

By: Schaefer, Guillen, Phelan, Morrison,
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H.B. No. 4296

Substitute the following for H.B. No. 4296:

By: King of Uvalde

C.S.H.B. No. 4296

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to the regulation of plumbing, including the requirements
3 to obtain a tradesman plumber-limited license.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 1301.002(10), Occupations Code, is
6 amended to read as follows:

7 (10) "Tradesman plumber-limited license holder" means
8 a person who:

9 (A) has:

10 (i) completed at least 4,000 hours working
11 under the direct supervision of a journeyman or master plumber as a
12 plumber's apprentice; or

13 (ii) successfully completed a coherent
14 sequence of courses in the plumbing trade that are offered through a
15 career and technology education program, as described by Section
16 1301.3542;

17 (B) has passed the required examination;

18 (C) constructs and installs plumbing for
19 one-family or two-family dwellings under the supervision of a
20 responsible master plumber; and

21 (D) has fulfilled the other requirements of the
22 board.

23 SECTION 2. Subchapter G, Chapter 1301, Occupations Code, is
24 amended by adding Section 1301.3542 to read as follows:

1 Sec. 1301.3542. CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION PROGRAM FOR
2 TRADESMAN PLUMBER-LIMITED LICENSE; INSTRUCTORS. (a)

3 Notwithstanding Section 1301.354, a person who successfully
4 completes a coherent sequence of courses in the plumbing trade that
5 are offered through a career and technology education program under
6 Subchapter F, Chapter 29, Education Code, may apply for and take an
7 examination for a license as a tradesman plumber-limited license
8 holder.

9 (b) A student of any age enrolled in a high school is
10 eligible to take the sequence of courses described by Subsection
11 (a) without registering as a plumber's apprentice, paying any
12 registration fee, or complying with any other requirement of this
13 chapter that applies to enrolling or participating in those
14 courses.

15 (c) If an applicant described by Subsection (a)
16 successfully passes the examination for a license as a tradesman
17 plumber-limited license holder, the board shall issue the applicant
18 the license.

19 (d) The board shall develop the courses described by
20 Subsection (a). The courses must be approved by the State Board of
21 Education.

22 (e) The courses must include an appropriate number of hours
23 of classroom instruction and a practical component. The board may
24 credit on-the-job training toward meeting the requirements under
25 the practical component.

26 (f) A person may not provide instruction in a career and
27 technology education program described by this section unless the

1 person is licensed under this chapter as a master plumber,
2 journeyman plumber, or plumbing inspector.

3 (g) A person described by Subsection (f) may provide the
4 instruction in a full-time or part-time capacity as an employee,
5 contractor, or volunteer of a high school.

6 (h) The board may adopt rules necessary to implement this
7 section, including procedures to verify a student's successful
8 completion of the sequence of courses described by Subsection (a).

9 SECTION 3. Section 1301.401, Occupations Code, is amended
10 to read as follows:

11 Sec. 1301.401. ANNUAL RENEWAL REQUIRED; EXCEPTION. (a) A
12 license or registration under this chapter is valid for one year.
13 Except as provided by Subsection (c), on ~~On~~ payment of the
14 required fee, a license may be renewed annually.

15 (b) The board by rule may adopt a system under which
16 licenses, endorsements, and registrations expire on various dates
17 during the year.

18 (c) A person who is employed by, under contract with, or
19 engaged as a volunteer by a school to provide instruction in a
20 career and technology education program described by Section
21 1301.3542 and provides meaningful course instruction in the
22 program, as determined under rules adopted under Section 1301.407,
23 is not required to pay a fee to renew the person's license.

24 SECTION 4. Section 1301.404, Occupations Code, is amended
25 by adding Subsection (g) to read as follows:

26 (g) A person who is employed by, under contract with, or
27 engaged as a volunteer by a school to provide instruction in a

1 career and technology education program described by Section
2 1301.3542 and provides meaningful course instruction in the
3 program, as determined under rules adopted under Section 1301.407,
4 may renew the person's license and any endorsement without
5 complying with Subsection (b) if the person completes the hours of
6 continuing professional education required by that subsection
7 every three years.

8 SECTION 5. Subchapter H, Chapter 1301, Occupations Code, is
9 amended by adding Section 1301.407 to read as follows:

10 Sec. 1301.407. PROCEDURES FOR VERIFYING CERTAIN
11 EXEMPTIONS. The board, in consultation with the State Board of
12 Education, may adopt rules as necessary to verify whether a person
13 qualifies for an exemption from the required renewal fee, as
14 described by Section 1301.401(c), or an exemption from required
15 continuing professional education, as described by Section
16 1301.404(g), including rules providing for obtaining and
17 evaluating written verification from the applicable school of the
18 person's provision of meaningful course instruction in a career and
19 technology education program described by Section 1301.3542.

20 SECTION 6. As soon as practicable after the effective date
21 of this Act, the Texas State Board of Plumbing Examiners shall adopt
22 rules necessary to implement the changes in law made by this Act to
23 Chapter 1301, Occupations Code.

24 SECTION 7. This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.