

Regular Session, 2008

SENATE BILL NO. 616

BY SENATOR NEVERS

PLUMBERS. Provides for electrical work under the auspices of the State Plumbing and Electrical Board. (1/1/09)

1 AN ACT
2 To amend and reenact R.S. 37:1361(A), (B)(introductory paragraph), and (E), 1362,
3 1366(A), (B), and (C), 1367(A), (B), (C), and (E), 1368(A), (B), (C), and (D), 1369,
4 1371(A) and (B)(1)(a) through (h), 1372, 1373(A), 1376(A), 1377(D)(9),
5 1378(A)(3), (4), (5), (6), (7), and (8), and 1379, and to enact R.S. 37:1361(B)(4), (5),
6 (6), (7), (8), and (9), 1368(J), 1377(I), (J), and (K), and 1380(D), relative to the
7 regulation of professions under the State Plumbing and Electrical Board; to provide
8 for the membership of the board and the term of office; to authorize the board to
9 have regulatory authority over electricians; to provide for licensing and renewal
10 options for electricians; to provide for temporary permits for electricians; to provide
11 for inspections of electrical work; to provide for civil proceedings against
12 electricians; to provide for definitions and exceptions; to provide for revocation
13 procedures for electricians; to expand the number of members on the advisory
14 committee; to require insurance for electricians; and to provide for related matters.
15 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:
16 Section 1. R.S. 37:1361(A), (B)(introductory paragraph), and (E), 1362, 1366(A),
17 (B), and (C), 1367(A), (B), (C), and (E), 1368(A), (B), (C), and (D), 1369, 1371(A) and

1 (B)(1)(a) through (h), 1372, 1373(A), 1376(A), 1377(D)(9), 1378(A)(3), (4), (5), (6), (7),
 2 and (8), and 1379 are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 37:1361(B)(4), (5), (6), (7),
 3 (8), and (9), 1368(J), 1377(I), (J), and (K), and 1380(D) are hereby enacted to read as
 4 follows:

5 §1361. State Plumbing **and Electrical** Board, appointments; qualifications;
 6 legislative intent

7 A. The purpose of the legislature in enacting this Chapter is the protection
 8 of the health, safety, environment, and general welfare of all those persons who use
 9 and rely upon plumbing, ~~and~~ medical gas, ~~and~~ vacuum systems, **and electrical work**
 10 for their personal or commercial needs, and the affording to such persons of an
 11 effective and practical protection against incompetent, inexperienced, or unlawful
 12 acts by persons who perform plumbing, ~~and~~ medical gas, ~~and~~ vacuum systems, **and**
 13 **electrical** work. Further, the legislative intent is that the State Plumbing Board shall
 14 be the sole and exclusive agency in this state empowered to license natural persons
 15 and regulated business entities engaged or seeking to engage in the business of
 16 plumbing, ~~and~~ medical gas, and vacuum systems installation and verification, **and**
 17 **electrical work** and to ensure compliance with the licensing requirements of this
 18 Chapter. Nothing herein shall preclude any current authority of the State Licensing
 19 Board for Contractors.

20 B. The State Plumbing **and Electrical** Board is created. The board **shall**
 21 **consist of sixteen members**, which shall be appointed by the governor, ~~The board~~
 22 shall ~~consist~~ **be comprised** of one registered engineer, one plumbing inspector, three
 23 master plumbers, ~~and~~ three journeyman plumbers, **four master electricians, two**
 24 **journeyman electricians, one electrical inspector certified by the International**
 25 **Association of Electrical Inspectors in residential and commercial electrical**
 26 **inspection, and one registered consulting electrical engineer**. Each appointment
 27 shall be made from a list of three names, ~~one of which shall be an individual as~~
 28 ~~defined by R.S. 51:2347(B)(5)~~, for each appointment submitted by the following:

29 * * *

1 **electrician's license.**

2 B.(1) The board shall adopt tests of qualification to be possessed by any
3 persons actually engaged in the art and business of a master plumber, and shall
4 require any person engaged in the duties of a master plumber to possess a master
5 plumber's license.

