

Chapter 272

(Senate Bill 607)

AN ACT concerning

Business Occupations – Plumbers and Gas Fitters – Apprentice License Renewal

FOR the purpose of prohibiting the State Board of Plumbing from renewing certain apprentice plumber licenses or apprentice natural gas fitters licenses for more than a certain number of consecutive terms under certain circumstances; *establishing a certain exception*; and generally relating to the license renewal of apprentice plumbers and apprentice natural gas fitters.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
Article – Business Occupations and Professions
Section 12–101(b) and (c) and 12–307(c) and (g)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2010 Replacement Volume and 2011 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Business Occupations and Professions
Section 12–308(a)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2010 Replacement Volume and 2011 Supplement)

BY adding to
Article – Business Occupations and Professions
Section 12–308.1
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2010 Replacement Volume and 2011 Supplement)

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

Article – Business Occupations and Professions

12–101.

(b) “Apprentice natural gas fitter” means, unless the context requires otherwise, an individual who is licensed by the Board to assist a master natural gas fitter in providing natural gas services while:

(1) under the direction and control of the master natural gas fitter;
and

(2) in training to become a journeyman natural gas fitter.

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

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

(2) in training to become a journey plumber.

12-307.

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

(g) While an apprentice natural gas fitters license is in effect, it authorizes the licensee to provide natural gas service only under the direction and control of a licensed master natural gas fitter.

12-308.

(a) [Unless] **SUBJECT TO § 12-308.1 OF THIS SUBTITLE, UNLESS** a license is renewed for a 2-year term as provided in this section, the license expires on the first May 1 that comes:

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

(2) in an odd-numbered year.

12-308.1.

(A) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, FOR AN APPRENTICE PLUMBER OR APPRENTICE NATURAL GAS FITTER ISSUED AN INITIAL LICENSE ON OR AFTER OCTOBER 1, 2012, THE BOARD MAY NOT RENEW THE LICENSE FOR MORE THAN THREE CONSECUTIVE TERMS IF THE LICENSEE HAS NOT TAKEN OR REGISTERED TO TAKE A JOURNEY PLUMBER EXAMINATION OR JOURNEYMAN GAS FITTERS EXAMINATION.

(B) NOTWITHSTANDING SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION, IF AN APPRENTICE PLUMBER OR APPRENTICE NATURAL GAS FITTER FAILS A

JOURNEY PLUMBER EXAMINATION OR JOURNEYMAN GAS FITTERS EXAMINATION, THE BOARD ~~MAY~~ SHALL RENEW THE APPRENTICE PLUMBER LICENSE OR APPRENTICE NATURAL GAS FITTERS LICENSE FOR AN ADDITIONAL 2-YEAR TERM FOR EACH FAILED EXAMINATION.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2012.

Approved by the Governor, May 2, 2012.