

By: Chisum

H.B. No. 4323

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to the regulation of multipurpose residential fire
3 protection sprinkler specialists by the Texas State Board of
4 Plumbing Examiners.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 1301.002, Occupations Code, is amended
7 by adding Subdivision (5-a) to read as follows:

8 (5-a) "Multipurpose residential fire protection
9 sprinkler specialist" means a person who holds an endorsement
10 issued under Section 1301.3565.

11 SECTION 2. Section 1301.352, Occupations Code, is amended
12 to read as follows:

13 Sec. 1301.352. EXAMINATION REQUIRED. The board shall issue
14 a license or endorsement as a master plumber, journeyman plumber,
15 plumbing inspector, tradesman plumber-limited license holder,
16 medical gas piping installation endorsement holder, [~~or~~] water
17 supply protection specialist, or multipurpose residential fire
18 protection sprinkler specialist to a person who demonstrates the
19 fitness, competence, and qualifications to receive the license or
20 endorsement by passing a uniform, reasonable examination.

21 SECTION 3. Subchapter G, Chapter 1301, Occupations Code, is
22 amended by adding Section 1301.3565 to read as follows:

23 Sec. 1301.3565. ENDORSEMENT: MULTIPURPOSE RESIDENTIAL
24 FIRE PROTECTION SPRINKLER SPECIALIST. (a) A person may not engage

1 in the installation of a multipurpose residential fire protection
2 sprinkler system that uses potable cold water to provide water for
3 domestic plumbing fixtures and for fire protection sprinklers
4 unless the person:

5 (1) is licensed under this chapter as a master plumber
6 or journeyman plumber; and

7 (2) holds an endorsement issued under this section.

8 (b) The board shall issue an endorsement as a multipurpose
9 residential fire protection sprinkler specialist to a person who:

10 (1) holds the license described by Subsection (a);

11 (2) applies to the board on a form prescribed by the
12 board;

13 (3) pays a fee set by the board;

14 (4) presents evidence satisfactory to the board of
15 successful completion of a certification program approved by the
16 board for multipurpose residential fire protection sprinkler
17 specialists; and

18 (5) passes an examination required by the board.

19 (c) An endorsement issued under this section is valid until
20 the third anniversary of the date of issuance and may be renewed on
21 compliance with any requirements prescribed by board rule.

22 (d) A person who holds an endorsement under this section may
23 represent to the public that the person is a multipurpose
24 residential fire protection sprinkler specialist.

25 (e) A plumbing inspector who meets the requirements of the
26 board may inspect a multipurpose residential fire protection
27 sprinkler installation.

1 SECTION 4. (a) Not later than November 1, 2009, the Texas
2 State Board of Plumbing Examiners shall adopt rules necessary to
3 implement Section 1301.3565, Occupations Code, as added by this
4 Act.

5 (b) Not later than December 1, 2009, the Texas State Board
6 of Plumbing Examiners shall begin administering examinations and
7 issuing multipurpose residential fire protection sprinkler
8 specialist endorsements under Section 1301.3565, Occupations Code,
9 as added by this Act.

10 SECTION 5. (a) Except as provided by Subsection (b) of this
11 section, this Act takes effect September 1, 2009.

12 (b) Section 1301.3565(a), Occupations Code, as added by
13 this Act, takes effect March 1, 2010.