6 **(2) The board shall adopt tests of qualification to be possessed by any**
7 **persons actually engaged in electrical work and require that any person**
8 **engaged in the duties of a master electrician shall possess a master electrician's**
9 **license.**

10 C.(1) The board shall recognize the system of qualification or registration
11 of **plumbing** apprentices as administered by joint and ~~nonjoint~~ **non-joint**
12 apprenticeship committees approved by the state of Louisiana. However, the board
13 may accept an affidavit from an individual certifying his work experience in the field
14 of plumbing, and such individual may be certified as a journeyman plumber provided
15 he passes the written examination and pays the fees established by the board under
16 R.S. 37:1368(B).

17 **(2) The board shall recognize the system of qualification or registration**
18 **of electrician apprentices, as administered by joint and non-joint apprenticeship**
19 **committees approved by the state of Louisiana. However, the board may accept**
20 **an affidavit from an individual certifying his work experience in the electrical**
21 **field, and such individual may be certified as a journeyman electrician provided**
22 **he passes the written examination and pays the fees established by the board**
23 **under R.S. 37:1368(B).**

24 * * *

25 §1367. License required, journeyman and master plumber; medical gas piping
26 installer; medical gas and vacuum systems verifier; water supply
27 protection specialist endorsement; **journeyman electrician; master**
28 **electrician;** local examination preempted

29 A.(1) No natural person shall engage in doing the work of a journeyman

1 plumber unless he possesses a license or renewal thereof issued by the board. A
2 journeyman plumber may engage in the art of plumbing only when he is under the
3 supervision of a master plumber licensed by this board. Notwithstanding any other
4 provision to the contrary, a journeyman plumber may repair existing plumbing
5 independently and without the supervision of a master plumber. Apprentices may
6 engage in the art of plumbing only when they are under the direct constant,
7 on-the-job supervision of a licensed journeyman plumber. Direct, constant
8 on-the-job supervision means that a licensed journeyman plumber will supervise
9 apprentices as governed by the Louisiana Department of Labor.

10 (2) No natural person shall engage in doing the work of either a
11 journeyman or master electrician unless he possesses a license or renewal
12 thereof issued by the board. A journeyman electrician may engage in the art of
13 electrical work only when he is under the supervision of a master electrician.
14 An apprentice electrician may engage in the art of electrical work only when he
15 is under the direct, on-the-job supervision of a licensed journeyman electrician
16 in accordance with the regulations adopted by the Louisiana State Department
17 of Labor.

18 B.(1) No natural person shall engage in the work of a master plumber unless
19 he possesses a master plumber's license or renewal thereof issued by the board. A
20 master plumber shall not engage in the work of a journeyman plumber unless he
21 currently possesses or previously possessed a journeyman plumber's license issued
22 by the board. A person issued a master plumber's license shall designate to the
23 board, as required by the regulations of the board, an employing entity, which may
24 be a corporation, partnership, or sole proprietorship. A licensed master plumber
25 shall notify the board of any change of employment status with an employing entity.
26 A master plumber shall designate no more than one employing entity at any time.

27 (2) No natural person shall engage in the work of a master electrician
28 unless he possesses a master electrician's license or renewal thereof issued by
29 the board.

1 C.(1) No employing entity shall hold itself out as engaging in the business
2 or art of plumbing unless it employs a master plumber. For purposes of this Section,
3 employment of a master plumber means employment on a regular paid basis for
4 actual services performed supervising journeyman plumbers.

5 (2) No employing entity shall hold itself out as engaging in the business
6 or art of electrical work unless it employs a master electrician. For purposes of
7 this Section, employment of a master electrician means employment on a
8 regularly paid basis for actual services performed supervising licensed
9 journeyman electrician.

10 * * *

11 E. This Section shall preempt municipal or other local regulatory
12 examination authority over journeyman and master plumbers and journeyman
13 and master electricians, notwithstanding any contrary provision of any home rule
14 charter. This Section shall preempt municipal or other local regulatory
15 examination or licensing authority over journeyman or master electricians.
16 Municipal or other local regulatory authorities may assess and collect locally adopted
17 building or construction permit fees and charges relative to plumbing and
18 electrical work as defined in R.S. 37:1377 performed in their respective
19 jurisdictions, but only to persons licensed under R.S. 37:1368.

20 * * *

21 §1368. Issuance of journeyman and master plumber's license; medical gas piping
22 and installation license; medical gas and vacuum systems verifier
23 license; water supply protection specialist endorsement; journeyman
24 electrician's license; master electrician's license; exemption

25 A.(1) The board shall issue a license to any person who qualifies under the
26 state board's regulations and who desires to engage in doing the work of a
27 journeyman plumber if he passes a written and manual journeyman plumber's
28 examination given by the board and pays the fees established by the board.

