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HOUSE FLOOR AMENDMENTS

2026 Regular Session

Amendments proposed by Representative Fontenot to Engrossed House Bill No. 953 by Representative Fontenot

1 AMENDMENT NO. 1

2 On page 1, delete lines 2 through 8 and insert in lieu thereof the following:

3 "To amend and reenact R.S. 37:2150, 2150.1, 2156(D), (E), (K)(1), and (L) through (N),
 4 2156.1(A)(7), (B)(1), and (I), 2158(A)(introductory paragraph), and 2164(A), (B),
 5 (H), and (I), to enact R.S. 37:2155.1, 2156(O), 2156.1.1, and 2158(A)(24) and to
 6 repeal Chapter 16 of Title 37 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, comprised
 7 of R.S. 37:1361 through 1380, relative to licensing of plumbers; to provide the State
 8 Licensing Board for Contractors the power to license and regulate licensure of
 9 plumbers and plumbing contractors; to provide for definitions; to provide for a
 10 Plumbing Contractors Subcommittee of the State Licensing Board for Contractors;
 11 to provide for licensing fees and penalties; to abolish the State Plumbing Board; to
 12 provide for the transfer of assets and obligations from the State Plumbing Board to
 13 the State Licensing Board for Contractors; to provide for an effective date; to provide
 14 for the grandfathering of existing plumbing licenses; and to provide for related
 15 matters."

16 AMENDMENT NO. 2

17 On page 1, delete lines 10 through 20 in their entirety and insert in lieu thereof the following:

18 "Section 1. R.S. 37:2150, 2150.1, 2156(D), (E), (K)(1), and (L) through (N),
 19 2156.1(A)(7), (B)(1), and (I), 2158(A)(introductory paragraph), and 2164(A), (B), (H) and
 20 (I) are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 37:2155.1, 2156(O), 2156.1.1 and
 21 2158(A)(24) are hereby enacted to read as follows:

22 §2150. Purpose; legislative intent
 23 The purpose of the legislature in enacting this Chapter is the protection of the
 24 health, safety, and general welfare of all those persons dealing with persons engaged
 25 in the contracting ~~and plumbing vocation vocations~~, and the affording of such
 26 persons of an effective and practical protection against the incompetent,
 27 inexperienced, unlawful, and fraudulent acts of contractors or plumbers with whom
 28 they contract. Further, the legislative intent is that the State Licensing Board for
 29 Contractors shall monitor construction and plumbing projects to ensure compliance
 30 with the licensure requirements of this Chapter.

31 §2150.1. Definitions
 32 As used in this Chapter, the following terms have the following meanings:
 33 (1) "Apprentice plumber license" means the license that may be granted to
 34 a natural person engaged in learning the plumbing trade by working under the direct,
 35 on-the-job supervision of a journeyman plumber or master plumber, and in the
 36 employ of an employing entity. Apprentice plumbers shall be placed in an
 37 apprenticeship approved by the board.

38 (2) "Board" means the State Licensing Board for Contractors.
 39 (2) (3) "Commercial" means any construction project except residential
 40 structures intended to be primarily occupied as a residence with no more than two
 41 separate dwelling units incorporated into one structure.

1 ~~(3)~~ (4) "Contract" means an agreement to perform a scope of work that is
 2 regulated by this Chapter. The project value includes the entire cost of the labor,
 3 materials, rentals, and all direct and indirect project expenses. The cost of materials,
 4 rentals, and direct and indirect expenses shall be included regardless of who pays the
 5 costs or if they are donated. The "principal contract" is the agreement to perform the
 6 entire scope of work for a construction project.

7 ~~(4)~~ (5)(a) "Contractor" means any person who undertakes to, attempts to, or
 8 submits a price or bid or offers to construct, supervise, superintend, oversee, direct,
 9 perform, or in any manner assume charge of the construction, alteration, repair,
 10 improvement, movement, demolition, putting up, tearing down, furnishing labor, or
 11 furnishing labor together with material or equipment, or installing material or
 12 equipment for any of the following:

13 (i) Any building, highway, road, railroad, sewer, grading, excavation,
 14 pipeline, public utility structure, project development, housing, or housing
 15 development, improvement, or any other construction undertaking for which the
 16 project value is fifty thousand dollars or more when the property is to be used for
 17 commercial purposes.

18 (ii) Any new residential structure for which the project value is fifty
 19 thousand dollars or more when the property is used for residential purposes.

20 (iii) Any improvements or repairs to an existing residential structure for
 21 which the project value is seven thousand five hundred dollars or more.

22 (iv) Any mold remediation for which the project value is seven thousand five
 23 hundred dollars or more.

24 (v) Any plumbing work.

