

1-1 By: Carona S.B. No. 802
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed February 11, 2009; March 4, 2009, read
1-3 first time and referred to Committee on Business and Commerce;
1-4 March 20, 2009, reported adversely, with favorable Committee
1-5 Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 8, Nays 0; March 20, 2009,
1-6 sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR S.B. No. 802 By: Harris

1-8 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-9 AN ACT

1-10 relating to the requirements for a plumber's apprentice to obtain a
1-11 plumber's license.

1-12 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-13 SECTION 1. Section 1301.354, Occupations Code, is amended
1-14 by amending Subsection (b) and adding Subsections (c), (d), and (e)
1-15 to read as follows:

1-16 (b) A person who has worked as a plumber's apprentice for a
1-17 period established by law or board rule may apply to ~~[for and]~~ take
1-18 an examination for a license as a journeyman plumber or tradesman
1-19 plumber-limited license holder. Before the applicant may take the
1-20 examination, the applicant must complete classroom training
1-21 provided by a board-approved instructor in a board-approved
1-22 training program in the areas of health and safety, applicable
1-23 plumbing codes, and water conservation for at least:

1-24 (1) 24 hours if the applicant is applying to take a
1-25 tradesman plumber-limited license holder examination; or

1-26 (2) 48 hours if the applicant is applying to take a
1-27 journeyman plumber examination.

1-28 (c) At the applicant's request, the board may credit an
1-29 applicant under Subsection (b) with up to 500 hours of the work
1-30 experience required before taking an examination if the applicant
1-31 has completed the classroom portion of a training program:

1-32 (1) approved by the United States Department of Labor,
1-33 Office of Apprenticeship; or

1-34 (2) provided by a person approved by the board and
1-35 based on course materials approved by the board.

1-36 (d) Notwithstanding the classroom training required by
1-37 Subsection (b), a plumber's apprentice may apply for and take an
1-38 examination for a license as a journeyman plumber or tradesman
1-39 plumber-limited license holder if the apprentice has received an
1-40 associate of applied science degree from a plumbing technology
1-41 program that:

1-42 (1) includes a combination of classroom and on-the-job
1-43 training; and

1-44 (2) is approved by the board and the Texas Higher
1-45 Education Coordinating Board.

1-46 (e) Notwithstanding Subsection (b), a plumber's apprentice
1-47 who is enrolled in good standing in a training program approved by
1-48 the United States Department of Labor, Office of Apprenticeship,
1-49 may take an examination without completing the classroom training
1-50 required by Subsection (b)(1) or (2).

1-51 SECTION 2. The changes in law made by this Act apply only to
1-52 an application to take an examination submitted to the Texas State
1-53 Board of Plumbing Examiners on or after the effective date of this
1-54 Act. An application submitted before the effective date of this Act
1-55 is governed by the law in effect on the date the application is
1-56 submitted, and the former law is continued in effect for that
1-57 purpose.

1-58 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2009.

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