29 (2) The board shall issue a license to any person who qualifies under the

1 state board's regulations and who desires to engage in doing the work of a
2 journeyman electrician if he passes a written and manual journeyman
3 electrician's examination given by the board and pays the fees established by the
4 board.

5 B.(1)(a) The board shall issue a license to any licensed journeyman plumber
6 or other person who qualifies under the board's regulations and who desires to
7 engage in the work of a master plumber, provided he passes a written master
8 plumber's examination which shall be a standardized, nationally recognized test
9 adopted by the board, pays the fees established by the board, and satisfies the
10 provisions of R.S. 37:1367(B).

11 ~~(2)~~ (b) No municipal or other local regulatory authority shall require any
12 master plumber to apply for or maintain any master plumber's license, or any
13 equivalent thereof, as a condition to performing plumbing work in any municipal or
14 other local jurisdiction, other than a master plumber's license issued by the board.

15 **(2) The board shall issue a license to any person who qualifies under the**
16 **board's regulations and who desires to engage in the work of a master**
17 **electrician, provided he passes a written master electrician's examination,**
18 **adopted by the board, and pays the fees established by the board. A person**
19 **issued a master electrician's license shall designate to the board an employing**
20 **entity, which may be a corporation, partnership or sole proprietorship. A**
21 **licensed master electrician shall notify the board of any changes in employment**
22 **status with an employing entity at any time.**

23 C.(1) Any master plumber who has not been licensed by the board but who
24 worked as a locally licensed master plumber prior to July 1, 1990, in a municipal or
25 other local jurisdiction that previously licensed master plumbers shall be allowed to
26 apply for and receive, upon payment of a reasonable fee set by the board, a restricted
27 master plumber's license permitting him to continue working as a master plumber,
28 but only in the jurisdiction in which he was previously locally licensed. Any person
29 holding such a restricted master plumber's license shall not perform the work of a

1 journeyman plumber unless licensed by the board. The board may adopt regulations
2 to implement this Subsection. Any person holding a restricted master plumber's
3 license shall not perform the work of a journeyman plumber unless he currently
4 possesses or previously possessed a journeyman plumber's license issued by the
5 board.

6 **(2) A master electrician who was licensed prior to January 1, 2009, as**
7 **such by a municipal or other local governmental authority or possesses five**
8 **years of documented board-approved business experience in electrical work**
9 **shall be entitled, upon payment of a fee set by the board, to be licensed as a**
10 **master electrician. The board shall by regulation adopt in accordance with the**
11 **Administrative Procedure Act standards relative to acceptable business**
12 **experience. This Paragraph shall be effective until January 1, 2010.**

13 D.(1) Any journeyman plumber licensed by the board who operated a
14 plumbing business prior to July 1, 1990, in a municipal or other local jurisdiction
15 that did not previously license master plumbers, shall be allowed to apply for and
16 receive, upon payment of a reasonable fee set by the board, a restricted master
17 plumber's license permitting him to continue working as a master plumber, but only
18 in the applicable jurisdiction. The board may adopt regulations to implement this
19 Subsection **Paragraph**.

20 **(2) Any journeyman electrician who was licensed prior to January 1,**
21 **2009, as such by a municipal or other local governmental authority or possesses**
22 **five years of documented board-approved experience in electrical work shall be**
23 **entitled, upon payment of a fee set by the board, to be licensed as a journeyman**
24 **electrician. This Paragraph shall be effective until January 1, 2010.**

25 * * *

26 **(J) The board shall adopt rules and regulations establishing a category**
27 **of master electricians who shall be charged a reasonable annual fee during his**
28 **period of inactivity. A master electrician returning to work as a master**
29 **electrician shall pay a fee set by the board and designate an employing entity.**

1 §1369. Temporary working permits

2 A. Temporary working permits to perform work as a journeyman plumber
3 may be issued as required by R.S. 37:1376 and may be issued to a holder of a state
4 license as a journeyman plumber from a state with like examinations, should that
5 state recognize the Louisiana license, or where other bona fide evidence shows that
6 the applicant's past experience would be capable of protecting the public from
7 defective plumbing. Each temporary permit must be signed by both the chairman
8 and secretary of the board. A reasonable fee may be charged for the issuance of
9 temporary permits, as fixed by the board. Temporary permits shall not be issued to
10 master plumbers.