25 (b) The term "contractor" includes persons who receive an additional fee for
 26 the employment or direction of labor, or any other work beyond the normal
 27 architectural or engineering services.

28 (c) A contractor holding a license in the major classification of hazardous
 29 materials, or any subclassifications thereunder, is defined in terms of work
 30 performed for which the project value is one dollar or more.

31 (d) "Contractor" does not mean any person, supplier, manufacturer, or
 32 employee of such person who assembles, repairs, maintains, moves, puts up, tears
 33 down, or disassembles any patented or proprietary equipment supplied by such
 34 person to a contractor to be used solely by the contractor for a construction
 35 undertaking. "Proprietary" means specific and specialized equipment installation,
 36 manufacturing processes, used, or components that are protected from disclosure to
 37 third parties by the owner or manufacturer of the equipment.

38 ~~(5)~~ (6) "Controlled access" means the complete building or facility area
 39 under direct physical control within which an unauthorized person is denied access.

40 ~~(6)~~ (7) "Electrical contractor" means any person who undertakes to, attempts
 41 to, or submits a price or bid or offers to construct, supervise, superintend, oversee,
 42 direct, perform, or in any manner assume charge of the construction, alteration,
 43 repair, improvement, movement, demolition, putting up, tearing down, or furnishing
 44 labor together with material and equipment, or installing the same for the wiring,
 45 fixtures, or appliances for the supply of electricity to any residential, commercial, or
 46 other project, for which the project value is ten thousand dollars or more. This
 47 Paragraph is not deemed or construed to limit the authority of a contractor, general
 48 contractor, or residential contractor, as those terms are defined in this Section, nor
 49 to require such individuals to become an electrical contractor.

50 ~~(7)~~ (8) "Employee" means a worker whose employer deducts taxes from his
 51 wages and reports his annual earnings to the Internal Revenue Service using a W-2
 52 form.

53 ~~(8)~~ (9) "Executive director" means the person appointed by the board to
 54 serve as the chief operating officer in connection with the day-to-day operation of
 55 the board's business. The executive director is the appointing authority for all
 56 employees of the board.

57 ~~(9)~~ (10)(a) "General contractor" means a person who contracts directly with
 58 the owner. The term "general contractor" includes the term "primary contractor" and

1 wherever used in this Chapter or in regulations promulgated thereunder "primary
2 contractor" means "general contractor".

3 (b) "General contractor" does not mean any person, supplier, manufacturer,
4 or employee of such person who assembles, repairs, maintains, moves, puts up, tears
5 down, or disassembles any patented or proprietary equipment supplied by such
6 person to a contractor to be used solely by the contractor for a construction
7 undertaking.

8 ~~(10)~~ (11) "Home improvement" means the reconstruction, alteration,
9 renovation, repair, modernization, conversion, improvement, removal, or demolition,
10 or the construction of an addition to any preexisting residential structure which
11 building is used or designed to be used as a residence or dwelling unit, or to
12 structures which are adjacent to such residence or building for which the project
13 value is seven thousand five hundred dollars or more. "Home improvement" does not
14 include services rendered gratuitously.

15 ~~(11)~~ (12) "Home improvement contractor" means any person who undertakes
16 or attempts to undertake or submits a price or bid or offers to construct, supervise,
17 superintend, oversee, direct, perform, or in any manner assume charge of a home
18 improvement project for which the project value is at least seven thousand five
19 hundred dollars but less than fifty thousand dollars. A home improvement contractor
20 shall not perform any structural work that is integral to the structural integrity of any
21 new or existing structure, including but not limited to footings, foundations, outside
22 walls, skeleton, bearing columns and interior load bearing walls, floor slabs, or
23 roofing systems to any type.

24 (13) "Journeyman plumber license" means the license that may be granted
25 to a natural person who possesses the necessary qualifications and knowledge to
26 install, alter, repair, and maintain plumbing systems; is supervised by a master
27 plumber; and is in the employ of an employing entity.

28 ~~(12)~~ (14) "License" means any form of license or registration the board is
29 authorized to issue in accordance with this Chapter.

30 (15) "Master plumber license" means the license that may be granted to a
31 natural person who possesses the necessary qualifications and knowledge to plan and
32 lay out plumbing systems; and who supervises journeyman plumbers in the
33 installation, alteration, or repair of plumbing systems.

34 (16) "Master plumbing contractor" means any person who undertakes to,
35 attempts to, or submits a price or bid or offers to construct, supervise, superintend,
36 oversee, direct, perform, or in any manner assume charge of the construction,
37 alteration, repair, improvement, movement, demolition, putting up, tearing down,
38 furnishing labor, or furnishing labor together with material or equipment, or
39 installing material or equipment regarding plumbing in any structure or setting, and
40 is licensed by the board to do the same.

