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By: **Senators Collins and Haines**  
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Assigned to: Economic and Environmental Affairs

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments  
Senate action: Adopted  
Read second time: March 21, 2000

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CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Business Occupations - Plumbers - Natural Gas Fitters License**

3 FOR the purpose of creating a master natural gas fitters license and a journeyman  
4 natural gas fitters license; requiring that an individual shall be licensed by the  
5 State Board of Plumbing as a plumber or a natural gas fitter before providing  
6 natural gas services in the State; setting certain licensing application and  
7 renewal requirements; setting certain fees; requiring the holder of a master  
8 natural gas fitters license to meet certain insurance requirements; requiring the  
9 holder of a master natural gas fitters license to display certain information in  
10 certain situations; defining certain terms; and generally relating to the licensing  
11 of natural gas fitters.

12 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
13 Article 38A - Fires and Investigations  
14 Section 3(f)(3)(vi)  
15 Annotated Code of Maryland  
16 (1997 Replacement Volume and 1999 Supplement)

17 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
18 Article - Business Occupations and Professions  
19 Section 12-101, 12-301 through 12-303, 12-306 through 12-309, 12-310.1  
20 through 12-312, 12-401, 12-403, 12-601, and 12-604  
21 Annotated Code of Maryland  
22 (1995 Replacement Volume and 1999 Supplement)

23 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
24 Article - Business Occupations and Professions

1 Section 12-501  
2 Annotated Code of Maryland  
3 (1995 Replacement Volume and 1999 Supplement)

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

6 **Article 38A - Fires and Investigations**

7 3.

8 (f) (3) The State Fire Prevention Commission shall:

9 (vi) Define sprinkler system, provided that there is no conflict with  
10 § [12-101(j)] 12-101(L) of the Business Occupations and Professions Article;

11 **Article - Business Occupations and Professions**

12 12-101.

13 (a) In this title the following words have the meanings indicated.

14 (b) "Apprentice plumber" means, unless the context requires otherwise, an  
15 individual who is licensed by the Board to assist a master plumber or a holder of a  
16 limited master plumber license in providing plumbing services while:

17 (1) under the direction and control of the master plumber or holder of the  
18 limited master plumber license; and

19 (2) in training to become a journey plumber.

20 (c) "Board" means the State Board of Plumbing.

21 (d) "Certified propane gas fitter" means an individual who has been certified  
22 by the Board to provide propane gas services.

23 (e) "Gas" means natural gas, propane gas, or any other gas used for any  
24 purpose, including residential, medical, commercial, or industrial purposes.

25 (f) "Journey plumber" means, unless the context requires otherwise, an  
26 individual who is licensed by the Board to provide plumbing services while under the  
27 direction and control of a master plumber or holder of a limited master plumber  
28 license.

29 (G) "JOURNEYMAN NATURAL GAS FITTER" MEANS, UNLESS THE CONTEXT  
30 REQUIRES OTHERWISE, AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS LICENSED BY THE BOARD TO  
31 PROVIDE NATURAL GAS SERVICES WHILE UNDER THE DIRECTION AND CONTROL OF  
32 A MASTER NATURAL GAS FITTERS LICENSE.

1 [(g)] (H) (1) "License" means, unless the context requires otherwise, a  
2 license issued by the Board to:

- 3 (i) provide plumbing services;
- 4 (ii) assist in providing plumbing services; [or]
- 5 (iii) provide propane gas services; OR
- 6 (IV) PROVIDE NATURAL GAS SERVICES.

7 (2) "License" includes, unless the context requires otherwise, each of the  
8 following licenses:

- 9 (i) a master plumber license;
- 10 (ii) a journey plumber license;
- 11 (iii) an apprentice plumber license;
- 12 (iv) a limited license; [and]
- 13 (v) a propane gas fitter certificate;
- 14 (VI) A MASTER NATURAL GAS FITTERS LICENSE; AND
- 15 (VII) A JOURNEYMAN NATURAL GAS FITTERS LICENSE.

16 [(h)] (I) (1) "Limited license" means a license issued by the Board as limited  
17 by § 12-310 of this title to:

- 18 (i) provide plumbing services as a master plumber; or
- 19 (ii) provide plumbing services as a journey plumber.

20 (2) "Limited license" includes:

- 21 (i) a limited master plumber license; and
- 22 (ii) a limited journey plumber license.