11 **B. Temporary working permits to perform work as a journeyman**
12 **electrician may be issued to the holder of a state license as a journeyman**
13 **electrician from a state with like examinations, should that state recognize the**
14 **Louisiana license, or where other bona fide evidence shows that the applicant's**
15 **past experience would be capable of protecting the public from defective**
16 **electrical work. Each temporary permit must be signed by the chairman and**
17 **secretary of the board, upon payment of a reasonable fee . Temporary permits**
18 **shall not be issued to master electricians.**

19 * * *

20 §1371. Fees

21 A. The board may fix and charge reasonable examination, licensing, and
22 renewal fees for journeyman and master plumbers **and journeyman and master**
23 **electricians**, temporary permit fees for journeyman plumbers **and electricians**,
24 restricted license fees for journeyman and master plumbers **and journeyman and**
25 **master electricians**, and renewal fees for inactive master plumbers **and master**
26 **electricians**. The board may fix and charge reasonable examination, licensing, and
27 renewal fees for persons engaged in the work or business of medical gas piping
28 installation and for persons engaged in the work or business of a medical gas and
29 vacuum system verifier **or gasfitter**. The board may also fix and charge reasonable

1 examination, licensing, and renewal fees associated with endorsements issued to
 2 journeyman or master plumbers relative to the work of a water supply protection
 3 specialist. These fees shall not exceed the amount required to maintain the board and
 4 pay the expenses of operating the board and enforcing the provisions of this Chapter.

5 B.(1) Effective January 1, 2000, the board may increase fees and charges in
 6 accordance with the following schedule:

7 (a) Journeyman plumber <u>and electrician</u> examination	\$125.00
8 (b) Illiterate journeyman plumber <u>and electrician</u> examination	\$150.00
9 (c) Initial journeyman plumber <u>and electrician</u> license fee, 10 payable upon successful completion of examination	\$40.00
11 (d) Journeyman plumber <u>and electrician</u> renewal fee	\$40.00
12 (e) Journeyman plumber <u>and electrician</u> revival fee	\$15.00
13 (f) Journeyman plumber <u>and electrician</u> revival fee paid 14 after March 31	\$30.00
15 (g) Journeyman plumber <u>and electrician</u> temporary permits	\$75.00
16 (h) Journeyman plumber <u>and electrician</u> administrative charge 17 for processing application	\$62.50

18 * * *

19 §1372. Inspections

20 The board shall at reasonable times and hours inspect **electrical work and**
 21 plumbing work, medical gas piping installation, and the work of water supply
 22 protection specialists under its jurisdiction to assure compliance with this Chapter.
 23 The board may appoint and compensate special enforcement officers for this
 24 purpose.

25 §1373. Injunctions

26 A. The board may enjoin any person from engaging in doing the work of a
 27 journeyman plumber, master plumber, medical gas piping installer, medical gas and
 28 vacuum systems verifier, ~~or~~ water supply protection specialist, **journeyman**
 29 **electrician, or master electrician** wherever it appears that a person is violating or

1 is conspiring to violate the provisions of this Chapter. The board may also enjoin an
2 employing entity from violating or conspiring to violate the provisions of this
3 Chapter.

4 * * *

5 §1376. Exceptions

6 A. Any journeyman who has not been licensed and does his work in a place
7 not previously under the jurisdiction of the Louisiana State Plumbing **and Electrical**
8 Board shall, upon payment of the regular examination fee, be issued a permit to
9 continue the art of plumbing, limited to the area in which he has been previously
10 doing plumbing work.

11 * * *

12 §1377. Definitions; exceptions

13 * * *

14 D. Plumbing. "Plumbing" is the work or business of installing in buildings
15 and on premises the pipes, fixtures, and other apparatus for supplying water, or
16 removing liquid waste and/or water-borne waste, and fixtures, vessels and process
17 piping that is in direct contact with products for human consumption. The term is
18 also used to designate the installed fixtures, drainage fixtures and water distribution
19 systems of buildings or premises. For purposes of this Chapter the definition of
20 plumbing given above will not include:

21 * * *

22 (9) Work done by an owner, management company, its agents, employees,
23 or assigns for maintenance work to be carried out upon the owner's property, as such
24 maintenance work is defined by rules of the State Plumbing **and Electrical** Board.
25 Such maintenance work shall specifically not include construction or installation.