41 ~~(13)~~ (17) "Mechanical contractor" means any person who undertakes to,
42 attempts to, or submits a price or bid or offers to construct, supervise, superintend,
43 oversee, direct, perform, or in any manner assume charge of the construction,
44 alteration, repair, improvement, movement, demolition, putting up, tearing down, or
45 furnishing labor, or furnishing labor together with material and equipment, or
46 installing the same for the construction, installation, maintenance, testing, and repair
47 of air conditioning, refrigeration, heating systems, and plumbing for all residential,
48 commercial, and industrial applications as well as ventilation systems, mechanical
49 work controls, boilers and other pressure vessels, steam and hot water systems and
50 piping, gas piping and fuel storage, and chilled water and condensing water systems
51 and piping, including but not limited to any type of industrial process piping and
52 related valves, fittings, and components, for which the project value is ten thousand
53 dollars or more. This Paragraph is not deemed or construed to limit the authority of
54 a contractor, general contractor, or residential contractor, as those terms are defined
55 in this Section, nor to require such individuals to become a mechanical contractor.

56 ~~(14)~~ (18) "Mold remediation contractor" means any person who engages in
57 removal, cleaning, sanitizing, demolition, or other treatment, including preventative
58 activities, of mold or mold-contaminated matter that was not purposely grown at that
59 location for which the project value is seven thousand five hundred dollars or more.

1 Mold remediation applies only to the regulation of mold-related activities that affect
 2 indoor air quality and does not apply to routine cleaning when not conducted for the
 3 purpose of mold-related activities intended to affect indoor air quality.

4 ~~(15)~~ (19) "Person" means any individual, firm, partnership, association,
 5 cooperative, corporation, limited liability company, limited liability partnership, or
 6 any other entity recognized by Louisiana law; and whether or not acting as a
 7 principal, trustee, fiduciary, receiver, or as any other kind of legal or personal
 8 representative, or as a successor in interest, assignee, agent, factor, servant,
 9 employee, director, officer, or any other representative of such person; or any state
 10 or local governing authority or political subdivision.

11 (20) "Plumber" means a natural person who performs the work or business
 12 of installing in buildings and on premises the pipes, fixtures, and other apparatus for
 13 supplying water, or removing liquid waste or water-borne waste, and fixtures, vessels
 14 and process piping that is in direct contact with products for human consumption.

15 ~~(16)~~ (21) "Plumbing contractor" means any person who installs, maintains,
 16 ~~and repairs potable and nonpotable tap water or sewer systems within a building~~
 17 ~~structure or residential structure for which the project value is ten thousand dollars~~
 18 ~~or more~~ undertakes to, attempts to, or submits a price or bid or offers to construct,
 19 supervise, superintend, oversee, direct, perform, or in any manner assume charge of
 20 the construction, alteration, repair, improvement, movement, demolition, putting up,
 21 tearing down, furnishing labor, or furnishing labor together with material or
 22 equipment, or installing material or equipment regarding plumbing.

23 ~~(17)~~ (22) "Principal" means an owner, shareholder, or an officer or director
 24 of a corporation; a member or manager of a limited liability company; a general
 25 partner of a partnership; a sole proprietor; a trustee; or a full-time employee with
 26 similar operational control or significant influence with respect to any person as
 27 determined by the board.

28 ~~(18)~~ (23) "Qualifying party" means a natural person designated by the
 29 contractor to represent the contractor for the purpose of complying with the
 30 provisions of this Chapter including but not limited to meeting the requirements for
 31 the initial license and any continuation thereof.

32 ~~(19)~~ (24)(a) "Residential contractor" means any person who constructs a
 33 fixed building or structure for sale or use by another as a residence or who, for a
 34 price, commission, fee, wage, or other compensation, undertakes or offers to
 35 undertake the construction or superintending of the construction of any residential
 36 structure which is not more than three floors in height, to be used by another as a
 37 residence, for which the project value is fifty thousand dollars or more. The term
 38 "residential contractor" includes all persons who receive an additional fee for the
 39 employment or direction of labor, or any other work beyond the normal architectural
 40 or engineering services.

41 (b) "Residential contractor" includes both of the following:

42 (i) Any person bidding or performing home improvement for which the
 43 project value is seven thousand five hundred dollars or more.

44 (ii) Any person performing the installation of a modular home with a value
 45 equal to or greater than fifty thousand dollars for which the total project value shall
 46 not include the cost of the component parts of the modular home in the condition
 47 each part leaves the factory pursuant to R.S. 40:1730.71.

48 (c) "Residential contractor" does not include any person engaged in building
 49 residential structures that are built to the United States Department of Housing and
 50 Urban Development's construction standards for manufactured housing as outlined
 51 at 42 U.S.C. 5401 et seq., or mounted on a metal chassis and wheels.

