



1 tradesman plumber. Each appointment shall be made from a list of three names for  
2 each appointment submitted by the following:

3 (1) The registered engineer and the plumbing inspector by ~~the president of~~  
4 ~~the Louisiana State Board of Health~~ **the Louisiana Department of Health.**

5 \* \* \*

6 §1366. Duties of the board

7 \* \* \*

8 C. The board shall recognize the system of qualification or registration of  
9 apprentices as administered by joint and nonjoint apprenticeship committees  
10 approved by ~~the state of Louisiana~~ **the director of apprenticeship and**  
11 **nonregistered apprentices in the employ of an employing entity.** However, the  
12 board may accept an affidavit from an individual certifying his work experience in  
13 the field of plumbing, and such individual may be certified as a journeyman plumber  
14 provided he passes the written examination and pays the fees established by the  
15 board under R.S. 37:1368(B).

16 \* \* \*

17 §1367. License required; tradesman, journeyman, and master plumber; medical gas  
18 piping installer; medical gas and vacuum systems verifier; water  
19 supply protection specialist endorsement; gas fitter and master gas  
20 fitter; local examination preempted

21 A. \* \* \*

22 (2) No natural person shall engage in doing the work of a journeyman  
23 plumber unless he possesses a license or renewal thereof issued by the board. A  
24 journeyman plumber may engage in the art of plumbing only when he is under the  
25 supervision **employment** of a master plumber licensed by this board.  
26 Notwithstanding any other provision to the contrary, a journeyman plumber may  
27 repair existing plumbing independently and without the supervision of a master  
28 plumber. **Any journeyman plumber that repaired plumbing independently and**  
29 **without the supervision of a master plumber prior to January 1, 2024, may**

1 continue to operate in such a manner for a period of five years, and shall within  
 2 that five year period pass the master plumber examination to obtain a master  
 3 plumber license. Apprentices may engage in the art of plumbing only when they are  
 4 under the direct, constant, on-the-job supervision of a licensed journeyman plumber.  
 5 Direct, constant on-the-job supervision means that a licensed journeyman plumber  
 6 will supervise apprentices as governed by the Louisiana Workforce Commission.

7 \* \* \*

8 §1368. Issuance of tradesman, journeyman, and master plumber's license; medical  
 9 gas piping and installation license; medical gas and vacuum systems  
 10 verifier license; water supply protection specialist endorsement;  
 11 exemption; gas fitter

12 A.(1) The board shall issue a tradesman plumber limited license to any  
 13 person who meets the following qualifications:

14 \* \* \*

15 (b) Has worked at least four thousand hours as an unindentured apprentice  
 16 or at least three thousand hours as an indentured apprentice at the manual labor  
 17 of plumbing under the direct, constant, on-the-job supervision of a journeyman or  
 18 master plumber licensed by the board.

19 \* \* \*

20 §1377. Definitions; exceptions

21 \* \* \*

22 C.(1) Apprentice plumber. An "apprentice plumber" is a natural person  
 23 engaged in learning the plumbing trade by working under the direct on-the-job  
 24 supervision of a journeyman plumber and in the employ of an employing entity.  
 25 Apprentice plumbers shall be indentured in an apprenticeship program approved by  
 26 the Louisiana Workforce Commission, or unindentured and in the employ of an  
 27 employing entity.

28 (2) Apprentice gas fitter. An "apprentice gas fitter" is a natural person  
 29 engaged in learning the gas fitting trade by working under the direct on-the-job

1 supervision of a gas fitter and in the employ of an employing entity. Apprentice  
 2 gas fitters shall be indentured in an apprenticeship program approved by the  
 3 Louisiana Workforce Commission, or may be unindentured and in employ of  
 4 an employing entity.

