

1 **State of Arkansas**  
2 **78th General Assembly**  
3 **Regular Session, 1991**

**A BILL ACT 330 OF 1991**  
**HOUSE BILL 1418**

4 **By: Representatives Holland and Willems**

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**For An Act To Be Entitled**

8 "AN ACT TO AMEND ARK. CODE ANN. §17-31-304 TO PRESCRIBE  
9 THE QUALIFICATIONS FOR MASTER AND JOURNEYMAN PLUMBERS; TO  
10 PROVIDE FOR A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
11 TO SERVE ON THE COMMITTEE OF PLUMBING EXAMINERS; TO  
12 PROVIDE FOR A PERMANENT LICENSE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

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

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16 SECTION 1. Ark. Code Ann. §17-31-202(a) is hereby amended to read as  
17 follows:

18 "(a) The board shall appoint a committee of examiners consisting of  
19 seven (7) voting members, prescribe their qualifications, and assign their  
20 duties. Two (2) of the members shall be master plumbers, one (1) a journeyman  
21 plumber, one (1) a professional engineer with special expertise in plumbing  
22 design, two (2) shall be consumers, and one (1) a representative of the  
23 department."

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25 SECTION 2. Ark. Code Ann. §17-31-205 is hereby amended by adding a new  
26 subsection (d) to read as follows:

27 "(d) All monies received from the sale or trade of motor vehicles  
28 purchased with funds from the Plumbers Licensing Fund shall be credited to the  
29 Plumbers Licensing Fund."

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31 SECTION 3. Ark. Code Ann. §17-31-304 is hereby amended to read as  
32 follows:

33 "17-31-304. Master or journeyman plumber - Application.

34 (a) Application for a master or journeyman plumber examination,  
35 temporary permit, or license shall be made to the department with fees.

36 Unless the applicant is entitled to a renewal of license, a license shall be

1 issued only after the applicant passes a satisfactory examination showing  
2 fitness. No license or permit shall be transferable.

3 (b)(1) An applicant for the master plumber examination shall have a  
4 minimum of five (5) years of plumbing experience.

5 (2) An applicant for the journeyman plumber examination shall  
6 have a minimum of four (4) years of plumbing experience.

7 (c) The Committee of Plumbing Examiners shall approve an applicant for  
8 master or journeyman plumber examination provided that the applicant is  
9 currently licensed as a master or journeyman plumber in another state or  
10 political subdivision of that state and whose plumbing laws and codes are  
11 similar to those of this state.

12 (d) The Committee of Plumbing Examiners shall approve an applicant for  
13 examination who is not currently licensed in another state or its political  
14 subdivision or who has no plumber licensing background provided the applicant  
15 shows proof of experience as a plumber in accordance with subsection (b) of  
16 this section. The proof of experience may be in the form of records,  
17 affidavits or bona fide evidence from licensing agencies, former employers or  
18 from persons who can attest to the applicants work background as a plumber.

19 (e) The Committee of Plumbing Examiners may consider applicants for the  
20 master plumber examination who are registered professional engineers with  
21 special expertise in plumbing engineering.

22 (f) Individuals applying for and obtaining a license as a journeyman  
23 plumber shall be eligible for the master plumber examination after being  
24 licensed as journeyman plumber for one (1) year. In cases of extreme  
25 hardship, the Committee of Plumbing Examiners may waive the one (1) year  
26 requirement in whole or in part.

27 (g) The Committee of Plumbing Examiners shall consider an apprentice  
28 plumber for the journeyman plumber examination provided the apprentice plumber  
29 has successfully completed the training as defined under the plumber  
30 apprenticeship regulations."

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32 SECTION 4. Ark. Code Ann. §17-31-308 is hereby amended to read as  
33 follows:

34 "17-31-308. Expiration and renewal.

35 (a) All licenses shall be renewed annually within thirty (30) days

1 after the expiration date of the license. The department may renew a license  
2 after the thirty (30) day period if there is sufficient reason for not  
3 renewing the license in the time specified and after payment of penalties as  
4 prescribed by regulation.

5 (b) The department may set a system of staggered expiration dates for  
6 all licenses issued by the department.

7 (c) The department may issue permits for less than one (1) year. The  
8 cost of such permits shall be determined based upon the number of months the  
9 permit is valid divided by twelve (12) months multiplied by the amount of the  
10 annual permit fee."

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12 SECTION 5. Title 17, Chapter 31, Subchapter 3 is hereby amended by  
13 adding a new section to read as follows:

14 "17-31-311. Permanent license.

15 (a) Upon reaching the age of sixty-five (65) or any time thereafter,  
16 any person who has been a licensed master plumber licensed by the Arkansas  
17 Department of Health for not less than twelve (12) years may apply for a  
18 restricted lifetime master plumber license. This license shall be issued upon  
19 satisfactory proof of age and upon payment of a fee prescribed by the  
20 department.

21 (b) The Department of Health shall promulgate rules and regulations  
22 necessary to carry out the provisions of this section."

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24 SECTION 6. All provisions of this act of a general and permanent nature  
25 are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code  
26 Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

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28 SECTION 7. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to  
29 any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect  
30 other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without  
31 the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this  
32 act are declared to be severable.

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34 SECTION 8. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are  
35 hereby repealed.

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APPROVED: 3-4-91