52 (25) "Residential plumbing contractor" means any person who undertakes
 53 to, attempts to, or submits a price or bid or offers to construct, supervise,
 54 superintend, oversee, direct, perform, or in any manner assume charge of the
 55 construction, alteration, repair, improvement, movement, demolition, putting up,
 56 tearing down, furnishing labor, or furnishing labor together with material or
 57 equipment, or installing material or equipment regarding plumbing in any residential
 58 structure that is not more than three floors in height, to be used by another as a

1 residence, for which the project value is fifty thousand dollars or more, and is
 2 licensed by the board to do the same.

3 ~~(20)~~ (26) "Residential roofing" means the construction, alteration, repair,
 4 improvement, demolition, putting up, tearing down, furnishing labor, or furnishing
 5 labor together with materials or equipment, or the installation of materials or
 6 equipment for any phase of roofing specific to a residential structure for which the
 7 project value is seven thousand five hundred dollars or more.

8 ~~(21)~~ (27) "Residential roofing contractor" means any person who undertakes
 9 to, attempts to, or submits a price or bid, or offers to construct, supervise,
 10 superintend, oversee, direct, perform, or in any manner assume charge of a
 11 residential roofing project for which the project value is seven thousand five hundred
 12 dollars or more.

13 ~~(22)~~ (28) "Residential structure" means a building or structure that is used
 14 primarily for occupancy by a person as a residence. Such structures or buildings
 15 include but are not limited to single family dwellings and duplexes which are not
 16 more than three floors in height and structures that are part of or adjacent to the
 17 building or structures to be used as a residence. A residential structure more than
 18 three floors in height may be built by a person holding a building construction and
 19 residential construction license.

20 ~~(23)~~ (29) "Subcontract" means an agreement to perform a portion of the
 21 scope of work contained in the principal contract including the entire cost of labor
 22 and materials of that part of the principal contract which is performed by the
 23 subcontractor.

24 ~~(24)~~ (30)(a) "Subcontractor" means a person who contracts to perform a
 25 scope of work that is a part of the scope of work contained in the principal contract.

26 (b) "Subcontractor" does not include any person, supplier, or manufacturer
 27 who assembles, repairs, maintains, moves, puts up, tears down, or disassembles any
 28 patented or proprietary equipment supplied by such person to a contractor to be used
 29 solely by the contractor for a construction undertaking.

30 * * *

31 §2155.1. Plumbing Contractors Subcommittee; membership; terms; powers; duties

32 A. There is hereby established within the board the Plumbing Contractors
 33 Subcommittee, hereinafter referred to as "plumbing subcommittee", consisting of
 34 the following eleven members appointed by the governor, each of whom shall be a
 35 resident of this state, and each of whom shall have been actively engaged in
 36 plumbing or contracting for at least five years prior to his appointment by the
 37 governor.

38 (1) Three members, each of whom shall be appointed from the membership
 39 of the Plumbing-Heating-Cooling Contractors Association of Louisiana.

40 (2) Three members, each of whom shall be appointed from the membership
 41 of The United Association of Journeymen and Apprentices of the Plumbing and
 42 Pipefitting Industry of the United States and Canada.

43 (3) One member who shall be appointed from the membership of the
 44 Louisiana Associated General Contractors.

45 (4) One member who shall be appointed from the membership of the
 46 Associated Builders and Contractors of Louisiana.

47 (5) One member who shall be appointed from the membership of the
 48 Louisiana Home Builders Association.

49 (6) Two members, each of whom shall not be associated with the plumbing
 50 industry, to serve as members-at-large.

51 B.(1) The terms of office for the initial members appointed to the plumbing
 52 subcommittee is three members for a three-year term, four members for a two-year
 53 term, and four members for a one-year term, to be determined by the governor.
 54 Thereafter, all members are to be appointed for six-year terms.

55 (2) All terms commence thirty days after appointment, and all members shall
 56 serve until their successors have been appointed and qualified. Vacancies occurring
 57 in the membership of the plumbing subcommittee for any reason shall be filled by
 58 appointment by the governor for the unexpired term. No member appointed may
 59 serve more than two consecutive six-year terms.

1 (3) A member may be removed by the governor for cause; or at the request
 2 of the chairperson for failure to attend more than half of the regularly scheduled
 3 meetings within a twelve-month period or for cause.

4 C. The executive director of the board shall serve as executive director of the
 5 plumbing subcommittee and does not have voting privileges.

6 D.(1) A member of the board shall serve as an ex officio member of the
 7 plumbing subcommittee and shall serve as the liaison between the plumbing
 8 subcommittee and the board. He shall be appointed by the chairperson of the board
 9 and shall serve as the chairperson of the plumbing subcommittee. His presence at a
 10 meeting of the plumbing subcommittee may be counted toward establishing a
 11 quorum of the plumbing subcommittee, and he shall have voting privileges only if
 12 either of the following circumstances exists:

13 (a) His presence is necessary to establish a quorum of the plumbing
 14 subcommittee and there is a tie vote between the appointed members of the plumbing
 15 subcommittee.

