

PUBLIC COMMENTS

HB 1650

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON LICENSING & ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

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Hearing Date: March 17, 2021 10:30 AM - or upon final adjourn./recess or bill referral if permission granted

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Christopher Smith

Self

Hutto, TX

Thank you for the opportunity to speak with you today. My name is Christopher Smith and I am a licensed plumber and plumbing education provider in Texas.

The average age of the plumbing apprentice is 32 years old. 32. That is not ok. A lot of the apprentices that come through my training class are over 30, have little to no college, and are looking for a long term career. When I talk to them about the trades, especially plumbing, most had no idea the benefits of becoming a plumber, or the training required.

This program will allow us to train students at a significantly earlier age, and provide them with the ability to protect the health and safety of the citizens while earning a good living for their families. Not to mention help to grow the plumbing trade to meet the needs of our state.

I urge you to take action on this bill, and help us train the next generation of plumbers. Thank you.

William Heuberger

Self

Reno, TX

I support HB 1650. Allowing tradesman training in career & technology programs will allow options for those who for various reasons chose not to attend college.