
ENGROSSED SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2172

State of Washington

57th Legislature

2001 Regular Session

By House Committee on Commerce & Labor (originally sponsored by Representatives Grant and Mastin)

Read first time 02/27/2001. Referred to Committee on .

1 AN ACT Relating to the repair and maintenance of backflow
2 prevention assemblies; amending RCW 18.106.010 and 18.106.040; and
3 adding a new section to chapter 19.27 RCW.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 18.106.010 and 1997 c 326 s 2 are each amended to read
6 as follows:

7 Unless a different meaning is plainly required by the context, the
8 following words and phrases as hereinafter used in this chapter shall
9 have the following meaning:

10 (1) "Advisory board" means the state advisory board of plumbers;

11 (2) "Department" means the department of labor and industries;

12 (3) "Director" means the director of department of labor and
13 industries;

14 (4) "Journeyman plumber" means any person who has been issued a
15 certificate of competency by the department of labor and industries as
16 provided in this chapter;

17 (5) "Medical gas piping" means oxygen, nitrous oxide, high pressure
18 nitrogen, medical compressed air, and medical vacuum systems;

1 (6) "Medical gas piping installer" means a journeyman plumber who
2 has been issued a medical gas piping installer endorsement;

3 (7) "Plumbing" means that craft involved in installing, altering,
4 repairing and renovating potable water systems, liquid waste systems,
5 and medical gas piping systems within a building. Installation in a
6 water system of water softening or water treatment equipment is not
7 within the meaning of plumbing as used in this chapter;

8 (8) "Specialty plumber" means anyone who has been issued a
9 specialty certificate of competency limited to:

10 (a) Installation, maintenance, and repair of the plumbing of
11 single-family dwellings, duplexes, and apartment buildings that do not
12 exceed three stories; or

13 (b) In-line maintenance of backflow prevention assemblies within
14 buildings. For the purposes of this subsection, "maintenance" includes
15 cleaning and replacing parts of an assembly, but does not include
16 installing, altering, or repairing of backflow prevention assemblies.

17 **Sec. 2.** RCW 18.106.040 and 1977 ex.s. c 149 s 4 are each amended
18 to read as follows:

19 (1) Upon receipt of the application and evidence set forth in RCW
20 18.106.030, the director shall review the same and make a determination
21 as to whether the applicant is eligible to take an examination for the
22 certificate of competency. To be eligible to take the examination:

23 (a) Each applicant for a journeyman plumber's certificate of
24 competency shall furnish written evidence that he or she has ~~((either))~~
25 completed a course of study in the plumbing trade in the armed services
26 of the United States or at a school accredited by the coordinating
27 council on occupational education~~((+))~~, or ~~((that he))~~ has had four or
28 more years of experience under the direct supervision of a licensed
29 journeyman plumber.

30 (b) Each applicant for a specialty plumber's certificate of
31 competency shall furnish written evidence that he or she has ~~((either))~~
32 completed a course of study in the plumbing trade in the armed services
33 of the United States or at a school ~~((accredited by the commission for~~
34 ~~vocational education or its designee))~~ licensed by the work force
35 training and education coordinating board under chapter 28C.10 RCW, or
36 that he or she has had at least three years practical experience in
37 ~~((his))~~ the specialty.

1 (c) Each applicant for a backflow prevention assembly specialty
2 plumber's certificate of competency shall furnish written evidence that
3 he or she is certified as a backflow assembly tester by the department
4 of health, and is registered as a contractor by the department.

5 (2) No other requirement for eligibility may be imposed.

6 (3) The director shall establish reasonable rules and regulations
7 for the examinations to be given applicants for certificates of
8 competency. In establishing said rules, regulations, and criteria, the
9 director shall consult with the state advisory board of plumbers as
10 established in RCW 18.106.110.

11 (4) Upon determination that the applicant is eligible to take the
12 examination, the director shall so notify (~~him~~) the applicant,
13 indicating the time and place for taking the same.

14 NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. A new section is added to chapter 19.27 RCW
15 to read as follows:

16 The owner of a building classified as a group R, division 3
17 occupancy, as defined in the state building code adopted under this
18 chapter, shall have the backflow prevention assembly tested by a
19 department of health certified backflow assembly tester:

20 (1) At the time of installation, repair, or relocation, if required
21 by the local official, board, department, or agency authorized to
22 administer and enforce the provisions of the uniform plumbing code as
23 adopted under this chapter; or

24 (2) When such official, board, department, or agency finds that
25 cross-connection control within the property lines of the premises may
26 fail to prevent pollution or contamination of the domestic water
27 supply.

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