26 * * *

27 **I. Journeyman electrician. A "journeyman electrician" is a natural**
28 **person who possesses the necessary qualifications and knowledge to perform the**
29 **installation, maintenance, and repair of electrical systems, is licensed as such by**

1 the board, is supervised by a master electrician, and is in the employ of an
2 employing entity.

3 J. Master electrician. A "master electrician" is a natural person who
4 possesses the necessary qualifications and knowledge to plan and lay out
5 electrical systems, who supervises journeyman electricians in the installation,
6 alteration, or repair of electrical systems, and is licensed as such by the board.
7 This term shall also include a person who possessed, prior to January 1, 2009,
8 a Class A electrical license.

9 K. Electrical work. "Electrical work" is the work or business of
10 installing, maintaining, or repairing electrical systems in buildings and on
11 premises, including the installation or repairing of electrical conductors,
12 motors, generators, fixtures, signs, or any electrical apparatus, equipment, or
13 material for all system operations, at a potential of forty-nine or more volts.

14 For purposes of this Chapter, electrical work shall not include:

- 15 (1) Work performed by a homeowner in his personal residence.
- 16 (2) Work performed in connection with the construction and
17 maintenance of electrical systems at manufacturing and processing sites.
- 18 (3) Work performed for a private or municipal utility, including
19 generation and distribution, but only up to the point of service.
- 20 (4) Work performed on public or private railroad property.
- 21 (5) Work performed at port facilities.

22 §1378. Revocation of licenses; other disciplinary actions

23 A. The board may, pursuant to the procedures provided in the Administrative
24 Procedure Act, revoke, suspend, or refuse to renew any license or endorsement
25 issued by the board to any natural person. Grounds for revocation, or lesser
26 disciplinary action, include but are not limited to the following:

27 * * *

28 (3) The habitual performance of the work of ~~either~~ a journeyman plumber,
29 ~~or~~ a master plumber, a journeyman electrician, or a master electrician, which is

1 substantially below the standards established by the Department of Health and
 2 Hospitals or any of its agencies or offices, **or local authority regulating building**
 3 **or safety codes**, or the habitual performance of work of a medical gas installer or
 4 medical gas and vacuum systems verifier not in compliance with regulations of the
 5 state fire marshal or related local governmental codes.

6 (4) The refusal of a master plumber **or a master electrician** after notice
 7 from the board, to accurately designate an employment entity in his application, his
 8 renewal thereof, or upon any change in employment status with an employing entity.

9 (5) The habitual practice of a master plumber **or a master electrician** to
 10 knowingly allow any employing entity to hold itself out as engaging in the business
 11 of plumbing **or electrical work** at a time when the employing entity does not employ
 12 the master plumber as designated to the board.

13 (6) The habitual practice of a journeyman plumber, master plumber,
 14 **journeyman electrician, master electrician** medical gas piping installer, or holder
 15 of a water supply protection specialist endorsement to knowingly allow any person
 16 not licensed by the board to perform plumbing work, **electrical work**, medical gas
 17 piping installation, or the work of a water supply protection specialist, except as
 18 otherwise authorized by this Chapter.

19 (7) The violation of municipal or other local plumbing **or electrical** codes
 20 not otherwise preempted by this Chapter or related regulations as evidenced by
 21 adjudication before local governing authorities.

22 (8) The habitual violation by a master plumber, journeyman plumber,
 23 apprentice plumber, **master electrician, journeyman electrician**, medical gas
 24 piping installer, medical gas and vacuum systems verifier, ~~or~~ holder of a water
 25 supply protection specialist endorsement of the rules and regulations adopted by the
 26 board.

27 * * *

28 §1379. Advisory committee

29 There shall be an advisory committee appointed by the Louisiana Pipe Trades

1 Association, ~~and~~ the Louisiana Association of Plumbing, Heating and Cooling
 2 Contractors, Inc., the Louisiana Conference of Electrical Workers, and the
 3 Louisiana Council of National Electrical Contractors Association Chapters, with
 4 each organization appointing five members to the committee for a total of twenty
 5 members. The committee shall have access to all meetings and records of the board
 6 and shall have the privilege of discussing board business at any and all meetings, and
 7 advise the board upon the board's activities. They shall receive no pay or expenses
 8 and shall not be qualified to vote.