23 (J) "MASTER NATURAL GAS FITTER" MEANS, UNLESS THE CONTEXT  
24 REQUIRES OTHERWISE, AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS LICENSED BY THE BOARD TO  
25 PROVIDE NATURAL GAS SERVICES.

26 [(i)] ~~(H)~~ (K) "Master plumber" means, unless the context requires otherwise,  
27 an individual who is licensed by the Board to provide plumbing services.

28 ~~(K) "PROVIDE NATURAL GAS SERVICES" MEANS TO INSTALL, REPAIR, SERVICE,~~  
29 ~~AND REPLACE NATURAL GAS PIPING, NATURAL GAS UTILIZATION EQUIPMENT, AND~~  
30 ~~ASSOCIATED ACCESSORIES.~~

1 (L) (1) "PROVIDE NATURAL GAS SERVICES" MEANS THE INSTALLATION OF  
 2 NONINDUSTRIAL GAS APPLIANCES AND THE DESIGN, FABRICATION, INSTALLATION,  
 3 AND TESTING OF NONINDUSTRIAL PIPING SYSTEMS FOR FUEL GASES, INCLUDING:

4 (I) NATURAL GAS;

5 (II) MANUFACTURED GAS;

6 (III) UNDILUTED LIQUIFIED PETROLEUM GASES;

7 (IV) LIQUIFIED PETROLEUM GAS-AIR MIXTURES; AND

8 (V) MIXTURES OF ANY OF THESE GASES, IN ACCORDANCE WITH  
 9 THE NATIONAL FUEL GAS CODE, THE NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION NO.  
 10 54, 1992 EDITION.

11 (2) "PROVIDE NATURAL GAS SERVICES" DOES NOT MEAN:

12 (I) THE INSTALLATION OF GAS PIPING SYSTEMS AND EQUIPMENT  
 13 FOR INDUSTRIAL INSTALLATIONS; OR

14 (II) THE DESIGN AND INSTALLATION OF GAS EQUIPMENT FOR  
 15 SPECIFIC MANUFACTURING, PRODUCTION, PROCESSING, AND POWER GENERATING  
 16 APPLICATIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE NATIONAL FUEL GAS CODE, THE  
 17 NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION NO. 54, 1992 EDITION.

18 [(j)] ~~(L)~~ (M) (1) "Provide plumbing services" means to install, maintain,  
 19 extend, alter, or remove piping, a plumbing fixture, a plumbing appliance, a plumbing  
 20 appurtenance, or other plumbing apparatus:

21 (i) within or adjacent to a building, structure, or property; and

22 (ii) in connection with:

23 1. a public or private disposal system, sanitary drainage  
 24 facility, or storm drainage facility;

25 2. a venting system; or

26 3. a public or private water supply system.

27 (2) "Provide plumbing services" includes installing, repairing, servicing,  
 28 and replacing gas piping, gas utilization equipment, and associated accessories.

29 (3) Except for the first connection to a potable water supply that is  
 30 downstream of a backflow preventer and the final connection that discharges  
 31 indirectly into a public or private disposal system, sanitary drainage facility, or storm  
 32 drainage facility, "providing plumbing services" does not include using piping,  
 33 equipment, or material only for:

34 (i) environmental control;

1 (ii) the incorporation of a liquid or gas into a product or into a  
2 process, including product development, in the manufacture or storage of a product;

3 (iii) the installation, alteration, repair, or removal of an automatic  
4 sprinkler system, related apparatus, or standpipe that is used only for fire protection;  
5 or

6 (iv) an overhead or underground fire line beginning from where  
7 water is used only for fire protection.

8 [(k)] ~~(M)~~ (N) "Provide propane gas services" means to install, repair, service,  
9 and replace propane gas piping, propane gas utilization equipment, and associated  
10 accessories.

11 [(l)] ~~(N)~~ (O) "State Plumbing Code" means the regulations adopted by the  
12 Secretary, as amended by the Board, to provide standards that:

13 (1) are based on principles of environmental sanitation and safety; and

14 (2) provide for properly designed, acceptably installed, and adequately  
15 maintained plumbing systems.

16 12-301.

17 (a) (1) Except as otherwise provided in this title, an individual shall be  
18 licensed by the Board to provide plumbing services before the individual may provide  
19 plumbing services in the State.

