

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE
Fiscal Note



Fiscal Note On: **HB 1068** HLS 16RS 2084

Bill Text Version: **ENGROSSED**

Opp. Chamb. Action:

Proposed Amd.:

Sub. Bill For.:

Date: April 25, 2016 10:34 AM	Author: LOPINTO
Dept./Agy.: State Plumbing Board of LA	Analyst: Patrice Thomas
Subject: Licensing of Gas Fitters and Master Gas Fitters	

PLUMBERS EG INCREASE SG EX See Note
Provides relative to the regulation of gas fitters and master gas fitters

Proposed law authorizes the State Plumbing Board (Board) to test and license any person engaged in installation, repair, improvement, alterations or removal of natural gas or liquefied petroleum gas as a gas fitter or master gas fitter; as well as regulate any business entity engaged in gas fitting for the general public. Proposed law imposes specified duties on the Board in licensing of gas fitters and master gas fitters. Proposed law shall not supersede the authority of the State Licensing Board for Contractors or the LA Liquefied Petroleum Gas Commission; and excludes municipalities or gas district system regulated by Public Service Commission, New Orleans City Council or Dept. of Natural Resources. Proposed law authorizes the board to promulgate rules and regulations related to gas fitting, and those rules and regulations shall preempt any conflicting local laws and any municipal or other local regulatory examination authority. Proposed law prohibits municipalities and other local regulatory authorities from requiring a local gas fitter's license. Proposed law prohibits any person from performing gas fitter or a master gas fitter work unless they possess a license by the Board. Effective 01/01/2017.

EXPENDITURES	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Agy. Self-Gen.	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	
Ded./Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Local Funds	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>
Annual Total						

REVENUES	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Agy. Self-Gen.	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	
Ded./Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Local Funds	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>
Annual Total						

EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION

This proposed legislation may result in an indeterminable increase in the workload and costs in FY 17 within the State Plumbing Board of LA (Board) as a result of developing an examination as well as any other tests of qualifications required to issue gas fitter licenses. The proposed legislation requires the Board to test and license gas fitters and master gas fitters as well as regulate businesses that engage in natural gas or liquefied petroleum gas fitting services. Presently, gas fitting services are not subject to license or regulation. It is indeterminable as to how many individuals will be licensed or how many businesses will be regulated under this measure. However, if the number of individuals seeking gas fitter licenses cannot be absorbed within the workload of existing staff, an addition position would be required at a cost of \$58,538 for salaries and related benefits.

REVENUE EXPLANATION

Proposed legislation will result in an indeterminable increase in fees and self-generated revenues for the State Plumbing Board. Under the proposed legislation, the Board is required to impose the same license fees and charges on gas fitters that is imposed on journeyman plumbers. The following license fees and charges are currently imposed on journeyman plumbers: a temporary permit fee of \$75; a examination fee of \$125; an initial licensing fee of \$40; and a renewal fee of \$40. It is speculative as the number of individuals that will seek a gas fitter or master gas fitter license; therefore, the amount of licensing fee revenue is indeterminable.

Senate Dual Referral Rules House

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| <input type="checkbox"/> 13.5.1 >= \$100,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S&H} | <input type="checkbox"/> 6.8(F)(1) >= \$100,000 SGF Fiscal Cost {H & S} |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 13.5.2 >= \$500,000 Annual Tax or Fee Change {S&H} | <input type="checkbox"/> 6.8(G) >= \$500,000 Tax or Fee Increase or a Net Fee Decrease {S} |

Evan Brasseaux

Evan Brasseaux
Staff Director