HLS 23RS-288 ENGROSSED

2023 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 469

BY REPRESENTATIVE AMEDEE

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

PLUMBERS: Provides relative to licensure for plumbers

1	AN ACT
2	To amend and reenact R.S. 37:1367(A)(2), 1368(A)(1)(b) and (2), 1375, and 1377(C) and
3	to enact R.S. 37:1367(A)(3), relative to licensure for plumbers; to provide for
4	on-the-job supervision requirements; to provide for apprentices engaging in work
5	other than plumbing; to provide for journeyman plumber licensing qualifications; to
6	provide relative to the applicability of the Chapter; to provide for certain definitions;
7	and to provide for related matters.
8	Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:
9	Section 1. R.S. 37:1367(A)(2), 1368(A)(1)(b) and (2), 1375, and 1377(C) are hereby
10	amended and reenacted and R.S. 37:1367(A)(3) is hereby enacted to read as follows:
11	§1367. License required; tradesman, journeyman, and master plumber; medical gas
12	piping installer; medical gas and vacuum systems verifier; water supply
13	protection specialist endorsement; gas fitter and master gas fitter; local
14	examination preempted
15	A.
16	* * *
17	(2) No natural person shall engage in doing the work of a journeyman
18	plumber unless he possesses a license or renewal thereof issued by the board. A
19	journeyman plumber may engage in the art of plumbing only when he is under the
20	supervision of a master plumber licensed by this board. Notwithstanding any other

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1	provision to the contrary, a journeyman plumber may repair existing plumbing
2	independently and without the supervision of a master plumber.
3	(3) Apprentices Apprentice plumbers may engage in the art of plumbing only
4	when they are under the direct, constant, on-the-job supervision of a licensed
5	journeyman plumber. Direct, constant on-the-job supervision means that a licensed
6	journeyman plumber will supervise apprentices apprentice plumbers as governed by
7	the Louisiana Workforce Commission. A licensed journeyman plumber may
8	supervise up to two apprentice plumbers who are engaged in plumbing at a time. An
9	apprentice plumber doing work other than plumbing shall not be considered an
10	apprentice plumber for purposes of supervision.
11	* * *
12	§1368. Issuance of tradesman, journeyman, and master plumber's license; medical
13	gas piping and installation license; medical gas and vacuum systems verifier
14	license; water supply protection specialist endorsement; exemption; gas fitter
15	A.(1) The board shall issue a tradesman plumber limited license to any
16	person who meets the following qualifications:
17	* * *
18	(b) Has worked at least four thousand hours as an unindentured apprentice
19	or at least three thousand hours as an indentured apprentice at the manual labor of
20	plumbing under the direct, constant, on-the-job supervision of a journeyman or
21	master plumber licensed by the board.
22	* * *
23	(2) The board shall issue a license to any person who qualifies under the
24	state board's regulations and who desires to engage in doing the work of a
25	journeyman plumber if he passes a written and manual journeyman plumber's
26	examination given by the board and pays the fees established by the board. The
27	board shall issue a journeyman plumber license to any person who qualifies in
28	accordance with the state board's regulations, has paid the fees established by the

1	board, has passed a written and manual journeyman plumber's examination given by
2	the board, and meets either of the following qualifications:
3	(a) Has completed at least eight thousand hours of on-the-job training.
4	(b) Has completed at least six thousand hours of on-the-job training and
5	apprenticeship or technical training that consists of at least a two-year program
6	approved by the Louisiana Workforce Commission.
7	* * *
8	§1375. Applicability of Chapter
9	A. This Chapter shall apply to:
10	A. (1) All cities, towns, villages, communities and public sewerage, or water
11	districts in the State of Louisiana state.
12	B. (2) All areas within one mile of the boundary of any city or sewer or
13	water districts, referred to above; and all areas within one mile of the community,
14	sewerage or water facilities of the areas referred to above.
15	C. B. Nothing herein contained in this Chapter shall be construed to apply
16	to any employee of any municipal department or gas, sewer, or water district system.
17	C. Notwithstanding any laws to the contrary, regulations issued pursuant to
18	this Chapter shall incorporate existing procedures, remedies, and enforcement
19	processes in accordance with the Davis-Bacon Act, 40 U.S.C. 3141 et seq.
20	* * *
21	§1377. Definitions; exceptions
22	* * *
23	C.(1) Apprentice plumber. An "apprentice plumber" is a natural person
24	engaged in learning the plumbing trade by working under the direct, on-the-job
25	supervision of a journeyman plumber and in the employ of an employing entity.
26	Apprentice plumbers shall be indentured in an apprenticeship program approved by
27	the Louisiana Workforce Commission or unindentured and in the employ of an
28	employing entity.