20 (2) Except as otherwise provided in this title, an individual shall be  
21 licensed by the Board to provide or to assist in providing plumbing services before the  
22 individual may assist in providing plumbing services in the State.

23 (3) Except as otherwise provided in this title, an individual shall be  
24 licensed by the Board to provide plumbing services or certified by the Board to  
25 provide propane gas services before the individual may provide propane gas services  
26 in the State.

27 (4) EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN THIS TITLE, AN INDIVIDUAL  
28 SHALL BE LICENSED BY THE BOARD TO PROVIDE NATURAL GAS SERVICES BEFORE  
29 THE INDIVIDUAL MAY PROVIDE NATURAL GAS SERVICES IN THE STATE.

30 (b) (1) Subject to paragraph (2) of this subsection, this section does not apply  
31 to an individual who personally provides plumbing services in the residence of the  
32 individual.

33 (2) An individual may not provide plumbing services that make a final  
34 connection between the residence of the individual and a public or private disposal  
35 system or water supply system.

1 (c) This section does not apply to an employee of a gas company regulated by  
2 the Public Service Commission while making a connection to a gas appliance for  
3 domestic purposes or while installing, repairing, maintaining, replacing, or  
4 performing any other work on a natural gas, propane gas, or other gas distribution  
5 system.

6 (d) This section does not apply to an individual performing work that is only  
7 incidental to the licensee providing or assisting in providing plumbing services.

8 (e) This section does not apply to an individual who, without compensation,  
9 provides plumbing services that the Board defines by regulation to be only incidental  
10 plumbing services.

11 (f) This section does not apply to an employee of a building owner, manager, or  
12 maintenance company who provides plumbing services that the Board defines by  
13 regulation to be only minor plumbing repair services.

14 (g) This section does not apply to an individual who is licensed as an appliance  
15 installer in Allegany County, Frederick County, Garrett County, or Washington  
16 County while acting within the scope of the license.

17 (h) This section does not apply to an individual who is licensed in Washington  
18 County to work as or for a septic system installer or an on-site utility contractor  
19 installing water or sewer service in the County at least 5 feet from a building being  
20 served.

21 (i) Subsection (a)(3) of this section does not apply to an individual licensed by  
22 the State Board of Heating, Ventilation, Air-Conditioning, and Refrigeration  
23 Contractors while servicing an existing propane gas OR NATURAL GAS appliance if the  
24 individual has completed a manufacturer's training course certifying competence to  
25 work on that particular type of appliance.

26 12-302.

27 (a) In this section, "licensed master plumber" means an individual who holds:

28 (1) a master plumber license or a limited master plumber license issued  
29 by the Board;

30 (2) a master plumber license issued by the Baltimore County Plumbing  
31 Board;

32 (3) a master plumber license issued by the Washington Suburban  
33 Sanitary Commission; or

34 (4) a master plumber license issued by another state, if the individual  
35 became licensed in that state after passing an examination that is equivalent to the  
36 examination for a master plumber license given in this State.

1 (b) To qualify for a license, an applicant shall be an individual who meets the  
2 requirements of this section.

3 (c) (1) An applicant for a journey plumber license:

4 (i) 1. shall have held, for a period of at least 4 years, an  
5 apprentice plumber license or a license of equal stature, as determined by the Board,  
6 that is issued by another state; and

7 2. during that period, shall have completed at least 7,500  
8 hours of training in providing plumbing services under the direction and control of a  
9 licensed master plumber; and

10 (ii) shall have completed at least 32 hours of training in the testing  
11 of backflow prevention devices, in a manner approved by the Board.

12 (2) The Board may allow the applicant to apply up to 1,500 hours of  
13 accredited, approved school study toward the experience requirement of paragraph  
14 (1)(i)2 of this subsection.

15 (d) An applicant for a master plumber license:

16 (1) shall have completed at least 3,750 hours of training in providing  
17 plumbing services as a journey plumber licensed in this State or another state and  
18 under the direction and control of a licensed master plumber;

19 (2) (i) if an applicant resides in this State, shall have a journey  
20 plumber license for at least 2 years; or

21 (ii) shall have been licensed in another state as a journey plumber  
22 after:

23 1. completing at least 7,500 hours of training in providing  
24 plumbing services under the direction and control of a licensed master plumber; and

25 2. passing a written examination that is equivalent to the  
26 examination for a journey plumber license given in this State; and

27 (3) shall have completed at least 32 hours of training in the testing of  
28 backflow prevention devices, in a manner approved by the Board.

