

# SENATE BILL 77

C2

3lr0036

(PRE-FILED)

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By: **Chair, Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee (By Request – Departmental – Labor, Licensing and Regulation)**

Requested: November 2, 2012

Introduced and read first time: January 9, 2013

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

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Committee Report: Favorable

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: February 13, 2013

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CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **State Board of Plumbing – Continuing Professional Competency – Master**  
3 **Plumbers and Master Natural Gas Fitters**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the State Board of Plumbing to adopt regulations to  
5 require under certain circumstances a certain demonstration of professional  
6 competency as a condition of renewal of a master plumber license or a master  
7 natural gas fitters license; providing for implementation of the continuing  
8 professional competency program on a phased-in basis; and generally relating  
9 to master plumber and master natural gas fitters licenses issued by the State  
10 Board of Plumbing.

11 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
12 Article – Business Occupations and Professions  
13 Section 12–308  
14 Annotated Code of Maryland  
15 (2010 Replacement Volume and 2012 Supplement)

16 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
17 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

18 **Article – Business Occupations and Professions**

19 12–308.

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1           (a) Subject to § 12-308.1 of this subtitle, unless a license is renewed for a  
2 2-year term as provided in this section, the license expires on the first May 1 that  
3 comes:

4           (1) after the effective date of the license; and

5           (2) in an odd-numbered year.

6           (b) At least 1 month before a license expires, the Board shall mail to the  
7 licensee, at the last known address of the licensee:

8           (1) a renewal application form; and

9           (2) a notice that states:

10                   (i) the date on which the current license expires;

11                   (ii) the date by which the Board must receive the renewal  
12 application for the renewal to be issued and mailed before the license expires; and

13                   (iii) the amount of the renewal fee.

14           (c) Before a license expires, the licensee may renew it for an additional  
15 2-year term, if the licensee:

16           (1) otherwise is entitled to be licensed;

17           (2) pays to the Board a renewal fee of:

18                   (i) \$70 for a master plumber license or a limited master  
19 plumber license;

20                   (ii) \$35 for a journey plumber license or a limited journey  
21 plumber license;

22                   (iii) \$15 for an apprentice plumber license or apprentice natural  
23 gas fitters license;

24                   (iv) \$35 for a propane gas fitter certificate;

25                   (v) \$35 for a master natural gas fitters license; or

26                   (vi) \$25 for a journeyman natural gas fitters license; and

27           (3) submits to the Board:

1 (i) if contracting in the name of the licensee or another person  
2 to provide plumbing services, proof of the liability insurance required under § 12-501  
3 of this title; and

4 (ii) a renewal application on the form that the Board provides.

5 (d) The Board shall renew the license of and issue a renewal certificate to  
6 each licensee who meets the requirements of this section.

7 (e) The Secretary may determine that licenses and certificates issued under  
8 this subtitle shall expire on a staggered basis.

9 **(F) (1) THE BOARD SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS TO REQUIRE A**  
10 **DEMONSTRATION OF CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCY OF 16**  
11 **EDUCATIONAL HOURS FOR A MASTER PLUMBER OR MASTER NATURAL GAS**  
12 **FITTER AS A CONDITION OF RENEWAL OF A MASTER PLUMBER LICENSE OR A**  
13 **MASTER NATURAL GAS FITTERS LICENSE UNDER THIS SECTION IN ACCORDANCE**  
14 **WITH PARAGRAPHS (2) THROUGH (5) OF THIS SUBSECTION.**

15 **(2) CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCY REQUIREMENTS**  
16 **DO NOT APPLY TO THE FIRST RENEWAL OF A LICENSE.**

17 **(3) IF A LICENSE EXPIRES ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 30, 2015, A**  
18 **LICENSEE IS NOT REQUIRED TO FULFILL THE CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL**  
19 **COMPETENCY REQUIREMENTS.**

20 **(4) IF A LICENSE EXPIRES BETWEEN OCTOBER 1, 2015, AND**  
21 **SEPTEMBER 30, 2016, A LICENSEE IS REQUIRED TO FULFILL 50% OF THE**  
22 **CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCY REQUIREMENTS AS PROVIDED IN**  
23 **THE REGULATIONS ADOPTED BY THE BOARD UNDER THIS SUBSECTION.**

24 **(5) IF A LICENSE EXPIRES ON OR AFTER OCTOBER 1, 2016, A**  
25 **LICENSEE IS REQUIRED TO FULFILL THE FULL CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL**  
26 **COMPETENCY REQUIREMENTS AS PROVIDED IN THE REGULATIONS ADOPTED BY**  
27 **THE BOARD UNDER THIS SUBSECTION.**

28 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
29 October 1, 2013.