9 §1380. Insurance requirements for master plumbers, master electricians, and

10 Class A. Electricians

11 * * *

12 D. No master electrician or Class A electrician license shall be issued,
 13 renewed, or revived until the applicant has provided proof acceptable to the
 14 board that insurance has been issued to the employing entity designated by that
 15 person by an insurer licensed to do business in this state. The employing entity
 16 shall maintain comprehensive general liability and property damage insurance
 17 coverage with limits of not less than one hundred thousand dollars per
 18 occurrence for bodily injury and fifty thousand dollars per occurrence for
 19 property damage, with coverage extended to operations-premises liability,
 20 independent contractor's liability, broad forms, broad form contractual
 21 liability, and completed operations and product liability. An inactive master
 22 electrician shall not be subject to this Section.

23 Section 2. This provisions of this Act shall become effective on January 1, 2009.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part
 of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Michelle Ducharme.

DIGEST

Present law creates the State Plumbing Board.

Proposed law renames the board to the State Plumbing and Electrical Board.

Present law provides that the board shall be appointed by the governor and consists of one
 registered engineer, one plumbing inspector, three master plumbers, and three journeyman

plumbers where an appointee is chosen from a list of three names submitted by the La. State Board of Health, the La. Assoc. of Plumbing, Heating and Cooling Contractors, and the La. Pipe Trades Assoc.

Proposed law retains present law but adds four master electricians, two journeyman electricians, one electrical inspector, and one registered consulting electrical engineer which are all appointed by the governor. Each appointee shall be chosen from a list of three names submitted by the La. Council of National Electrical Contractor Assoc. Chapters, the La. Chapters of the Assoc. Building Contractors, the La. Chapter of the National Assoc. of Minority Contractors, the La. Conference of Electrical Workers, the La. Chapters of the International Assoc. of Electrical Inspectors, and the La. Council on Consulting Engineers.

Present law requires four members for a quorum.

Proposed law increases the quorum number from four to eight members.

Present law provides that members of the board shall serve for six years, provided, however that initially three appointees shall serve for two years, three appointees shall serve for four years, and two appointees shall serve for six years or until their successors are appointed by the governor.

Proposed law changes present law to increase the initial two-year appointees from three to six, to increase the four-year appointees from three to six, and to increase the six-year appointees from two to four.

Proposed law requires the board to adopt tests of qualifications, based upon the current edition of NFPA 70-E, the National Electrical Code, to be possessed by persons actually engaged in electrical work of any character; and see that any person engaged in the duties of a journeyman electrician shall possess a journeyman electrician's license.

Proposed law requires the board to adopt tests of qualifications, to be possessed by any persons actually engaged in electrical work and require that any person engaged in the duties of a master electrician shall possess a master electrician's license.

Proposed law requires the board shall recognize the system of qualification or registration of electrician apprentices, as administered by joint and non-joint apprenticeship committees approved by the state of La. However, the board may accept an affidavit from an individual certifying his work experience in the electrical field, and such individual may be certified as a journeyman electrician provided he passes the written examination and pays the fees established by the board.

Proposed law prohibits a person from working as a journeyman or master electrician unless he possesses a license or renewal thereof issued by the board. A journeyman electrician may engage in the art of electrical work only when he is under the supervision of a master electrician. An apprentice electrician may engage in the art of electrical work only when he is under the direct, on-the-job supervision of a licensed journeyman electrician in accordance with the regulations adopted by the La. Department of Labor.

Proposed law prohibits a person from working as a master electrician unless he possesses a master electrician's license or renewal thereof issued by the board.

Proposed law prohibits an employing entity from holding itself out as engaging in the business or art of electrical work unless it employs a master electrician. Employment of a master electrician means employment on a regular paid basis for actual services performed supervising licensed journeyman electricians.

Present law preempts municipal or other local regulatory examination authority over master plumbers, notwithstanding any contrary provision of any home rule charter.

Proposed law adds journeyman plumbers, journeyman electricians, and master electricians to this list. Also preempts municipal or other local regulatory licensing authority over journeyman or master electricians.

Present law authorizes municipal or other local regulatory to assess and collect locally adopted fees and charges relative to plumbing work performed in their respective jurisdictions, but only to persons licensed under present law.

Proposed law retains present law but adds electrical work.

