

1 State of Arkansas
2 91st General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2017
4

A Bill

SENATE BILL 514

5 By: Senator Hester
6 By: Representative Dotson
7

For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING THE SUPERVISION OF
10 APPRENTICE PLUMBERS IN THE FINAL YEAR OF AN
11 APPRENTICESHIP; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
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Subtitle

15 TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING THE
16 SUPERVISION OF APPRENTICE PLUMBERS IN THE
17 FINAL YEAR OF AN APPRENTICESHIP.
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20 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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22 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 17-38-101, concerning definitions
23 pertaining to plumbers, is amended to add an additional subdivision to read
24 as follows:

25 (10) "Final year of apprenticeship" means when an apprentice
26 plumber has obtained four hundred eighty (480) hours or more of classroom
27 instruction and completed six thousand (6,000) or more hours of on-the-job
28 work in an approved United States Department of Labor apprenticeship program.
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30 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 17-38-409(b), concerning supervision of
31 apprentice plumbers, is amended to read as follows:

32 (b)(1) Except as provided under subdivision (b)(5) of this section,
33 an apprentice plumber shall not engage in plumbing unless he or she is
34 supervised by a master plumber or a journeyman plumber.

35 (2) The work done and the tools and methods utilized by the
36 master plumber, journeyman plumber, and apprentice plumber in the course of



1 supervision shall comply with legal requirements and meet industry standards.

2 (3)(A)(i) The master plumber or journeyman plumber shall observe
3 the work of an apprentice plumber in person at regular and reasonable
4 intervals.

5 (ii) One (1) master plumber or journeyman plumber
6 may supervise up to three (3) apprentice plumbers on a single job.

7 (B) The Career Education and Workforce Development Board
8 shall promulgate rules ~~which~~ that determine the regular and reasonable
9 intervals under subdivision (b)(3)(A) of this section in consideration of
10 the:

11 (i) Nature of the work; and

12 (ii) Skill and experience of the apprentice plumber.

13 (4)(A) The supervising master plumber or journeyman plumber
14 shall remain within reasonable proximity of the apprentice plumber while work
15 is being performed.

16 (B) The proximity of the supervising plumber to the
17 apprentice plumber is reasonable if:

18 (i) The job site is a single-family residence or a
19 project that does not require a contractor's license, and the supervising
20 plumber is:

21 (a) Within the line of sight of the apprentice
22 plumber;

23 (b) At the same street address at which the
24 apprentice plumber is working;

25 (c) At the street address adjacent to or
26 adjoining the street address at which the apprentice plumber is working; or

27 (d) Within the same geographical subdivision
28 in which the apprentice is located; or

29 (ii) The job site is not a single-family residence,
30 requires a contractor's license, and:

31 (a) The supervising plumber is within the line
32 of sight of the apprentice plumber; or

33 (b) The supervising plumber is within two
34 hundred fifty (250) yards of the apprentice plumber, and the supervising
35 plumber and the apprentice plumber are within the property boundaries of the
36 job site.

1 (5)(A) An apprentice plumber who is in his or her final year of
2 an apprenticeship may engage in plumbing without the direct supervision of a
3 master plumber or journeyman plumber if he or she is working under the
4 indirect supervision of a master plumber or journeyman plumber.

5 (B)(i) As used in this section, "indirect supervision"
6 means that an apprentice plumber under subdivision (b)(5)(A) of this section
7 is able to contact a master plumber or journeyman plumber for direction or
8 advice, but the master plumber or journeyman plumber does not have to meet
9 the reasonable proximity requirements under subdivision (b)(4)(B)(i) and (ii)
10 of this section.

11 (ii) An apprentice plumber may contact a master
12 plumber or journeyman plumber under subdivision (b)(5)(B) in person or by
13 telephone call, text message, electronic mail, or other similar form of
14 communication.

15 (C) An apprentice plumber under subdivision (b)(5)(A) of
16 this section shall possess and be capable of providing to an inspector a
17 valid and unexpired identification card issued by the local apprenticeship
18 committee that indicates the apprentice is in his or her final year of
19 apprenticeship.

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