

By: Schaefer

H.B. No. 4296

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the high school instruction and licensure of a tradesman plumber, and waiver of certain fee requirements.

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

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

Sec. 1301.002. DEFINITIONS. In this chapter:

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

(A) has completed at least 4,000 hours working under the direct supervision of a journeyman or master plumber as a plumber's apprentice; or has completed the required amount of courses in the plumbing career and technological education program as set forth in Sec. 1301.3542;

(B) has passed the required examination;

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

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

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

Sec. 1301.3542. TRADESMAN PLUMBER LIMITED-LICENSE CAREER & TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION PROGRAM. (a) Notwithstanding any age

1 requirements in this chapter, a person who completes a coherent
2 sequence of courses in the plumbing trade offered through a career
3 and technology education program under Subchapter F, Chapter 29,
4 of the Education Code, approved by the State Board of Education,
5 shall be eligible to take the examination for a license as a
6 tradesman plumber-limited license holder. The fee and other
7 examination requirements for applicants under this subsection are
8 waived.

9 (b) A person's completion of the plumbing education program
10 in subsection (a) may be verified by an official high school
11 transcript or equivalent.

12 (c) If the applicant successfully completes the
13 examination, the board shall issue the applicant a tradesman
14 plumber-limited license.

15 (d) A person who pursues a tradesman plumber-limited
16 license under this section is exempt from the plumber apprentice
17 requirements under Section 1301.054(a) and (b).

18 (e) The board may adopt rules to implement this section.

19 SECTION 3. Section 1301.401, Occupations Code, is amended
20 by adding Subsection (a-1) to read as follows:

21 Sec. 1301.401. ANNUAL RENEWAL REQUIRED.

22 (a-1) With written verification from the school, a
23 journeyman plumber, master plumber, or plumber inspector who, as an
24 employee, contractor or volunteer, teaches part-time or full-time
25 for a plumbing career and technology education program pursuant to
26 Section 1301.3542, is exempt from the license or registration
27 renewal and fee requirements in subsection (a).

1 SECTION 4. Section 1301.404, Occupations Code, is amended
2 by adding Subsection (b-1) to read as follows:

3 (b-1) A person who holds a license under this chapter, but
4 teaches a plumbing career and technology educational program
5 pursuant to Section 1301.3542 is exempt from the continuing
6 professional education requirements under this section.

7 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.