

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

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) 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.

Present law provides for the applicability of present and proposed law.

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

Present law defines "apprentice plumber".

Proposed law adds to the definition of "apprentice plumber". Proposed law 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 House Committee on Commerce 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 proposed law.
6. Add that the regulations issued pursuant to present law 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.