29 (e) Except as otherwise provided in this subtitle, an applicant for a master  
30 plumber license or a journey plumber license shall pass an examination given by the  
31 Board under this subtitle.

32 (f) An applicant for a propane gas fitter certificate shall:

33 (1) hold a current certification of completion of the National Propane  
34 Gas Association Certified Training Program for Distribution Systems Operations;

1 (2) hold a gas fitters license from a county or municipal corporation  
2 authorizing the individual to provide propane gas services under a licensing program  
3 that is in existence prior to July 1, 1995 and that is acceptable to the Board; or

4 (3) otherwise demonstrate qualifications that are satisfactory to the  
5 Board and that are at least equivalent to the qualifications required by the National  
6 Propane Gas Association Certified Training Program for Distribution Systems  
7 Operations.

8 (G) AN APPLICANT FOR A JOURNEY NATURAL GAS FITTERS LICENSE SHALL  
9 HAVE 2,000 HOURS OF WORK EXPERIENCE UNDER THE DIRECTION AND CONTROL OF  
10 A LICENSED MASTER NATURAL GAS FITTER.

11 ~~(G)~~ (H) AN APPLICANT FOR A MASTER NATURAL GAS FITTERS LICENSE  
12 SHALL:

13 (1) HOLD A GAS FITTERS LICENSE FROM A COUNTY OR MUNICIPAL  
14 CORPORATION AUTHORIZING THE INDIVIDUAL TO PROVIDE NATURAL GAS SERVICES  
15 UNDER A LICENSING PROGRAM THAT IS IN EXISTENCE PRIOR TO JULY 1, 1999 AND  
16 THAT IS ACCEPTABLE TO THE BOARD, INCLUDING:

17 (I) SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF THE LICENSING EXAMINATION  
18 WITH A PASSING SCORE OF NO LESS THAN 70; AND

19 (II) A MINIMUM OF 4,200 HOURS OF WORK EXPERIENCE UNDER THE  
20 DIRECTION OF A:

- 21 1. LICENSED MASTER PLUMBER;
- 22 2. LICENSED MASTER GAS FITTER; OR
- 23 3. HOLDER OF A MASTER OR MASTER RESTRICTED HEATING  
24 LICENSE IN GOOD STANDING ISSUED BY THE STATE BOARD OF HEATING,  
25 VENTILATION, AIR-CONDITIONING, AND REFRIGERATION CONTRACTORS THAT IS  
26 DEEMED ACCEPTABLE BY THE BOARD;

27 (2) PASS A WRITTEN EXAMINATION GIVEN BY THE BOARD AND MEET  
28 ANY OTHER REQUIREMENTS SPECIFIED BY THE BOARD, INCLUDING:

29 (I) PROOF OF A CURRENT MASTER OR MASTER RESTRICTED  
30 HEATING LICENSE IN GOOD STANDING ISSUED BY THE STATE BOARD OF HEATING,  
31 VENTILATION, AIR-CONDITIONING, AND REFRIGERATION CONTRACTORS THAT IS  
32 DEEMED ACCEPTABLE BY THE BOARD; AND

33 (II) 4,200 HOURS OF WORK EXPERIENCE UNDER THE DIRECTION OF  
34 A:

- 35 1. LICENSED MASTER PLUMBER;
- 36 2. LICENSED MASTER GAS FITTER; OR



1                                    3.       HOLDER OF A MASTER OR MASTER RESTRICTED HEATING  
2 LICENSE IN GOOD STANDING ISSUED BY THE STATE BOARD OF HEATING,  
3 VENTILATION, AIR-CONDITIONING, AND REFRIGERATION CONTRACTOR THAT IS  
4 DEEMED ACCEPTABLE BY THE BOARD; OR

5                   (3)       COMPLETE A NATURAL GAS CERTIFICATION PROGRAM THAT IS  
6 OFFERED BY A THIRD PARTY AND IS APPROVED BY THE BOARD.

7 12-303.

