

2024 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 753

BY REPRESENTATIVE DESHOTEL

PLUMBERS: Provides relative to licensure of plumbers

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 37:1361(B)(introductory paragraph) and (4), 1366(A)(1) and (L),  
3 1367(A)(1), 1368(A)(1)(introductory paragraph), 1371(A)(1), 1373(A), 1377(B), and  
4 1378(A)(3), (6), and (8), relative to licensure of plumbers; to provide for residential  
5 plumbers; to provide for board appointments; to provide for duties of the board; to  
6 provide for licensure requirements; to provide for the issuance of licenses; to provide  
7 relative to fees; to provide for injunctions; to provide for definitions; to provide for  
8 disciplinary actions; and to provide for related matters.

9 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

10 Section 1. R.S. 37:1361(B)(introductory paragraph) and (4), 1366(A)(1) and (L),  
11 1367(A)(1), 1368(A)(1)(introductory paragraph), 1371(A)(1), 1373(A), 1377(B), and  
12 1378(A)(3), (6), and (8) are hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

13 §1361. State Plumbing Board; appointments; qualifications; legislative intent;  
14 authority

15 \* \* \*

16 B. The State Plumbing Board is created. The board, which shall be  
17 appointed by the governor, shall consist of one registered engineer who is also  
18 licensed by the State Plumbing Board, one plumbing inspector who is also licensed  
19 by the State Plumbing Board, three master plumbers, three journeyman plumbers,

1 and one ~~tradesman~~ residential plumber. Each appointment shall be made from a list  
2 of three names for each appointment submitted by the following:

3 \* \* \*

4 (4) The ~~tradesman~~ residential plumber by the executive director of the State  
5 Plumbing Board ~~of Louisiana~~.

6 \* \* \*

7 §1366. Duties of the board

8 A.(1) The board shall adopt tests of qualification to be possessed by any  
9 persons actually engaged in the repair of existing plumbing in one- and two-family  
10 dwellings and see that any person engaged in the duties of a ~~tradesman~~ residential  
11 plumber shall possess a ~~tradesman~~ residential plumber limited license.

12 \* \* \*

13 L. The board shall assist the Board of Supervisors of Community and  
14 Technical Colleges in developing training, program, and course requirements that  
15 will prepare individuals to meet the qualifications established by the board for a  
16 ~~tradesman~~ residential plumber limited license.

17 \* \* \*

18 §1367. License required; ~~tradesman~~ residential, journeyman, and master plumber;  
19 medical gas piping installer; medical gas and vacuum systems verifier; water  
20 supply protection specialist endorsement; gas fitter and master gas fitter;  
21 local examination preempted

22 A.(1) No natural person shall engage in doing the work of a ~~tradesman~~  
23 residential plumber unless he possesses a ~~tradesman~~ residential plumber limited  
24 license or renewal thereof issued by the board. At the direction of a master plumber,  
25 a ~~tradesman~~ residential plumber may independently install, alter, repair, and maintain  
26 ~~existing~~ plumbing in one- and two-family dwellings, without the supervision of a  
27 journeyman plumber.

28 \* \* \*

1           §1368. Issuance of ~~tradesman~~ residential, journeyman, and master plumber's  
 2                           license; medical gas piping and installation license; medical gas and vacuum  
 3                           systems verifier license; water supply protection specialist endorsement;  
 4                           exemption; gas fitter

5           A.(1) The board shall issue a ~~tradesman~~ residential plumber limited license  
 6           to any person who meets the following qualifications:

7   \*       \*       \*

8           §1371. Fees

9           A.(1) The board may fix and charge reasonable examination, licensing, and  
 10           renewal fees for ~~tradesman~~ residential, journeyman, and master plumbers, temporary  
 11           permit fees for journeyman plumbers, and renewal fees for inactive master plumbers.

12           The board may fix and charge reasonable examination, licensing, and renewal fees  
 13           for persons engaged in the work or business of medical gas piping installation and  
 14           for persons engaged in the work or business of a medical gas and vacuum system  
 15           verifier. The board may fix and charge reasonable examination, licensing, and  
 16           renewal fees associated with endorsements issued to journeyman or master plumbers  
 17           relative to the work of a water supply protection specialist. The board may also fix  
 18           and charge a reasonable registration fee for apprentice plumbers. These fees shall  
 19           not exceed the amount required to maintain the board and pay the expenses of  
 20           operating the board and enforcing the provisions of this Chapter.

21   \*       \*       \*

22           §1373. Injunctions

23           A. The board may enjoin any person from engaging in doing the work of a  
 24           ~~tradesman~~ residential plumber, journeyman plumber, master plumber, medical gas  
 25           piping installer, medical gas and vacuum systems verifier, gas fitter, master gas  
 26           fitter, or water supply protection specialist wherever it appears that a person is  
 27           violating or is conspiring to violate the provisions of this Chapter. The board may

1 also enjoin an employing entity from violating or conspiring to violate the provisions  
2 of this Chapter.

