
DIGEST

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HB 953 Original

2026 Regular Session

Fontenot

Abstract: Grants concurrent authority to license plumbers to the State Board for Contractors in addition to the authority held by the State Plumbing Board.

Present law provides the State Plumbing Board is the sole and exclusive agency with power to license plumbers and plumbing businesses in this state.

Proposed law makes the State Plumbing Board one of the agencies with this power.

Present law provides that the State Plumbing Board adopt tests of qualifications to be possessed by any person engaged in the duties of residential plumbers, journeyman plumbers, master plumbers, and water protection supply specialists.

Proposed law provides that persons engaged in these duties may possess such tests of qualifications.

Present law provides that no natural person shall engage in the work of a residential plumber unless he holds a residential plumber limited license, with similar licensing requirement needed for the work of journeyman plumbers, apprentices, master plumbers, and water supply protection specialists.

Proposed law amends present law to allow a person to engage in this work with a similar or equivalent license issued pursuant to proposed law.

Present law allows a master plumber to be licensed only if he was previously licensed as a journeyman plumber by the State Plumbing Board.

Proposed law also allows a person to be licensed as a master plumber pursuant to provisions of proposed law.

Present law provides no entity shall engage in the business of plumbing without the employ of a master plumber.

Proposed law allows such a business to employ a master plumber licensed pursuant to proposed law.

Present law provides the fees the State Plumbing Board may fix for the examination, licensing, and renewal fees for various plumbing licenses.

Proposed law specifies that these fees may be fixed only for licenses and examinations pursuant to

present law.

Present law provides the State Plumbing Board with the power to enjoin any person from engaging in plumbing work when it appears that person is violating provisions of present law.

Proposed law clarifies that this power extends only to those licensed pursuant to present law.

Present law provides for the State Plumbing Board to fine any person performing plumbing work without a license issued by the Board.

Proposed law provides that the State Plumbing Board may only fine those performing plumbing work without any license whatsoever.

Present law provides for the licensing of journeymen who have not been previously licensed who come under the jurisdiction of the State Plumbing Board.

Proposed law specifies that these provisions do not apply to persons who hold relevant licenses pursuant to proposed law.

Present law provides for definitions of the various grades of plumbers, who each shall hold a license from the State Plumbing Board to do that particular work.

Proposed law changes this requirement from mandatory to permissive.

Present law provides that the State Plumbing Board may revoke licenses from plumbers who knowingly allow persons not licensed by that board to perform work.

Proposed law makes an exception for plumbers licensed by the State Board for Contractors.

Present law provides that plumbing licensees must provide proof of insurance to the State Plumbing Board.

Proposed law specifies that this refers only to licenses issued pursuant to present law.

Present law provides for definitions.

Proposed law defines "plumber".

Present law provides that nothing in present law regarding contractors shall be presumed to permit plumbing contractors to engage in plumbing work without licenses issued by the State Plumbing Board.

Proposed law repeals this requirement.

Present law provides that on contracting projects classified as plumbing projects, bids may be

accepted only from those who have as a qualifying party a person who has complied with plumber licensing provisions pursuant to present law.

Proposed law also allows bids from plumbers licensed pursuant to proposed law.

Proposed law provides concurrent authority to the State Board for Contractors to license and permit residential, journeyman, master, and apprentice plumbers.

Proposed law gives the State Board for Contractors authority to promulgate rules and regulations to implement the provisions of proposed law.

Proposed law provides that a person holding a license pursuant to proposed law may offer or contract for any job for which a license of equivalent rank issued by the State Plumbing Board is required.

Proposed law provides that the provisions of proposed law applies notwithstanding any law to the contrary.

(Amends R.S. 37:1361(A), 1366(A), (B), (H), and (K), 1367(A), (B), (C), (E), and (G), 1371(A)(1), 1373(A), 1374(B)(1), 1377(A), (B), and (C)(1), 1377(A)6, 1380(A), 2150.1(I), and 2165(A)(3); Adds R.S. 37:1376(C), 2150.1(25), and 2167)