

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to present law.

State of Arkansas
90th General Assembly
Regular Session, 2015

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1055

By: Representative House

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO SIMPLIFY LICENSURE PROCESSES AND PROCEDURES FOR PLUMBERS; TO ENSURE THAT LICENSURE AS A PLUMBER ALLOWS PLUMBERS TO PERFORM ALL PLUMBING SERVICES WITHOUT ADDITIONAL REGULATION; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO SIMPLIFY LICENSURE PROCEDURES FOR PLUMBERS BY ENSURING THAT A PLUMBER'S LICENSE ALLOWS A PLUMBER TO PERFORM ALL PLUMBING SERVICES.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 14-236-107, concerning the powers and duties of the Division of Sanitarian Services of the Department of Health, is amended to add an additional subsection to read as follows:

(c) The division shall not require that a licensed plumber obtain a license or certificate from the division before the plumber installs or services a septic system.

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 17-38-201(e), concerning the powers and duties of the State Board of Health, is amended to read as follows:

(e)(1) The State Board of Health may issue special licenses and restricted licenses, including, but not limited to, gas licenses and other licenses which may cover a special phase of plumbing, provided that the licensee has demonstrated competency for the particular phase of plumbing for



which the person is licensed.

(2) The State Board of Health shall not require that a licensed plumber obtain a special or restricted license or certificate to install or service:

(A) A septic system; or

(B) A water well.

SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 17-50-204 is amended to read as follows:
17-50-204. Powers and duties.

(a) The Commission on Water Well Construction shall be responsible for the administration of this chapter and shall adopt, and from time to time amend or repeal, necessary rules and regulations governing the installation, construction, repair, and abandonment of water wells and pumping equipment.

(b) With respect thereto, it The commission shall:

(1) Hold public hearings in accordance with the Arkansas Administrative Procedure Act, § 25-15-201 et seq.;

(2) Issue such orders and take such other actions as may be necessary to enforce the provisions of this chapter and the rules and regulations adopted pursuant thereto;

(3) Establish procedures and forms for the submission, review, approval, and rejection of applications, notifications, and reports required under this chapter;

(4) Prepare subject matter for examinations to test the knowledge and skills of:

(A) Water well drillers in the construction, alteration, and repair of water wells, including proper sealing and abandonment of water wells, and the rules and regulations of this chapter;

(B) Pump installers in the planning, installation, operation, and repair of pumping equipment and water wells, including sealing and abandonment, pumping efficiency, and the rules and regulations of this chapter; and

(C) Other persons who by trade install, alter, construct, or repair water wells and related equipment and who are eligible for license or certificate;

(5) Adopt, amend, or repeal, and publish rules and regulations governing examinations;

- (6) Hold examinations of applicants for certificates of registration at least one (1) time a year;
- (7) Grade all tests and examinations for certificates of registration;
- (8) Issue licenses, permits, or certificates for the type or class of well construction or repair or pump installation; and
- (9) Perform such other duties as are consistent with the purposes of this chapter.

(c) The commission shall not require that a licensed plumber obtain a license or certificate from the commission to service or repair a water well.

~~(b)~~(d) The commission may adopt and procure a seal for its official use.

SECTION 4. Arkansas Code § 20-22-607 is amended to read as follows:

20-22-607. Arkansas Fire Protection Licensing Board – Powers and duties.

The Arkansas Fire Protection Licensing Board shall:

(1) Formulate and administer policies as may be determined necessary for the protection and preservation of life and property in regard to:

(A) The registration of firms engaging in the business of installing, inspecting, or servicing portable fire extinguishers and of firms engaging or in the business of installing, inspecting, and servicing fixed fire protection systems;

(B)(i) The registration of firms engaging in the business of hydrostatic testing of portable fire extinguishers.

(ii) However, no person or firm shall be granted a Class A hydrostatic testing certificate until the applicant submits proof satisfactory to the board that the test equipment of the applicant has been tested and certified by the United States Department of Transportation;

(C) The examination and licensure of persons applying for a license to install, inspect, or service portable fire extinguishers and of a person applying for a license to install, inspect, or service fixed fire protection systems;

(D) The registration of firms engaging in the business of selling, system layout, installing, servicing, inspecting, or any aspect of

fire protection sprinkler systems, including standpipe, fire pumps, and hose systems;

(E) The examination and licensure of a person applying for a license as a responsible managing employee for the purpose of fire protection sprinkler system business, including designing, inspecting, installing, system layout, or servicing fire protection sprinkler systems, including standpipe, fire pumps, and hose systems;

(F) The examination and licensure of a person applying for a license as a fire protection sprinkler systems inspector for the purpose of servicing or inspecting fire protection sprinkler systems, including standpipe, fire pumps, and hose systems; and

(G) The examination and licensure of a person applying for a license as a fire protection sprinkler system sprinkler fitter or apprentice for the purpose of installing, servicing, or placing fire protection sprinkler systems in service, including without limitation standpipe, fire pumps, and hose systems;

(2)(A) Establish reasonable qualifications for firms and individuals for the issuance of a certificate of registration or individual license to engage in any aspect of the business of portable fire extinguishers, fixed fire protection systems, or fire protection sprinkler systems.

(B) The board shall not require that a licensed plumber obtain a license or certificate from the board to install or service a fixed fire protection system or a fire protection sprinkler system;

(3) Conduct examinations to ascertain the qualifications and fitness of individual applicants to install or service portable fire extinguishers, install or service fixed fire protection systems, or install, service, inspect, or design fire protection sprinkler systems;

(4) Issue certificates of registration for those firms that qualify and individual licenses and permits to individuals that qualify to engage in the business and activity of installing and servicing portable fire extinguishers, installing and servicing fixed fire protection systems, and designing, installing, inspecting, or servicing fire protection sprinkler systems and issue licenses or permits to those firms and individuals qualifying to perform hydrostatic testing of fire extinguisher cylinders;

(5) Evaluate the qualifications of firms seeking approval as

testing laboratories for portable fire extinguishers; and

(6)(A) Regulate and license as a part of a fire protection sprinkler system the installation, service, and maintenance of a standpipe and hose system as defined under the National Fire Protection Association pamphlet number fourteen (No. 14): Standard for The Installation for Standpipe and Hose Systems.

(B)(i) The installation, service, and maintenance of a standpipe and hose system shall be performed by a licensed fire protection sprinkler contractor. A licensed fire protection sprinkler contractor is not required to perform hydrostatic testing of the standpipe hose, repair of the standpipe hose, or maintenance of the standpipe hose.

(ii) The standpipe and hose system shall be:

(a) Designed, installed, and tested in accordance with the standards adopted in the Rules and Regulations for Fire Protection Sprinkler Systems of the board and in accordance with the applicable National Fire Protection Association pamphlets; and

(b) Designed by an Arkansas-licensed responsible managing employee or a registered professional engineer licensed by the State of Arkansas.