16 (b) His presence is necessary to establish a quorum of the plumbing
 17 subcommittee, only one appointed member of the plumbing subcommittee is present,
 18 and an additional ex officio member has been appointed pursuant to Paragraph (2)
 19 of this Subsection.

20 (2) An additional ex officio member of the board shall serve on the plumbing
 21 subcommittee only if his presence, along with the ex officio member serving
 22 pursuant to Paragraph (1) of this Subsection, is required to establish a quorum of the
 23 plumbing subcommittee. This additional ex officio member shall be appointed by the
 24 chairperson of the board and shall serve as the vice chairperson of the plumbing
 25 subcommittee. He shall have voting privileges only if there is a tie vote between
 26 appointed members of the plumbing subcommittee and the ex officio member
 27 servng as chairperson of the plumbing subcommittee.

28 (3) The board shall pay per diem and travel expenses for ex officio members.

29 E. A quorum of the plumbing subcommittee consists of a majority of its
 30 members and is sufficient to conduct plumbing subcommittee business. The
 31 plumbing subcommittee shall meet at least once every other month to conduct its
 32 business unless, for good cause, a meeting cannot be held. Notice of plumbing
 33 subcommittee meetings shall be posted on the board's official website and at the
 34 board's office at least ten days prior to the date when the plumbing subcommittee is
 35 to meet.

36 F. Each member of the plumbing subcommittee is entitled to a per diem
 37 allowance of seventy-five dollars for each meeting he attends and to be reimbursed
 38 for all travel expenses necessarily incurred in attending meetings.

39 G. Subject to the approval of the board, the plumbing subcommittee has all
 40 of the following powers and duties:

41 (1) To adopt rules and regulations to govern all plumbing contractors,
 42 apprentice plumbers, journeyman plumbers, and master plumbers in this state,
 43 including all specialty classifications and sub-classifications of plumbing or
 44 plumbing contracting as adopted by the board.

45 (2) To issue, suspend, or revoke licenses to do plumbing or plumbing
 46 business in this state pursuant to the provisions of this Chapter.

47 (3) To prescribe and adopt regulations and policies for continuing education
 48 for plumbers. However, notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, the plumbing
 49 subcommittee shall not approve for use by licensees any continuing education
 50 courses or written training programs provided by a member of the plumbing
 51 subcommittee, or by a legal entity in which a member has a controlling interest.

52 (4) To enforce against, prosecute, or enjoin all persons violating plumbing
 53 or plumbing contracting provisions of this Chapter, and rules and regulations of the
 54 board; to issue fines, penalties, and other costs for violations; and incur necessary
 55 expenses therein.

56 (5) If an alleged violation is known to the plumbing subcommittee, the
 57 plumbing subcommittee may correct it or take appropriate action without formal
 58 complaint.

59 §2156. Applications; licenses; fees; renewals

* * *

D. The board may assess an additional surcharge of not more than four hundred dollars in connection with the application for and issuance of a contractor's or plumber's license to a contractor or plumber not domiciled in this state, to be utilized to defray the additional cost of the investigation of the application of the non-Louisiana contractor or plumber.

E. When issuing a license to any contractor or plumber, the board shall state the contractor's or plumber's classification on the license for which he has completed all of the requirements.

* * *

K.(1) The board shall assess on each license renewal issued to a contractor, except a plumbing contractor, an additional fee of one hundred dollars per year to be dedicated and allocated as provided in this Subsection to any public university in this state or any community college school of construction management or construction technology in this state that is accredited by either the American Council for Construction Education or the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology. The board shall include on each license renewal form issued to a contractor an optional election whereby the contractor may choose to not participate in the remission of the additional one-hundred-dollar dedication fee.

* * *

L.(1) The board shall assess on each license renewal issued to a plumbing contractor an additional fee of one hundred dollars per year to be dedicated and allocated as provided in this Subsection to the Louisiana Community and Technical College System to be used exclusively for training programs related to the plumbing trade. The board shall include on each license renewal form issued to a plumbing contractor an optional election whereby that plumbing contractor may choose to not participate in the allocation of the additional one hundred dollar dedication fee.

(2) The monies collected pursuant to this Subsection are in addition to any other monies received by those schools and are intended to supplement and not replace, displace, or supplant any other monies received from the state or from any other source.

(3) Monies collected pursuant to this Subsection shall be disbursed to the Louisiana Community and Technical College System by October first of each year upon the completion of the annual audit of the board, after subtracting a two percent administrative fee on the total collected to be retained by the board.