(2) Apprentice gas fitter. An "apprentice gas fitter" is a natural person
engaged in learning the gas fitting trade by working under the direct, on-the-job
supervision of a gas fitter and in the employ of an employing entity. Apprentice gas
fitters shall be indentured in an apprenticeship program approved by the Louisiana
Workforce Commission, or may be unindentured and in employ of an employing
entity.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB 469 Engrossed

2023 Regular Session

Amedee

Abstract: Provides for on-the-job supervision requirements and restrictions and plumber licensing requirements and qualifications.

<u>Present law</u> allows for on-the-job supervision of apprentices by journeyman plumbers pursuant to guidelines set forth by the La. Workforce Commission (LWC). <u>Proposed law</u> retains <u>present law</u>.

<u>Proposed law</u> also provides that journeyman plumbers are authorized to provide on-the-job supervision of up to two apprentice plumbers engaged in plumbing at one time, and <u>proposed law</u> excludes apprentices or plumber helpers doing work other than plumbing from being considered an apprentice plumber for the purposes of on-the-job supervision and applicable restrictions on the number of apprentice plumbers that can be supervised by a journeyman plumber at one time.

<u>Present law</u> 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.

<u>Proposed law</u> retains <u>present law</u> and further clarifies that the 4,000-hour requirement applies to unindentured apprentices. <u>Proposed law</u> 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.

<u>Present law</u> provides that a journeyman plumber license is issued by the State Plumbing Board and requires the board to issue a license to any person who meets the board's regulations, passes a written and manual journeyman plumber's exam administered by the board, and pays the required fees as established by the board.

<u>Proposed law</u> repeals <u>present law</u> and requires the board to issue a journeyman plumber license to any person who qualifies under the state board's regulations, pays the required fees as established by the board, passes the board's written and manual journeyman plumber's exam administered by the board, and has done either of the following:

(1) Completed at least 8,000 hours of on-the-job training.

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(2) Completed at least 6,000 hours of on-the-job training and apprenticeship or technical training that consists of at least a two-year program approved by LWC.

<u>Present law</u> provides for the applicability of <u>present</u> and <u>proposed law</u>.

<u>Proposed law</u> adds that the regulations pursuant to <u>present law</u> shall incorporate existing procedures and enforcement in accordance with the Davis-Bacon Act.

Present law defines "apprentice plumber".

<u>Proposed law</u> adds to the definition of "apprentice plumber". <u>Proposed law</u> also defines "apprentice gas fitter".

(Amends R.S. 37:1367(A)(2), 1368(A)(1)(b) and (2), 1375, and 1377(C); Adds R.S. 37:1367(A)(3))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by <u>House Committee on Commerce</u> to the original bill:

- 1. Make technical changes.
- 2. Delete the term "plumber helper".
- 3. Change the term "apprentice" to "apprentice plumber" in proposed law.
- 4. Revise proposed law that defines "direct, constant, on-the-job supervision".
- 5. Add hour-requirements for a tradesman plumbers limited license to <u>proposed</u> law.
- 6. Add that the regulations issued pursuant to <u>present law</u> shall incorporate existing procedures, remedies, and enforcement processes in accordance with the Davis-Bacon Act.
- 7. Add the definition of an unindentured apprentice and apprentice gas fitter.