3 \* \* \*

4 §1377. Definitions; exceptions

5 \* \* \*

6 B.(1) Journeyman plumber. A "journeyman plumber" is a natural person  
7 who possesses the necessary qualifications and knowledge to install, alter, ~~or~~ repair,  
8 and maintain plumbing systems; is licensed as such by the board; is supervised by  
9 a master plumber; and is in the employ of an employing entity.

10 (2) ~~Tradesman Residential~~ plumber. A "~~tradesman residential~~ plumber" is  
11 a natural person who possesses the necessary qualifications and knowledge to install,  
12 alter, repair, and maintain ~~existing~~ plumbing systems and is licensed by the board to  
13 install, alter, repair, and maintain ~~existing~~ plumbing systems in one- and two-family  
14 dwellings at the direction of a master plumber, without the supervision of a  
15 journeyman plumber.

16 \* \* \*

17 §1378. Revocation of licenses; other disciplinary actions

18 A. The board may, pursuant to the procedures provided in the Administrative  
19 Procedure Act, revoke, suspend, or refuse to renew any license or endorsement  
20 issued by the board to any natural person. Grounds for revocation, or lesser  
21 disciplinary action, include but are not limited to the following:

22 \* \* \*

23 (3) The habitual performance of the work of either a ~~tradesman residential~~  
24 plumber, journeyman plumber, or a master plumber which is substantially below the  
25 standards established by the Louisiana Department of Health or any of its agencies  
26 or offices, or the habitual performance of work of a medical gas installer or medical  
27 gas and vacuum systems verifier not in compliance with regulations of the state fire  
28 marshal or related local governmental codes.

29 \* \* \*

1           (6) The habitual practice of a ~~tradesman~~ residential plumber, journeyman  
 2 plumber, master plumber, medical gas piping installer, or holder of a water supply  
 3 protection specialist endorsement to knowingly allow any person not licensed by the  
 4 board to perform plumbing work, medical gas piping installation, or the work of a  
 5 water supply protection specialist, except as otherwise authorized by this Chapter.

6   \*       \*       \*

7           (8) The habitual violation by a master plumber, journeyman plumber,  
 8 ~~tradesman~~ residential plumber, apprentice plumber, medical gas piping installer,  
 9 medical gas and vacuum systems verifier, or holder of a water supply protection  
 10 specialist endorsement of the rules and regulations adopted by the board.

11   \*       \*       \*

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 753 Original	2024 Regular Session	Deshotel
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**Abstract:** Provides for the licensing and qualifications of a residential plumber and discontinues the tradesman plumber limited license.

Present law (R.S. 37:1361(B)) creates the State Plumbing Board (board) and provides for the appointment of members, including three master plumbers, three journeyman plumbers, and one tradesman plumber.

Proposed law retains present law but changes the appointment of the tradesman plumber to a residential plumber.

Present law (R.S. 37:1366(A)(1) and (L)) provides that any person engaged in the duties of a tradesman plumber shall possess a tradesman plumber limited license. Present law further requires the board to assist the Board of Supervisors of Community and Technical Colleges in developing training for the tradesman plumber limited license.

Proposed law retains present law and changes tradesman plumber limited license to residential plumber limited license.

Present law (R.S. 37:1367(A)(1)) prohibits a natural person from engaging in the work of a tradesman plumber without a license. Present law further provides that a tradesman plumber may independently repair existing plumbing of one- and two-family dwellings without supervision.

Proposed law retains present law and changes tradesman plumber limited license to residential plumber limited license. Proposed law further provides that a residential plumber may independently install, alter, repair, and maintain plumbing in one- and two-family dwellings without supervision.

Present law (R.S. 37:1368(A)(1)) requires the board to issue a tradesman plumber limited license to any person who meets the certain qualifications.

Proposed law retains present law and changes tradesman plumber limited license to residential plumber limited license.

Present law (R.S. 37:1371(A)(1)) allows the board to fix and charge reasonable examination, licensing, and renewal fees for tradesman plumbers.

Proposed law retains present law and changes tradesman plumbers to residential plumbers.

Present law (R.S. 37:1373(A)) allows the board to enjoin any person from engaging in doing the work of a tradesman plumber.

Proposed law retains present law and changes tradesman plumber to residential plumber.

Present law (R.S. 37:1377(B)(1)) defines "journeyman plumber" as a person who possesses the necessary qualifications and knowledge to install, alter, or repair plumbing systems.

Proposed law retains present law and adds that a journeyman plumber possesses the necessary qualifications to maintain plumbing systems.

Present law (R.S. 37:1377(B)(2)) defines "tradesman plumber" as a natural person who possesses the necessary qualifications and knowledge to repair existing plumbing systems.

Proposed law changes "tradesman plumber" to "residential plumber" and provides that a residential plumber is a natural person who possesses the necessary qualifications and knowledge to install, alter, repair, and maintain plumbing systems.

Present law (R.S. 37:1378(A)(3), (6), and (8)) provides for certain disciplinary actions of tradesman plumbers.

Proposed law retains present law and changes tradesman plumbers to residential plumbers.

(Amends R.S. 37:1361(B)(intro. para.) and (4), 1366(A)(1) and (L), 1367(A)(1), 1368(A)(1)(intro. para.), 1371(A)(1), 1373(A), 1377(B), and 1378(A)(3), (6), and (8))