M. The licenses issued pursuant to the provisions of this Chapter are not transferable.

~~M.~~ N. No license shall be issued to any domestic or foreign entity required to be registered with the secretary of state which does not hold a certificate of authority to do business in good standing.

~~N.~~ O. Except for the licenses, fees, and assessments authorized by this Chapter, and except for the occupational license taxes authorized by the constitution and laws of this state, and except for permit fees charged by parishes and municipalities for inspection purposes, and except for licenses required by parishes and municipalities for the purpose of determining the competency of mechanical or plumbing contractors, or both, and electrical contractors, no contractor shall be liable for any fee or license as a condition of engaging in the contracting business.

§2156.1. Requirements for issuance of a contractor's license

A. To become licensed in accordance with the provisions of this Chapter, an applicant shall make application to the board on a form adopted by the board and shall state the classifications for which he is applying from the list of major classifications listed herein or from the list of subclassifications and specialty classification as adopted by rule. The major classifications are:

* * *

(7) Master Plumbing.

* * *

B.(1) An applicant for a contractor's license or registration shall submit a financial statement on a form supplied by the board, current to within twelve months

1 of the date of filing the application, prepared and signed by an accountant,
 2 bookkeeper, or certified public accountant and signed by the applicant, attesting the
 3 statement is true and correct. In lieu of a signature by a certified public accountant
 4 on the board's form, a current financial statement prepared by a certified public
 5 accountant may be attached.

6 * * *

7 ~~I.(1) Any plumbing contractor who currently holds a Master Plumber~~
 8 ~~License from the State Plumbing Board of Louisiana shall be exempt from any trade~~
 9 ~~examination requirement. Any person or business that advertises, solicits,~~
 10 ~~undertakes, attempts, offers, or submits a price, bid, quote or estimate to construct,~~
 11 ~~supervise, direct, oversee, or perform any construction, modification, repair, or~~
 12 ~~maintenance of any portion of a plumbing system is required to hold the appropriate~~
 13 ~~plumbing contractor license, classification, subclassification, or specialty~~
 14 ~~classification.~~

15 (2) ~~Nothing in this Section shall be construed to permit plumbing contractors~~
 16 ~~to perform plumbing work without first complying with the licensure provisions of~~
 17 ~~Chapter 16 of this Title, R.S. 37:1361 et seq. A master plumbing contractor may~~
 18 ~~contract to perform or supervise plumbing work for any structure. Master plumbing~~
 19 ~~contractor qualifying party status may be obtained only by a licensed master~~
 20 ~~plumber, and upon meeting all other requirements of licensure.~~

21 (3) ~~A residential plumbing contractor may contract to perform or supervise~~
 22 ~~plumbing work only for a structure, not more than three floors in height, to be used~~
 23 ~~by another as a residence. Residential plumbing contractor qualifying party status~~
 24 ~~may be obtained by a licensed journeyman plumber or a licensed master plumber,~~
 25 ~~and upon meeting all other requirements of licensure.~~

26 * * *

27 §2156.1.1. Requirements for issuance of a plumber's license; violations; penalties;
 28 classifications

29 A. Any natural person who engages in any plumbing work of any kind,
 30 including as an employee of a plumbing contractor, is required to possess the
 31 appropriate plumber's license. Licenses for plumbers shall be issued in accordance
 32 with any of the following:

33 (1) An applicant for licensure as an apprentice plumber shall register with
 34 the board in a method prescribed by the board and shall semi-annually verify his
 35 employment in the trade of apprentice plumber with the board in a method
 36 prescribed by the board.

37 (2) An applicant for licensure as a journeyman plumber may obtain that
 38 license from the board after the completion of two thousand hours of verified work
 39 as an apprentice plumber, and after passing both a written examination and a
 40 practical administration approved, recognized, or administered on behalf of the
 41 board.

42 (3) An applicant for licensure as a master plumber may obtain that license
 43 from the board after first becoming a licensed journeyman plumber, the completion
 44 of one thousand hours of verified work as a licensed journeyman plumber, and after
 45 successfully passing a written examination approved, recognized, or administered
 46 on behalf of the board.

47 B. A person may not perform plumbing work, or act as a plumber as defined
 48 in this Chapter, unless he holds an active license as a plumber in accordance with the
 49 provisions of this Chapter. The board or plumbing subcommittee may revoke,
 50 suspend, or refuse to renew a license; issue cease and desist orders to stop work;
 51 issue fines and penalties; or debar any person licensed pursuant to the provisions of
 52 this Chapter for a violation of any of the following requirements:

53 (1) An apprentice plumber shall work only under the supervision of a
 54 journeyman plumber or a master plumber.

