

RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

ACT 908 (HB 953)

2026 Regular Session

Fontenot

Existing law provides for the purpose and legislative intent relative to the State Licensing Bd. for Contractors.

New law adds language regarding plumbing to the purpose and legislative intent.

Prior and existing law provides for definitions relative to the State Licensing Bd. for Contractors.

New law amends the definitions of "plumbing contractor" and adds the definitions of "apprentice gas fitter", "apprentice plumber license", "gas fitter", "gas fitting", "journeyman plumber license", "master gas fitter", "master plumber license", "master plumbing contractor", "plumber", and "residential plumbing contractor".

Existing law provides for the State Licensing Bd. for Contractors and provides for its membership.

New law adds to the membership of the State Licensing Bd. for Contractors one member to be selected by the governor from a list of three names submitted by the La. Pipe Trades Association and one member to be selected by the governor from a list of three names submitted by the Plumbing-Heating-Cooling Contractors Association of La.

Prior law created the State Plumbing Bd., provided for its domicile and its membership, provided for the term limits, compensation, and voting of members, and provided for officers of that board.

Prior law provided for the powers and duties of the State Plumbing Bd., provided that the State Plumbing Bd. is the sole and exclusive agency with the power to license plumbers, gas fitters, and medical gas and vacuum systems installation, allowed the board to charge fees relative to those licenses, and provided relative to the regulation of those licenses.

New law repeals prior law, abolishes the State Plumbing Bd. and creates the Plumbing Contractors Subcommittee of the State Licensing Bd. for Contractors, provides for the membership, terms, voting, and reimbursement of its members, and provides for the officers of that subcommittee.

New law adds that the plumbing subcommittee has all of the following powers and duties:

- (1) To adopt rules and regulations to govern all plumbing contractors and plumbers in this state, including all specialty classifications and sub-classifications.
- (2) To issue, suspend, or revoke licenses to do plumbing or plumbing business in this state pursuant to new law.
- (3) To prescribe and adopt regulations and policies for continuing education for plumbers.
- (4) To enforce against, prosecute, or enjoin all persons violating plumbing or plumbing contracting provisions of new law.

New law provides relative to minority outreach and recruitment in the occupational field of plumbing. Further provides that the Plumbing Contractors Subcommittee shall survey and report to the House and Senate committees on commerce regarding licenses and methods to increase minority participation in the field of plumbing.

Existing law provides for the surcharge in connection with application for and issuance of a contractor's license and provides for classification on the license.

New law adds to existing law relative to a plumber license.

Existing law provides for a fee for a contractor license renewal.

New law clarifies an exemption to the fee for plumbing contractors.

Existing law lists the major classifications for a contractor's license.

New law clarifies that one of the classifications is master plumbing.

Prior law provided that any plumbing contractor who currently holds a Master Plumber License from the State Plumbing Bd. shall be exempt from any trade examination requirement. Further provided that nothing in prior law shall be construed to permit plumbing contractors to perform plumbing work without first complying with the licensure provisions in prior law.

New law repeals prior law.

New law provides for when a person or business is required to hold the appropriate plumbing contractor license, classification, subclassification, or specialty classification.

New law allows a master plumbing contractor contract to perform plumbing work for any structure and provides relative to obtaining master plumbing contractor qualifying party status.

New law allows a residential plumbing contractor to contract to perform plumbing work for certain structures and provides relative to obtaining residential plumbing contractor qualifying party status.

Prior law provided for licensing requirements of plumbers relative to certain kinds of work and business, provided relative to the grades of apprentice plumber, journeyman plumber, master plumber, residential plumber limited, medical gas and vacuum systems verifier, medical gas piping installer, and water protection supply specialists, and provided for enforcement power by the State Plumbing Bd.

New law repeals the licensing requirements in prior law and provides for licensing, by the State Licensing Bd. for Contractors, of individual plumbers in apprentice, journeyman, and master plumber license grades, and for plumbing contractors who may offer or contract to undertake plumbing work.

New law provides the Plumbing Contractors Subcommittee and the State Licensing Bd. for Contractors with power to revoke, suspend, or refuse to renew a license, issue cease and desist orders to stop work, issue fines and penalties, and debar any person licensed pursuant to existing and new law for certain violations outlined in new law.

Prior law provided for temporary working permits for certain plumbers from other states.

New law repeals prior law and allows the Plumbing Contractors Subcommittee to promulgate rules for the issuance of licenses and temporary work permits from persons with equivalent license or experience in another state.

New law allows the Plumbing Contractors Subcommittee to promulgate rules for additional requirements for the issuance of plumbers' licenses.

Prior law provided for the State Plumbing Bd. to perform inspections, assess violations, issue injunctions, and fine persons violating provisions of prior law.

New law repeals prior law.

Existing law allows the State Licensing Bd. for Contractors to revoke, suspend, or refuse to renew a license, issue cease and desist orders to stop work, issue fines and penalties, and debar any person licensed pursuant to existing and new law for certain violations outlined in existing law.

New law allows the Plumbing Contractors Subcommittee to also take those actions.

New law adds that taking certain actions regarding plumbing work without holding the plumbing contractor license required for that particular scope of work is a violation that allows the board and plumbing subcommittee to take certain actions.

Existing law provides relative to fines and penalties imposed by the State Licensing Bd. for Contractors.

New law allows the Plumbing Contractors Subcommittee to also impose the fines and penalties.

Existing law provides who is not eligible to apply for a contractor's license.

New law adds a plumber's license to that eligibility.

New law provides that any person licensed in this state as an apprentice plumber, journeyman plumber, or master plumber by the State Plumbing Bd. on or before Dec. 31, 2026, shall hold the equivalent license of the State Licensing Bd. for Contractors created by new law on Jan. 1, 2027.

New law abolishes the State Plumbing Bd. and provides for the transfer of all powers, duties, functions, unfinished business, references in law or documents, legal proceedings, obligations, property, titles, revenues, and employees from State Plumbing Bd. to State Licensing Bd. for Contractors on effective date of new law.

Certain provisions of new law effective January 1, 2027.

Certain provisions of new law effective upon signature of governor (June 12, 2026).

(Amends R.S. 37:2150, 2150.1, 2151(A)(2), 2156(D), (E), and (K)(1), 2156.1(A)(7), (B)(1), and (I), 2158(A)(intro. para.), and 2164(A), (B), and (H); Adds R.S. 37:2151(B)(10) and (11), 2155.1, 2156.1.1, and 2158(A)(24); Repeals R.S. 37:1361-1380)