

By: Carona

S.B. No. 686

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the regulation of air conditioning and refrigeration technicians.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 1302.002, Occupations Code, is amended by adding Subdivisions (5-a) and (17) to read as follows:

(5-a) "Air conditioning and refrigeration technician" means a person who assists a licensed air conditioning and refrigeration contractor in performing air conditioning and refrigeration maintenance work.

(17) "Registered technician" means a technician who is registered with the department.

SECTION 2. Chapter 1302, Occupations Code, is amended by adding Subchapter K to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER K. AIR CONDITIONING AND REFRIGERATION TECHNICIANS

Sec. 1302.501. REGISTRATION REQUIRED. (a) A person may not act as an air conditioning and refrigeration technician unless the person holds a certificate of registration issued under this subchapter.

(b) A certificate is valid throughout the state.

Sec. 1302.502. RULES. The executive director shall adopt rules:

(1) registering technicians as prescribed by this subchapter;

1 (2) describing the activities that each class of
2 technician may perform under this subchapter;

3 (3) adopting standards of conduct for registered
4 technicians and license holders under this subchapter; and

5 (4) establishing fees for issuance and renewal of a
6 certificate of registration.

7 Sec. 1302.503. SUPERVISION REQUIREMENTS FOR REGISTRANTS.

8 (a) An air conditioning and refrigeration technician must be
9 supervised by an air conditioning and refrigeration contractor
10 licensed under this chapter.

11 (b) A certificate holder shall notify the department in
12 writing not later than the 30th day after the date on which a change
13 occurs in the identity of an air conditioning and refrigeration
14 contractor who supervises the certificate holder.

15 Sec. 1302.504. APPLICATION; FEE. (a) An applicant for a
16 certificate must submit an application on a form prescribed by the
17 executive director.

18 (b) The completed application must be accompanied by:

19 (1) the application fee; and

20 (2) the name and license number of each air
21 conditioning and refrigeration contractor who will supervise the
22 applicant.

23 (c) The department may examine any criminal conviction,
24 guilty plea, or deferred adjudication of an applicant, including
25 obtaining any criminal history record information permitted by law.

26 Sec. 1302.505. ISSUANCE AND TERM OF REGISTRATION. (a) On
27 receipt of a completed application, the department shall issue a

1 certificate to an applicant who meets the requirements of this
2 subchapter.

3 (b) A certificate is valid for one year from the date of
4 issuance.

5 Sec. 1302.506. RENEWAL OF REGISTRATION. To renew a
6 certificate a certificate holder must:

7 (1) submit a renewal request on a form prescribed by
8 the executive director;

9 (2) provide the name and license number of each air
10 conditioning and refrigeration contractor who will supervise the
11 certificate holder; and

12 (3) pay the required renewal fee.

13 SECTION 3. Not later than December 31, 2005, the executive
14 director of the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation shall
15 adopt rules implementing Subchapter K, Chapter 1302, Occupations
16 Code, as added by this Act.

17 SECTION 4. (a) Except as provided by Subsection (b) of this
18 section, this Act takes effect September 1, 2005.

19 (b) Sections 1302.501 and 1302.503, Occupations Code, as
20 added by this Act, take effect June 30, 2006.