55 (2) A journeyman plumber may be supervised by another journeyman
 56 plumber only if that supervising journeyman plumber is an employee of, or the
 57 qualifying party at, a residential plumbing contractor.

58 (3) A journeyman plumber may be supervised by a master plumber who is
 59 employed by or the qualifying party of a master plumbing contractor.

1 C. The plumbing subcommittee may promulgate rules and regulations for the
2 issuance of apprentice, journeyman, and master plumber licenses or temporary
3 working permits to persons possessing equivalent licenses or experience in another
4 state and that are applying to perform work in this state, as well as any additional
5 requirements or fees to be imposed for such a license or permit. Any rule or
6 regulation promulgated pursuant to this Subsection shall comply with the Welcome
7 Home Act, R.S. 37:51 et seq., if applicable.

8 D. Additional requirements for the issuance of plumber's licenses may be
9 added by rule as the plumbing subcommittee deems appropriate.

10 * * *

11 §2158. Revocation and suspension of licenses; issuance of cease and desist orders;
12 debarment; violations; penalty; criminal penalty

13 A. No person may engage in the business of contracting, or act as a
14 contractor as defined in this Chapter, unless he holds an active license as a contractor
15 in accordance with the provisions of this Chapter. The board, plumbing
16 subcommittee, and residential subcommittee may revoke, suspend, or refuse to
17 renew a license; issue cease and desist orders to stop work; issue fines and penalties;
18 or debar any person licensed pursuant to the provisions of this Chapter for any of the
19 following violations:

20 * * *

21 (24) Undertaking, attempting, or submitting a price or bid or offers to
22 construct, supervise, superintend, oversee, direct, perform, or in any manner assume
23 charge of the construction, alteration, repair, improvement, movement, demolition,
24 putting up, tearing down, furnishing labor, or furnishing labor together with material
25 or equipment, or installing material or equipment regarding plumbing work without
26 holding the plumbing contractor license required for that particular scope of work.

27 * * *

28 §2164. Violations; civil penalty; jurisdiction

29 A. Any person who violates any provision of this Chapter shall, after notice
30 and a hearing, be liable to the board for a fine of up to ten percent of the total
31 contract or the value of the work bid or being performed for which there is a
32 violation. In addition to the fine, the board may impose administrative costs and
33 attorney fees for each offense. In determining the amount of the administrative
34 penalty, the board, plumbing subcommittee, or residential subcommittee shall
35 consider the circumstances and seriousness of the violation, cooperation on the part
36 of the contractor, and the history of previous violations.

37 B. A monetary penalty assessed by the board, plumbing subcommittee, or
38 the residential subcommittee is payable within ninety days or as provided by law.
39 Failure to pay an outstanding penalty may be cause to deny issuance or renewal of
40 a license or registration and may be subject to collection efforts as provided by law.

41 * * *

42 H. Anyone violating this Chapter who fails to cease work, after proper
43 hearing and notification from the board, shall not be eligible to apply for a
44 contractor's license or a plumber's license for a period not to exceed one year from
45 the date of official notification to cease work.

46 I.(1) All fines or penalties collected by the board pursuant to the provisions
47 of this Section for violations of any provision of this Chapter, except for violations
48 related to plumbing or plumbing contracting, shall, annually, at each audit of the
49 board, be transferred to a separate contractor's educational trust fund to be used for
50 educational purposes as determined by the trustees of the fund. The Construction
51 Education Trust Fund shall make an audited financial report to the board annually.

52 (2) All fines or penalties collected by the board pursuant to the provisions
53 of this Section for violations related to plumbing or plumbing contracting shall,
54 annually, at each audit of the board, be transferred to the Louisiana Community and
55 Technical College System to be used exclusively for training programs related to the
56 plumbing trade.

57 * * *

58 Section 2. Chapter 16 of Title 37 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950,
59 comprised of R.S. 37:1361 through 1380, is hereby repealed in its entirety.

1 Section 3. The Louisiana State Law Institute is hereby directed to make technical
2 changes to statutory laws as necessary to reflect the succession of the State Plumbing Board
3 by the State Licensing Board for Contractors as provided in this Act.

4 Section 4. Any person licensed in this state as an apprentice plumber, journeyman
5 plumber, or master plumber by the State Plumbing Board on or before December 31, 2026,
6 shall hold the equivalent license of the State Licensing Board for Contractors created by this
7 Act on January 1, 2027.

8 Section 5. (A) On the effective date of this Section, the State Plumbing Board is
9 abolished and its duties and functions shall be transferred to the State Licensing Board for
10 Contractors. All unfinished business, references in laws and documents, employees,
11 property, obligations, and books and records heretofore under the control of the State
12 Plumbing Board shall be transferred to the State Licensing Board for Contractors as
13 provided in this Section.