Proposed law requires the board to issue a license to any person who qualifies under the state board's regulations and who desires to engage in doing the work of a journeyman electrician if he passes a written and manual journeyman electrician's examination given by the board and pays the fees established by the board.

Proposed law requires the board to issue a license to any person who qualifies under the board's regulations and who desires to engage in the work of a master electrician, provided he passes a written master electrician's examination, adopted by the board, and pays the fees established by the board.

Proposed law requires a person issued a master electrician's license to designate to the board an employing entity, which may be a corporation, partnership or sole proprietorship and to notify the board of any changes in employment status with an employing entity at any time.

Proposed law provides that a master electrician who was licensed prior to January 1, 2009, as such by a municipal or other local governmental authority or possesses five years of documented board-approved business experience in electrical work shall be entitled, upon payment of a fee set by the board, to be licensed as a master electrician. The board shall by regulation adopt in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act standards relative to acceptable business experience. Proposed law shall be effective until January 1, 2010.

Proposed law provides that any journeyman electrician who was licensed prior to January 1, 2009, as such by a municipal or other local governmental authority or possesses five years of documented board-approved experience in electrical work shall be entitled, upon payment of a fee set by the board, to be licensed as a journeyman electrician.

Proposed law authorizes temporary working permits issued by the board to work as a journeyman electrician to be issued to the holder of a state license as a journeyman electrician from a state with like examinations, should that state recognize the La. license, or where other bona fide evidence shows that the applicant's past experience would be capable of protecting the public from defective electrical work. Temporary permits shall not be issued to master electricians.

Present law authorizes the board to fix and charge examination, licensing, and renewal fees for journeyman and master plumbers, persons engaged in the work or business of medical gas piping installation, for persons engaged in the work or business of a medical gas and vacuum verifier, and for persons that are water supply protection specialists.

Proposed law retains present law but authorizes the board to fix and charge examination, licensing, and renewal fees for journeyman electricians and master electricians.

Present law authorizes the board to inspect plumbing work, medical gas piping installation, and the work of water supply protection specialists under its jurisdiction to assure compliance with present law.

Proposed law retains present law but authorizes the board to inspect electrical work.

Present law provides that the board may enjoin any person from engaging in doing the work

of a journeyman plumber, master plumber, medical gas piping installer, medical gas and vacuum systems verifier, or water supply protection specialist wherever it appears that a person is violating or is conspiring to violate present law.

Proposed law retains present law but allows the board to enjoin journeyman electricians or master electricians.

Proposed law provides for the definitions of "journeyman electrician," "master electrician," and "electrical work."

Present law authorizes the board to revoke, suspend, or refuse to renew any license or endorsement of a journeyman plumber or a master plumber and provides grounds for revocation, or lesser disciplinary action by the board.

Proposed law authorizes the board to penalize journeyman electricians and master electricians.

Present law provides for an advisory committee appointed by the La. Pipe Trades Assoc. and the La. Assoc. of Plumbing, Heating and Cooling Contractors, Inc., with each organization appointing five members to the committee.

Proposed law retains present law but provides that the La. Conference of Electrical Workers and the La. Council of National Electrical Contractors Assoc. Chapters can also appoint 5 members each to the committee.

Proposed law prohibits any master electrician license or Class A electrician license from being issued, renewed, or revived until the applicant has provided proof acceptable to the board that insurance has been issued to the employing entity designated by that person by an insurer licensed to do business in this state.

Proposed law requires an employing entity to maintain comprehensive general liability and property damage insurance coverage with limits of not less than \$100,000 per occurrence for bodily injury and \$50,000 per occurrence for property damage, with coverage extended to operations-premises liability, independent contractor's liability, broad forms, broad form contractual liability, and completed operations and product liability. An inactive master electrician shall not be subject to proposed law.

Effective January 1, 2009.

(Amends R.S. 37:1361(A), (B)(intro. para.), and (E), 1362, 1366(A), (B), and (C), 1367(A), (B), (C), and (E), 1368(A), (B), (C), and (D), 1369, 1371(A) and (B)(1)(a) through (h), 1372, 1373(A), 1376(A), 1377(D)(9), 1378(A)(3), (4), (5), (6), (7), and (8), and 1379 ; Adds R.S. 37:1361(B)(4), (5), (6), (7), (8), and (9), 1368(J), 1377 (I), (J), and (K), and 1380(D))