8       An applicant for a license shall:

9                   (1)       submit to the Board an application on the form that the Board  
10 provides; and

11                   (2)       except as otherwise provided in this subtitle, pay to the Board or the  
12 Board's designee an examination fee:

13                               (i)       for a master plumber license or a journey plumber license, in an  
14 amount set by the Board, not to exceed the cost of the required examination;

15                               (ii)       for an apprentice plumber license of \$15; [or]

16                               (iii)       for a propane gas fitter certificate of \$25; OR

17                   (IV)       FOR A MASTER NATURAL GAS FITTERS LICENSE OR A  
18 JOURNEYMAN NATURAL GAS FITTERS LICENSE, IN AN AMOUNT SET BE THE BOARD,  
19 NOT TO EXCEED THE COST OF THE REQUIRED EXAMINATION.

20 12-306.

21       (a)       If an applicant qualifies for a journey plumber license, a master plumber  
22 license, a limited license, or a propane gas fitter certificate under this subtitle, the  
23 Board shall send the applicant a notice that states that:

24                   (1)       the applicant has qualified for a license; and

25                   (2)       the Board will issue a license to the applicant on receipt of:

26                               (i)       if contracting in the name of the applicant or another person to  
27 provide plumbing services, proof of the liability insurance as required under § 12-501  
28 of this title; and

29                               (ii)       a license fee of:

30   1.       \$70 for a master plumber license or a limited master  
31 plumber license;

32   2.       \$35 for a journey plumber license or a limited journey  
33 plumber license; [or]

- 1 3. \$35 for a propane gas fitter certificate;
- 2 4. \$70 FOR A MASTER NATURAL GAS FITTERS LICENSE; OR
- 3 5. \$35 FOR A JOURNEYMAN NATURAL GAS FITTERS LICENSE.

4 (b) On payment of the appropriate license fee and, if applicable, receipt of the  
5 proof of the insurance required under § 12-501 of this title, the Board shall issue a  
6 license to each applicant who meets the requirements of this subtitle.

7 (c) (1) Any master plumber, journey plumber, or apprentice holding a valid  
8 license is eligible to participate in a Board-approved cross connection/backflow  
9 prevention certification program to be certified as an approved cross  
10 connection/backflow prevention technician.

11 (2) Only a master plumber or journey plumber possessing certification  
12 shall be authorized to certify the installation and testing of mechanical cross  
13 connection control devices.

14 (3) For the purpose of certification of the installation and testing of  
15 mechanical cross connection control devices, a local jurisdiction may adopt  
16 regulations or enact laws that have qualifications comparable to or more stringent  
17 than paragraph (2) of this subsection.

18 12-307.

19 (a) While a master plumber license is in effect, it authorizes the licensee to  
20 provide plumbing services.

21 (b) While a journey plumber license is in effect, it authorizes the licensee to  
22 provide plumbing services only under the direction and control of a master plumber or  
23 a holder of a limited master plumber license.

24 (c) While an apprentice plumber license is in effect, it authorizes the licensee  
25 to assist in providing plumbing services only under the direction and control of a  
26 master plumber or a holder of a limited master plumber license.

27 (d) While a propane gas fitter certificate is in effect, it authorizes the  
28 certificate holder to provide propane gas services and to directly supervise others in  
29 the provision of those services in every political subdivision of the State.

30 (E) WHILE A MASTER NATURAL GAS FITTERS LICENSE IS IN EFFECT, IT  
31 AUTHORIZES THE LICENSEE TO PROVIDE NATURAL GAS SERVICES.

32 (F) WHILE A JOURNEYMAN NATURAL GAS FITTERS LICENSE IS IN EFFECT, IT  
33 AUTHORIZES THE LICENSEE TO PROVIDE NATURAL GAS SERVICES ONLY UNDER THE  
34 DIRECTION AND CONTROL OF A LICENSED MASTER NATURAL GAS FITTER.

1 12-308.

2 (a) Unless a license is renewed for a 2-year term as provided in this section,  
3 the license expires on the first May 1 that 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 2-year  
15 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 plumber  
19 license;

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

22 (iii) \$15 for an apprentice plumber license; [or]

23 (iv) \$35 for a propane gas fitter certificate; [and]

24 (V) \$35 FOR A MASTER NATURAL GAS FITTERS LICENSE; OR

25 (VI) \$15 FOR A JOURNEYMAN NATURAL GAS FITTERS LICENSE; AND

26 (3) submits to the Board:

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

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

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

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

5 12-309.

