

2022 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 932

BY REPRESENTATIVE HUVAL

PLUMBERS: Provides relative to licensure for plumbers

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 37:1367(A)(2) and 1368(A)(2) and to enact 1367(A)(3) and  
3 1377(L), relative to licensure for plumbers; to provide for on-the-job supervision  
4 requirements; to provide for apprentices and helpers engaging in work other than  
5 plumbing; to provide for journeyman plumber licensing qualifications; to provide for  
6 the definition of "plumber helper"; and to provide for related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 37:1367(A)(2) and 1368(A)(2) are hereby amended and reenacted and  
9 R.S. 37:1367(A)(3) and 1377(L) are hereby enacted to read as follows:

10 §1367. License required; tradesman, journeyman, and master plumber; medical gas  
11 piping installer; medical gas and vacuum systems verifier; water supply  
12 protection specialist endorsement; gas fitter and master gas fitter; local  
13 examination preempted

14 A.

15 \* \* \*

16 (2) No natural person shall engage in doing the work of a journeyman  
17 plumber unless he possesses a license or renewal thereof issued by the board. A  
18 journeyman plumber may engage in the art of plumbing only when he is under the  
19 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 or plumber helpers 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 as governed by the Louisiana  
7 Workforce Commission: is physically present and in direct communication at the  
8 property or jobsite for residential construction and single-story or single building  
9 commercial construction, and in the same building on the same floor level for multi-  
10 level or multi-story commercial construction, where the apprentice or plumber helper  
11 is engaged in plumbing. A licensed journeyman plumber may supervise up to two  
12 apprentices or plumber helpers who are engaged in plumbing at a time. An  
13 apprentice or plumber helper doing work other than plumbing shall not be considered  
14 an apprentice or plumber helper for purposes of supervision.

15 \* \* \*

16 §1368. Issuance of tradesman, journeyman, and master plumber's license; medical  
17 gas piping and installation license; medical gas and vacuum systems verifier  
18 license; water supply protection specialist endorsement; exemption; gas fitter  
19 A.

20 \* \* \*

21 ~~(2) The board shall issue a license to any person who qualifies under the~~  
22 ~~state board's regulations and who desires to engage in doing the work of a~~  
23 ~~journeyman plumber if he passes a written and manual journeyman plumber's~~  
24 ~~examination given by the board and pays the fees established by the board. The~~  
25 board shall issue a journeyman plumber license to any person who qualifies in  
26 accordance with the state board's regulations, has paid the fees established by the  
27 board, has passed a written and manual journeyman plumber's examination given by  
28 the board, and meets either of the following qualifications:

29 (a) Has completed at least eight thousand hours of on-the-job training.

1                    (b) Has completed at least six thousand hours of on-the-job training and  
 2                    apprenticeship or technical training that consists of at least a two-year program  
 3                    approved by the Louisiana Workforce Commission.

4                                    \*            \*            \*

5            §1377. Definitions; exceptions

6                                    \*            \*            \*

7                    L. Plumber helper. "Plumber helper" means a natural person engaged in  
 8                    learning the plumbing trade by working under the direct on-the-job supervision of  
 9                    a journeyman plumber and in the employ of an employing entity.

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#### 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 932 Original

2022 Regular Session

Huval

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

Present law allows for on-the-job supervision of apprentices by journeyman plumbers pursuant to guidelines set forth by the La. Workforce Commission (LWC).

Proposed law retains present law provisions authorizing journeyman plumbers to provide on-the-job supervision to apprentices, but repeals present law provisions which state that LWC will regulate such supervision.

Proposed law provides that journeyman plumbers are authorized to provide on-the-job supervision to plumber helpers.

Proposed law specifies that on-the-job supervision means the journeyman plumber is physically present and in direct communication at the property or job site when the job site is a residential construction or a single-story or single building commercial construction. Further, for a multi-level or multi-story commercial construction, such supervision means the journeyman plumber is physically present in the same building on the same floor level where the apprentice or plumber helper is engaged in plumbing.

Proposed law authorizes a journeyman plumber to supervise up to two apprentices or plumber helpers engaged in plumbing at one time, and proposed law excludes apprentices or plumber helpers doing work other than plumbing from being considered an apprentice or plumber helper for the purposes of on-the-job supervision and applicable restrictions on the number of apprentices or plumber helpers that can be supervised by a journeyman plumber at one time.

Present law 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.

Proposed law repeals present law 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.
- (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.

Proposed law defines "plumber helper" as a person engaged in learning plumbing by working with on-the-job supervision under a journeyman plumber and being employed by an employing entity.

(Amends R.S. 37:1367(A)(2) and 1368(A)(2); Adds R.S. 37:1367(A)(3) and 1377(L))