14 (B) Unfinished business. Upon the transfer of duties and functions as provided in
15 this Section, any pending or unfinished business of the State Plumbing Board shall be taken
16 over and completed by the State Licensing Board for Contractors. The State Licensing Board
17 for Contractors is the successor in every way to the State Plumbing Board.

18 (C) References in laws and documents. Wherever the State Plumbing Board is
19 referred to or designated by the constitution or by any law or contract or other document,
20 after the effective date of the abolition of that board as provided in this Section any such
21 reference or designation is considered to apply to the State Licensing Board for Contractors.

22 (D) Legal proceedings and documents continued. Any legal proceeding to which
23 the State Plumbing Board is a party and which is filed, initiated, or pending before any court
24 on January 1, 2027, and all documents involved in or affected by such legal proceeding, shall
25 retain their effectiveness and shall be continued in the name of the State Licensing Board for
26 Contractors. All further legal proceedings and documents in the continuation, disposition,
27 and enforcement of such legal proceedings shall be in the name of the State Licensing Board
28 for Contractors, and the State Licensing Board for Contractors shall be substituted for the
29 party to which it is the successor without the necessity for amendment of any document to
30 substitute the name of that board it is succeeding or the name or title of any office, official,
31 employee, or other agent or representative of that board it is succeeding. Any legal
32 proceeding and all documents involved in or affected by such legal proceeding, which
33 proceeding has been continued in the name of the State Plumbing Board, shall retain their
34 effectiveness, and those provisions of this Act requiring that the continuation, disposition,
35 and enforcement of a legal proceeding and documents related thereto be in the name of the
36 party to which the State Licensing Board for Contractors is the successor does not affect
37 their validity.

38 (E)(1) Protection of obligations; federal assistance. All obligations of the State
39 Plumbing Board hereafter is considered to be the obligations of the State Licensing Board
40 for Contractors to the same extent as if originally made by the State Licensing Board for
41 Contractors and the same are hereby ratified. In like manner, and in order to prevent any
42 violation of the provisions, terms, or conditions of any gift, donation, deed, will, trust, or
43 other instrument or disposition by which property vested in the State Licensing Board for
44 Contractors by this Act was previously vested in the State Plumbing Board or diversion from
45 the purposes for which such property was so vested, it is hereby specifically provided that
46 each such instrument or disposition hereafter is considered to have vested such property in
47 the State Licensing Board for Contractors in the same manner and to the same extent as if
48 originally so done.

49 (2) The State Licensing Board for Contractors is the successor in every way to the
50 State Plumbing Board, including with respect to obligations and debts of the State Plumbing
51 Board. All dedications and allocations of revenues and sources of revenues heretofore made
52 shall continue in the same manner, to the same extent, and for the same purposes as were
53 provided prior to the enactment of this Section of this Act, unless and until other provision
54 is made for such dedications and allocations.

55 (3) This Act shall not be construed or applied in any way which will prevent full
56 compliance by the state, or any department, office, or agency thereof, with the requirements
57 of any act of the Congress of the United States or any regulation made thereunder by which
58 federal aid or other federal assistance has been or hereafter is made available to this state,
59 or any department, office, agency, or subdivision thereof, anything contained in this Act to

1 the contrary notwithstanding, and such compliance hereafter shall be accomplished by the
2 State Licensing Board for Contractors.

3 (F) Transfer of property. All books, papers, records, money, actions, and other
4 property of every kind, movable and immovable, real and personal, heretofore possessed,
5 controlled, or used by the State Plumbing Board are hereby transferred to the State Licensing
6 Board for Contractors. All funds controlled by the State Plumbing Board are hereby
7 transferred to the State Licensing Board for Contractors.

8 (G) Transfer of employees. All employees engaged in the performance of duties of
9 the State Plumbing Board are hereby transferred to the State Licensing Board for Contractors
10 and are subject to applicable state civil service laws, rules, and regulations. Employee
11 positions in the unclassified service will remain in the unclassified service.

12 Section 6. The State Plumbing Board and the State Licensing Board of Contractors
13 shall take all necessary actions prior to January 1, 2027, including but not limited to
14 amending, adopting, and repealing administrative rules as are necessary to implement the
15 provisions of this Act.

16 Section 7. Sections 1 through 5 of this Act shall become effective on January 1,
17 2027.

18 Section 8. Sections 6 and 7 and this Section of this Act shall become effective upon
19 signature by the governor, or, if not signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for
20 bills to become law without signature by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section
21 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved
22 by the legislature, Sections 6 and 7 and this Section of this Act shall become effective on the
23 day following such approval."

24 AMENDMENT NO. 3

25 Delete pages 2 through 9 in their entirety

26 AMENDMENT NO. 4

27 On page 10, delete lines 1 through 13 in their entirety