6 (a) The Board shall reinstate the license of an individual who has failed to  
7 renew the license for any reason if the individual:

8 (1) applies to the Board for reinstatement within 4 years after the  
9 license expires; and

10 (2) meets the renewal requirements for the appropriate license under §  
11 12-308 of this subtitle.

12 (b) The Board may not reinstate a journey plumber license, a master plumber  
13 license, a limited license, [or] a propane gas fitter certificate, A MASTER NATURAL  
14 GAS FITTERS LICENSE, OR A JOURNEYMAN NATURAL GAS FITTERS LICENSE of an  
15 individual who for any reason fails to apply for reinstatement within 4 years after the  
16 license expired unless the individual:

17 (1) meets the renewal requirements for the appropriate license under §  
18 12-308 of this subtitle; and

19 (2) passes the appropriate examination for obtaining a license under this  
20 subtitle.

21 12-310.1.

22 (A) A person who is engaged in the business of providing propane gas services  
23 under § 12-401(b) of this title shall meet the insurance requirements set forth in §  
24 12-501 of this title.

25 (B) A PERSON WHO HOLDS A MASTER NATURAL GAS FITTERS LICENSE AND  
26 PROVIDES NATURAL GAS SERVICES UNDER § 12-401(C) OF THIS TITLE SHALL MEET  
27 THE INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS SET FORTH IN § 12-501 OF THIS TITLE.

28 12-311.

29 (a) (1) Each master plumber shall display:

30 (i) the master plumber license and the license number  
31 conspicuously in the principal place of business of the master plumber; and

32 (ii) the license number of the master plumber license on each  
33 vehicle used on the job for providing plumbing services.

34 (2) Each holder of a limited master plumber license shall display:

1 (i) the limited master plumber license and the license number  
2 conspicuously in the principal place of business of the holder of the limited master  
3 plumber license; and

4 (ii) the license number of the limited master plumber license on  
5 each vehicle used on the job for providing plumbing services.

6 (3) Each holder of a propane gas fitter certificate shall display:

7 (i) the propane gas fitter certificate and the certificate number  
8 conspicuously in the principal place of business of the certificate holder; and

9 (ii) the certificate number of the propane gas fitter certification on  
10 each vehicle used on the job in providing propane gas services.

11 (4) EACH HOLDER OF A MASTER NATURAL GAS FITTERS LICENSE SHALL  
12 DISPLAY:

13 (I) THE MASTER NATURAL GAS FITTERS LICENSE AND THE  
14 LICENSE NUMBER CONSPICUOUSLY IN THE PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS OF THE  
15 LICENSE HOLDER; AND

16 (II) THE LICENSE NUMBER OF THE MASTER NATURAL GAS FITTERS  
17 LICENSE ON EACH VEHICLE USED ON THE JOB FOR PROVIDING NATURAL GAS  
18 SERVICES.

19 (b) Each licensee shall give the Board and any appropriate licensing authority  
20 written notice of any change of name, address, or employment from that which  
21 appears on the current license, at least 10 working days before the change is to take  
22 effect.

23 12-312.

24 (a) Subject to the hearing provisions of § 12-313 of this subtitle, the Board  
25 may deny a license to any applicant, reprimand any licensee, or suspend or revoke a  
26 license if the applicant or licensee:

27 (1) fraudulently or deceptively obtains or attempts to obtain a license for  
28 the applicant or licensee or for another;

29 (2) fraudulently or deceptively uses a license;

30 (3) is guilty of gross negligence, incompetence, or misconduct while  
31 providing plumbing services or assisting in providing plumbing services;

32 (4) is guilty of violating the State Plumbing Code or applicable local  
33 plumbing code while providing plumbing services or assisting in providing plumbing  
34 services;

35 (5) under the laws of the United States or of any state, is convicted of:

- 1 (i) a felony; or
- 2 (ii) a misdemeanor that is directly related to the fitness and  
3 qualification of the applicant or licensee to provide plumbing services;
- 4 (6) is guilty of an unfair or deceptive trade practice, as defined in §  
5 13-301 of the Commercial Law Article;
- 6 (7) fails to train and control adequately any person who, while under the  
7 direction and control of the master plumber or holder of a limited master plumber  
8 license, sells or gives estimates for providing plumbing services;
- 9 (8) fails to maintain the liability insurance required under § 12-501 of  
10 this title for a master plumber, holder of a limited master plumber license who  
11 contracts to provide plumbing services on behalf of the master plumber, holder of a  
12 limited master plumber license, or another, [or] holder of a propane gas fitter  
13 certificate, OR HOLDER OF A MASTER NATURAL GAS FITTERS LICENSE; or
- 14 (9) is guilty of violating § 12-605 of this title.

