

By: Phelan

H.B. No. 4766

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the regulation of sanitarians and sanitarians in training.

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

SECTION 1. Section 1953.001, Occupations Code, is amended by amending Subdivision (3) and adding Subdivision (3-a) to read as follows:

(3) "Sanitarian" means an individual ~~[a person]~~ trained in sanitary science to perform duties relating to education and inspections in environmental sanitation.

(3-a) "Sanitarian in training" means an individual training in sanitary science while engaged in sanitation.

SECTION 2. Section 1953.003, Occupations Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 1953.003. EXEMPTIONS. This chapter does not apply to an individual ~~[a person]~~, including a physician, dentist, engineer, or veterinarian, who is licensed by an agency of this state other than the department and who, by nature of the individual's ~~[person's]~~ employment or duties, might be construed as being subject to this chapter.

SECTION 3. Section 1953.101, Occupations Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 1953.101. REGISTRATION REQUIRED. An individual ~~[A person]~~ who engages or offers to engage in work in sanitation may

not represent that the individual [~~person~~] is a sanitarian or use a title containing the word "sanitarian" unless the individual [~~person~~] holds a certificate of registration under this chapter.

SECTION 4. Section 1953.102, Occupations Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 1953.102. ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS. (a) To be eligible to receive a certificate of registration as a [~~professional~~] sanitarian, an individual [~~a person~~] must:

(1) hold at least a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university that includes at least 30 semester hours in basic or applied science;

(2) complete any additional training in the basic sciences or public health the department determines necessary to effectively serve as a [~~professional~~] sanitarian; and

(3) have at least two years of full-time experience in sanitation.

(b) The commission by rule may establish additional [~~other~~] qualifications for registration.

SECTION 5. The heading to Section 1953.104, Occupations Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 1953.104. ISSUANCE OF CERTIFICATE: [~~PROFESSIONAL~~] SANITARIAN; TERM.

SECTION 6. Section 1953.104(a), Occupations Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) The department shall issue a certificate of registration as a [~~professional~~] sanitarian to an individual [~~a person~~] who:

(1) applies in the manner and on the form prescribed by the executive director;

(2) pays the registration fee set by the commission by rule;

(3) meets the eligibility requirements prescribed by Section 1953.102 and commission rule; and

(4) passes the ~~[an]~~ examination required by Section 1953.151 ~~[under Subchapter D]~~.

SECTION 7. Section 1953.105(a), Occupations Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) The department shall issue a certificate of registration as a sanitarian in training to an individual ~~[a person]~~ who:

(1) is employed in sanitation;

(2) meets the eligibility requirements prescribed by Section 1953.102, other than the requirements relating to experience;

(3) has less than one year of full-time experience in sanitation;

(4) pays a registration fee prescribed by the commission by rule for a sanitarian in training; and

(5) ~~[(4)]~~ passes an examination under Subchapter D.

SECTION 8. Section 1953.106, Occupations Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 1953.106. RENEWAL OF CERTIFICATE. The department shall ~~[To]~~ renew a certificate of registration under this chapter if the certificate holder ~~[, a professional sanitarian must]~~:

1 (1) pays [~~pay~~] to the department a renewal fee
2 prescribed by the commission by rule; and

3 (2) provides [~~provide~~] proof of completion of any
4 applicable continuing education requirements prescribed by the
5 commission by rule.

6 SECTION 9. Section 1953.201(a), Occupations Code, is
7 amended to read as follows:

8 (a) The commission or executive director may deny an
9 individual's [~~a person's~~] application for a certificate of
10 registration if:

11 (1) the individual's [~~person's~~] certificate or license
12 to engage in a profession in this state or elsewhere has been
13 revoked for unprofessional conduct, fraud, deceit, negligence, or
14 misconduct in the practice of the profession; or

15 (2) satisfactory proof is presented to the commission
16 or executive director establishing that the individual [~~person~~] has
17 been found guilty of unprofessional conduct, fraud, deceit,
18 negligence, or misconduct in the practice of a profession.

19 SECTION 10. Sections 1953.151(b) and (c), Occupations Code,
20 are repealed.

21 SECTION 11. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.