces the number of continuing education hours (CEH) required for license renewal to 16 hours of CEH over a two year period for licensees with less than 5 years of experience as an active licensee and 8 hours every two years of CEH for active licensees with over 5 years of experience. This replaces the current requirement of 20 hours every 2 years.
- Permits licensed landscape contractors to remove or prune trees and install outdoor artificial turf excluding sports fields.
- Allows LCB and CCB licensees to work together more cooperatively to better serve the consumer.
- Increases the time allowed for address change notification to LCB from 10 days to 30 days.

*Passage of SB 580-A will streamline some of the current regulations that have had an onerous impact on the landscape contracting industry while also enhancing consumer protection and the landscape contractors' ability to better serve the consumer. **We urge your vote for SB 580-A.***