15 (b) The Board shall consider the following facts in the granting, denial,  
16 renewal, suspension, or revocation of a license or the reprimand of a licensee when an  
17 applicant or licensee is convicted of a felony or misdemeanor described in subsection  
18 (a)(5) of this section:

- 19 (1) the nature of the crime;
- 20 (2) the relationship of the crime to the activities authorized by the  
21 license;
- 22 (3) with respect to a felony, the relevance of the conviction to the fitness  
23 and qualification of the applicant or licensee to provide plumbing services;
- 24 (4) the length of time since the conviction; and
- 25 (5) the behavior and activities of the applicant or licensee before and  
26 after the conviction.

27 12-401.

28 (a) A person may engage in the business of providing plumbing services if:

- 29 (1) the person is a master plumber or holder of a limited master plumber  
30 license; or
- 31 (2) the person:
- 32 (i) designates a master plumber or holder of a limited master  
33 plumber license who actively directs, controls, and is responsible for all plumbing  
34 services; and

1 (ii) otherwise provides the plumbing services in accordance with  
2 this title.

3 (b) A person may engage in the business of providing propane gas services if:

4 (1) the person is the holder of a propane gas fitter certificate; or

5 (2) the person:

6 (i) designates a holder of a propane gas fitter certificate who  
7 actively directs, controls, and is responsible for all propane gas services; and

8 (ii) otherwise provides the propane gas services in accordance with  
9 this title.

10 (C) A PERSON MAY ENGAGE IN THE BUSINESS OF PROVIDING NATURAL GAS  
11 SERVICES IF:

12 (1) THE PERSON IS THE HOLDER OF A MASTER NATURAL GAS FITTERS  
13 LICENSE; OR

14 (2) THE PERSON:

15 (I) DESIGNATES A HOLDER OF A MASTER NATURAL GAS FITTERS  
16 LICENSE WHO ACTIVELY DIRECTS, CONTROLS, AND IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL  
17 NATURAL GAS SERVICES; AND

18 (II) OTHERWISE PROVIDES NATURAL GAS SERVICES IN  
19 ACCORDANCE WITH THIS TITLE.

20 12-403.

21 (a) (1) Before a master plumber or holder of a limited master plumber  
22 license may provide plumbing services through a person who engages in the business  
23 of providing plumbing services under this subtitle, [or] a holder of a propane gas  
24 fitter certificate may provide propane gas services through a person who engages in  
25 the business of providing propane gas services under this subtitle, OR A HOLDER OF A  
26 MASTER NATURAL GAS FITTERS LICENSE MAY PROVIDE NATURAL GAS SERVICES  
27 THROUGH A PERSON WHO ENGAGES IN THE BUSINESS OF PROVIDING NATURAL GAS  
28 SERVICES UNDER THIS SUBTITLE, the master plumber, holder of a limited master  
29 plumber license [or], holder of a propane gas fitter certificate, OR HOLDER OF A  
30 MASTER NATURAL GAS FITTERS LICENSE shall submit to the Board a notice stating  
31 the intent of the master plumber, holder of a limited master plumber license, [or]  
32 holder of a propane gas fitter CERTIFICATE, OR HOLDER OF A MASTER NATURAL GAS  
33 FITTERS LICENSE to do so.

34 (2) The notice shall include:

- 1 (i) the name of the master plumber, holder of a limited master  
2 plumber license, [or] holder of a propane gas fitter certificate, OR HOLDER OF A  
3 MASTER NATURAL GAS FITTERS LICENSE submitting the notice;
- 4 (ii) a statement that the named individual has been designated as  
5 the master plumber, holder of a limited master plumber license, [or] holder of a  
6 propane gas fitter certificate, OR HOLDER OF A MASTER NATURAL GAS FITTERS  
7 LICENSE of the person;
- 8 (iii) the address of the principal place of business of the person;
- 9 (iv) any trade or fictitious name that the person intends to use  
10 while conducting the business of the person;
- 11 (v) the name of the person who carries insurance as required under  
12 § 12-501 of this title; and
- 13 (vi) any other information that the Board requires by regulation.

