

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2005

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SENATE BILL 178  
Commerce Committee Substitute Adopted 4/6/05

Short Title: Amend Certain Lic. Reqs/Plumb'g/Heat'g Contr.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

February 22, 2005

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT AMENDING CERTAIN LAWS RELATING TO LICENSURE  
REQUIREMENTS FOR PLUMBING AND HEATING CONTRACTORS.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

**SECTION 1.** G.S. 87-21(b)(6) reads as rewritten:

"(b) Classes of Licenses; Eligibility and Examination of Applicant; Necessity for  
License. –

...

(6) Examinations shall be given at least twice each year, and additional  
examinations may be given as the Board deems wise and necessary.  
The examination shall be conducted in two parts to include a business  
and law portion and a technical portion. Requests for examination  
applications and information shall be made available online without  
charge and supplied at no cost to the potential examinee. The Board  
may offer written examinations or administer examinations by  
computer within 30 days after approving an application. Applicants  
shall be permitted to obtain the test score from each part of  
computerized examinations immediately upon completion of the  
examination. Upon passing the examination and paying the annual  
license fee, the applicant shall be issued a license. A person who fails  
to pass any examination shall not be reexamined until after 90 days  
from the date the person was last examined. An applicant who fails to  
pass any examination may take the failed portion within six months of  
the date approved to take the examination without retaking the portion  
passed. The Board may require applicants who fail the any part of the  
examination three times to receive additional education before the  
applicant is allowed to retake the examination or wait one  
year before retaking any portion of the examination.

...."

1           **SECTION 2.** G.S. 87-22 reads as rewritten:

2   "**§ 87-22. License fee; expiration and renewal; reinstatement.**

3       All persons, firms, or corporations engaged in the business of either plumbing or  
4 heating contracting, or both, shall pay an annual license fee not to exceed one hundred  
5 fifty dollars (\$150.00). The annual fee for a piping or restricted classification license  
6 shall not exceed that for a plumbing or heating license. All persons, firms, or  
7 corporations engaged in the business of fire sprinkler contracting shall pay an initial  
8 application fee not to exceed seventy-five dollars (\$75.00) and an annual license fee not  
9 to exceed three hundred dollars (\$300.00). In the event the Board refuses to license an  
10 applicant, the license fee deposited shall be returned by the Board to the applicant. All  
11 licenses shall expire on the last day of December in each year following their issuance  
12 or renewal. Persons who obtain a license by passing an examination on or after October  
13 1 of any year may receive a license for the remainder of the year by paying one-half of  
14 the usual license fee for that classification of license. It shall be the duty of the secretary  
15 and treasurer to send by United States mail or e-mail to every licensee registered with  
16 the Board, notice to the licensee's last known address reflected on the records of the  
17 Board of the amount of fee required for renewal of license, the notice to be mailed at  
18 least one month in advance of the expiration of the license. The Board may require  
19 payment of all unpaid annual fees before reissuing a license. In the event of failure on  
20 the part of any person, firm or corporation to renew the license certificate annually and  
21 pay the required fee during the month of January in each year, the Board shall increase  
22 the license fee by twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) to cover any additional expense  
23 associated with late renewal. The Board shall require reexamination upon failure of a  
24 licensee to renew license within three years after expiration. The Board may adopt  
25 regulations requiring attendance at programs of continuing education as a condition of  
26 license renewal. A licensee employed full time as a local government plumbing,  
27 heating, or mechanical inspector and holding qualifications from the Code Officials  
28 Qualifications Board may renew the license at a fee not to exceed twenty-five dollars  
29 (\$25.00)."

30           **SECTION 3.** G.S. 87-22.1 reads as rewritten:

31   "**§ 87-22.1. Examination fees; funds disbursed upon warrant of chairman and**  
32   **secretary-treasurer.**

33       The Board shall charge a nonrefundable application and examination fee not to  
34 exceed one hundred fifty dollars (\$150.00) for each ~~examination~~, examination or any  
35 part of an examination, and the funds collected shall be disbursed upon warrant of the  
36 chairman and secretary-treasurer, to partially defray general expenses of the Board. The  
37 application and examination fee shall be retained by the Board whether or not the  
38 applicant is granted a license. Until changed by the Board pursuant to rules adopted by  
39 the Board, the fee for each examination or any part taken on a particular day shall be  
40 one hundred dollars (\$100.00)."

41           **SECTION 4.** This act becomes effective January 1, 2006.