\* \* \*

6 §1380. Insurance requirements for master plumbers **and master natural gas fitters**

7 A. No master plumber license **or master natural gas fitter license** shall be  
 8 issued, renewed, or revived until the applicant has provided proof acceptable to the  
 9 board that insurance has been issued to the employing entity which is designated in  
 10 accordance with R.S. 37:1367 by an insurer authorized to do business in this state.

11 B. The employing entity shall maintain:

\* \* \*

13 (3) Comprehensive general liability and property damage insurance in a  
 14 minimum aggregate amount of ~~one~~ **five** hundred thousand dollars, ~~except on~~  
 15 ~~plumbing work done in parishes under thirty thousand persons in population on~~  
 16 ~~buildings, residences, or structures being no more than six thousand square feet of~~  
 17 ~~interior space, the minimum aggregate amount shall be fifty thousand dollars.~~

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The original instrument was prepared by Yoursheka Butler. The following digest, which does not constitute a part of the legislative instrument, was prepared by Xavier Alexander.

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DIGEST

SB 218 Engrossed

2023 Regular Session

Womack

Present law creates the State Plumbing Board of Louisiana (board) to consist of nine members as follows:

- (1) One registered engineer.
- (2) One plumbing inspector.
- (3) Three master plumbers.
- (4) Three journeyman plumbers.
- (5) One tradesman plumber.

Proposed law retains present law, renames the "Louisiana State Board of Health" the

"Louisiana Department of Health", and requires its appointees to be licensed by the board.

Present law requires the board to adopt tests of qualifications for any person engaged in the duties of a tradesman or master plumber.

Proposed law retains present law and removes the board's option to accept an affidavit from an individual certifying his work experience in the field of plumbing.

Present law prohibits a natural person from engaging in the work of a journeyman plumber unless he possesses a license or renewal thereof issued by the board. Present law also permits a journeyman plumber to engage in the art of plumbing when he is under the supervision of a licensed master plumber.

Proposed law retains present law and adds that a journeyman plumber that repaired plumbing without the supervision of a master plumber prior to January 1, 2024, may continue to operate in such a manner for a period of five years, and shall within that five year period pass the master plumber examination to obtain a master plumber license.

Present law permits apprentices to engage in the art of plumbing but requires the apprentice to be under the direct, constant on-the-job supervision of a licensed journeyman plumber. Present law also defines "direct, constant on-the-job supervision".

Proposed law retains present law.

Present law provides that in order to obtain a tradesman plumber limited license, a person must work at least 4,000 hours at the manual labor of plumbing under the direct, constant on-the-job supervision of a licensed journeyman or master plumber.

Proposed law retains present law and further clarifies that the 4,000-hour requirement applies to unindentured apprentices. Proposed law also adds that indentured apprentices must complete at least 3,000 hours at the manual labor of plumbing under the direct, constant on-the-job supervision of a licensed journeyman or master plumber to obtain a tradesman plumber limited license.

Proposed law defines "apprentice gas fitter" and "indentured apprentices".

Present law provides that no master plumber license will be issued, renewed, or revived until the applicant has provided proof acceptable to the board that insurance has been issued to the employing entity by an insurer authorized to do business in this state.

Proposed law retains present law and makes present law applicable to master natural gas fitter licenses.

Present law authorizes the board to require master plumbers and master natural gas fitters to provide proof of comprehensive general liability and property damage insurance before issuing, renewing, or reviving an applicant's license.

Proposed law retains present law and raises the minimum aggregate amount of comprehensive general liability and property damage insurance from \$100,000 to \$500,000.

Effective August 1, 2023.

(Amends R.S. 37:1361(B)(1), 1366(C), 1367(A)(2), 1368(A)(1)(b), 1377(C), and 1380(A) and (B)(3))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and International Affairs to the original bill

1. Provides that a journeyman plumber that repaired plumbing without supervision prior to January 1, 2024, may continue to operate in such a manner for a period of five years.
2. Requires that the registered engineer and the inspector shall also be licensed by the State Plumbing Board to serve as a member of the State Plumbing Board.
3. Make technical changes.