14 (b) The Board may set by regulation procedures for keeping current  
15 information about any person through whom plumbing services are provided.

16 12-501.

17 (a) A master plumber or holder of a limited master plumber license may not  
18 contract to provide plumbing services on behalf of the master plumber, holder of a  
19 limited master plumber license, or another person who engages in the business of  
20 providing plumbing services unless the plumbing work of the master plumber or  
21 holder of a limited master plumber license is covered by liability insurance, including  
22 completed operations:

- 23 (1) for bodily injury in the amount of at least \$300,000; and  
24 (2) for property damage in the amount of at least \$100,000.

25 (b) (1) The insurance required under this section may be bought:

- 26 (i) by a master plumber or holder of a limited master plumber  
27 license; or
- 28 (ii) for a master plumber or holder of a limited master plumber  
29 license, by the person who engages in the business of providing plumbing services and  
30 employs the master plumber or holder of a limited master plumber license.

31 (2) The insurance requirement of this section is not met for work that a  
32 master plumber or holder of a limited master plumber license does outside the scope  
33 of employment for the person who carries the insurance.

34 (c) An apprentice plumber, journey plumber, or holder of a limited journey  
35 plumber license need not obtain separate insurance while providing or assisting in  
36 providing plumbing services within the scope of the license.



1 (d) (1) An applicant for a master plumber license or limited master plumber  
2 license shall submit proof of the insurance required under this section to the Board  
3 with the license application.

4 (2) The Board may not issue a master plumber license or limited master  
5 plumber license to an applicant to whom the insurance requirements of this section  
6 would apply unless the applicant submits proof of the insurance.

7 (e) Unless an applicant meets the insurance requirements of this section, the  
8 Board may not renew the master plumber license or limited master plumber license of  
9 the applicant to whom the insurance requirements of this section would apply.

10 (f) A master plumber or holder of a limited master plumber license shall give  
11 the Board notice of the cancellation of insurance at least 10 days before the effective  
12 date of the cancellation.

13 (g) If a county, municipal corporation, special taxing district, or other political  
14 subdivision requires a master plumber, holder of a limited master plumber license, or  
15 other person who engages in the business of providing plumbing services to execute a  
16 surety bond under local plumbing requirements, the person may satisfy the bond  
17 requirement by submitting proof of the insurance required under this section.

18 (h) The Board shall specify on the master plumber license or limited master  
19 plumber license whether the master plumber or holder of the limited master plumber  
20 license meets the insurance requirements of this section.

21 12-601.

22 (a) Except as otherwise provided in this title, a person may not provide,  
23 attempt to provide, or offer to provide plumbing services unless licensed by the Board  
24 to provide plumbing services.

25 (b) Except as otherwise provided in this title, a person may not assist, attempt  
26 to assist, or offer to assist in providing plumbing services in the State unless licensed  
27 by the Board to provide or assist in providing plumbing services.

28 (c) Except as otherwise provided in this title, a person may not provide,  
29 attempt to provide, or offer to provide propane gas services unless licensed by the  
30 Board to provide plumbing services or certified by the Board to provide propane gas  
31 services.

32 (D) EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN THIS TITLE, A PERSON MAY NOT  
33 PROVIDE, ATTEMPT TO PROVIDE, OR OFFER TO PROVIDE NATURAL GAS SERVICES  
34 UNLESS LICENSED BY THE BOARD TO PROVIDE PLUMBING SERVICES OR NATURAL  
35 GAS SERVICES.

36 12-604.

37 Unless authorized under this title to provide plumbing services, a person may  
38 not represent to the public, by use of a title, including "master plumber", "registered

1 plumber", "licensed master plumber", "holder of limited master plumber license",  
2 "licensed journey plumber", "journey plumber", "holder of a limited journey plumber  
3 license", [or] "holder of a propane gas fitter certificate", "HOLDER OF A MASTER  
4 NATURAL GAS FITTERS LICENSE", OR "HOLDER OF A JOURNEYMAN NATURAL GAS  
5 FITTERS LICENSE", by description of services, methods, or procedures, or otherwise,  
6 that the person is authorized to provide plumbing services in the State.

7 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
8 October 1, 2000.