

1981 Assembly Bill 472

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CHAPTER 60 , Laws of 1981

AN ACT to repeal 145.07 (1) and (8); to amend 145.03, 145.07 (3) (b) and (4) (a), 145.08 (2), 145.10 (1) (intro.) and 145.12 (2); to repeal and recreate 145.09; and to create 145.10 (1) (am) of the statutes, relating to regulation of plumbers and granting rule-making authority.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. 145.03 of the statutes is amended to read:

145.03 Apprenticeship. The department may prescribe the conditions under which any person may serve a plumbing apprenticeship, as to preliminary and vocational, technical and adult education school attendance requirements, and the credit for school attendance in serving the apprenticeship. Every person commencing a plumbing apprenticeship shall be indentured under ch. 106. The term of a plumbing apprentice ~~shall be 5~~ is 4 years, but the department may upon application of the apprentice, the apprentice's employer or both extend the term for up to one additional year. After the expiration of an apprenticeship term, no apprentice may engage in the business of plumbing either as an apprentice or as a journeyman plumber unless the apprentice secures a journeyman plumber's license. In case of failure to pass the examination for the license, he or she may continue to serve as an apprentice but not beyond the time for reexamination for a journeyman plumber's license, as prescribed by the rules of the department. In order that the apprentice may qualify at the end of apprenticeship as a skilled mechanic in the art of installing plumbing work, the department may prescribe the character of plumbing work that the apprentice may do during the 3rd and 4th and 5th year under the direction or supervision of a master or journeyman plumber without either the master or journeyman being physically present, provided that the master plumber in charge shall be responsible for the work.

SECTION 2. 145.07 (1) of the statutes is repealed.

SECTION 3. 145.07 (3) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

145.07 (3) (b) Graduation in engineering from a school or college approved by the department and ~~a specific record of 3 or more consecutive years as an owner or co-owner of a firm or corporation in this state engaged in the installation of plumbing. Related experience of not less than 1,000 hours per year shall have been acquired under the supervision of a master plumber licensed in this state. Persons meeting the qualifications of this paragraph who submit an application to the department prior to July 31, 1966, may be licensed without examination.~~

SECTION 4. 145.07 (4) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

145.07 (4) (a) Completion of a ~~5-year~~ 4-year apprenticeship consisting of not less than ~~1,900~~ 1,600 hours per year and completion of all requirements as to shop training and related instruction as the department by rule prescribes.

SECTION 5. 145.07 (8) of the statutes is repealed.

SECTION 6. 145.08 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

145.08 (2) No license ~~shall may~~ be issued for longer than one year ~~and all licenses shall expire on December 31 in each year and such.~~ Any license may be renewed upon application made prior to the date of expiration. The department may renew licenses upon application made after ~~January 1~~ the date of expiration if it is satisfied that the applicant has good cause for not ~~making application within the month of December~~ applying for renewal prior to the date of expiration and upon payment of the renewal and additional fees prescribed.

SECTION 7. 145.09 of the statutes is repealed and recreated to read:

145.09 State comity. Any person may ~~be~~ accepted for examination for the appropriate classification of license without submitting evidence required under s. 145.07, if:

(1) The person holds a current license under the laws of any other state, or under the ordinances of any city, town or village, having license provisions governing plumbers that the department determines are equivalent to the requirements of this chapter; or

(2) The person has practical experience in plumbing in another state that the department determines is equivalent to the experience required under this chapter.

SECTION 8. 145.10 (1) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

145.10 (1) (intro.) The department may make investigations and conduct hearings and may, on its own or upon complaint in writing duly signed and verified by the complainant, and after providing not less than 10 days' notice to the licensee, suspend any master or journeyman plumber's license, utility contractor's license or temporary permit if it has reason to believe, and may revoke such license or permit in the manner provided under this section, if it finds that the holder of such license or permit has:

SECTION 9. 145.10 (1) (am) of the statutes is created to read:

145.10 (1) (am) Committed gross negligence or misconduct or is incompetent in the practice of plumbing;

SECTION 10. 145.12 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

145.12 (2) Any person violating this chapter or failing to obey a lawful order of the department, or a judgment or decree of a court in connection with this chapter, may be imprisoned for not more than 3 months or fined not more than ~~\$100~~ \$500.

SECTION 11. **Terminology changes.**

(25) INDUSTRY, LABOR AND HUMAN RELATIONS.

(a) *Plumbing regulation.* Wherever the term "January 1" appears in the following sections of the statutes, the term "the date of expiration" is substituted: 145.08 (1) (b), (d), (g), (i), (L), (n) and (o).
