

NOTICE OF INTENT

Workforce Commission Plumbing Board

Plumbers—Introductory Information; Licenses;
Revocation and Related Administration Proceedings;
Continuing Professional Education Programs
(LAC 46:LV.101, 301, 303, 304, 309, 310, 311, 312,
313, 314, 315, 316, 508, 901, 1001, 1003, 1005, and 1007)

In accordance with the provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act, R.S. 49:953, the Louisiana State Plumbing Board (board), hereby determines that the implementation of amendments to LAC 46:LV.101, 301, 303, 304, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 901, 1001, 1003, 1005, and 1007 and adoption of §§309 and 508 are necessary to be in compliance with recent legislative changes designated as Act No. 515 of 2016. The proposed Rule change to §§101, 301, 303, 309, 310, 312, 901 and 1001 establishes the designation of tradesman plumbers and will also provide licensing requirements and procedures relative to the tradesman plumber classification, effective January 1, 2017. The proposed Rule change to §508 establishes and maintains a registry of apprentice plumbers employed within the state of Louisiana. The addition of the tradesman plumber classification resulted in the insertion of a new Rule, causing a change in the Sections formerly numbered as §§307-313, as well as a change to cross-referencing of Sections throughout the rules. These adjustments will be effective upon final publication in the *Louisiana Register*. All currently stated rules of the board, unless amended herein, shall remain in full force and effect.

Please refer to the corresponding Emergency Rule printed in this edition of the *Louisiana Register* to view these amendments.

Family Impact Statement

1. Estimated effect on the stability of the family? There is no estimated effect on the stability of the family.
2. Estimated effect on the authority and rights of parents regarding the education and supervision of their children? There is no estimated effect on the authority and rights of parents regarding the education and supervision of their children.
3. Estimated effect on the functioning of the family? There is no estimated effect on the functioning of the family.
4. Estimated effect on family earnings and family budget? There is no estimated effect on family earnings and family budget.
5. Estimated effect on the behavior and personal responsibility of children? There is no estimated effect on the behavior and personal responsibility of children.
6. Estimated effect on the ability of the family or a local government to perform the function as contained in the proposed Rule? There is no estimated effect on the ability of the family or a local government to perform the function as contained in the proposed Rule.

Poverty Impact Statement

The proposed amended Rule will have no impact on poverty as described in R.S. 49:973.

Small Business Analysis

The proposed amended Rule will have no adverse impact on small businesses as defined in the Regulatory Flexibility Act.

Provider Impact Statement

The proposed amended Rule is not anticipated to have any impact on providers of services funded by the state as described in HCR 170 of the 2014 Regular Legislative Session.

Public Comments

Any interested person may submit written comments regarding the content of this proposed Rule change to Ashley Jones Tullier, Executive Director of the Board, 11304 Cloverdale Avenue, Baton Rouge, LA, no later than 5 p.m., March 20, 2017.

Ashley Jones Tullier
Executive Director

FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT FOR ADMINISTRATIVE RULES

RULE TITLE: Plumbers—Introductory Information; Licenses; Revocation and Related Administration Proceedings; Continuing Professional Education Programs

- I. ESTIMATED IMPLEMENTATION COSTS (SAVINGS) TO STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS (Summary)

There will be an increase in expenses of the State Plumbing Board as a result of the proposed rule establishing the category of Tradesman plumbers.

The rule establishes a new classification of tradesman plumbers and provides examination, licensing, and continuing education requirements for these individuals as required by Act 515 of 2016. The law also requires the board to maintain a registry of apprentice plumbers in the state. The extent of the cost increases will be determined by the number of individuals seeking to become licensed tradesman plumbers. The board projects increased operating costs of \$1,000 in FY 17, \$2,000 in FY 18, and \$3,000 in FY 19. The operational costs will cover the cost of materials needed to issue the licenses, such as paper, ink, and the licenses themselves. The board also anticipates professional services costs in FY 17 of \$5,000, which will cover the initial start up costs, including legal services and fees to implement the rule change, but these costs are expected to decrease to \$500 in FY 18 and FY 19. Anticipated costs will be paid through self-generated revenues from licensing and enforcement fees.
- II. ESTIMATED EFFECT ON REVENUE COLLECTIONS OF STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS (Summary)

There will be an increase in revenues due to the creation of a new fee schedule for registered apprentice and tradesman plumbers. For FY 17 the board anticipates 150 new applications; 100 applicants will be seeking apprenticeship registration and 50 applicants seeking examination and licensing of a tradesman plumber. An initial registration fee of \$20 will be implemented for apprentices, which will generate revenues of \$2,000. The initial license fee for Tradesman plumbers will be \$40, which will generate an additional \$2,000. The total anticipated revenue collections for FY 17 is \$4,000. There are additional fees these individuals may be responsible for, such as examination fees for tradesman plumbers, fees for late payments, and renewal fees. In the subsequent fiscal years the board estimates an increase in revenues due to new and renewal applications. The estimated revenue collection for FY 18 is expected to be \$5,500. This revenue would come from 100 new applicants as well as 150 renewals. The anticipated revenue collection for FY 19 is \$7,500, which will come from 100 new applicants and 250 renewals.
- III. ESTIMATED COSTS AND/OR ECONOMIC BENEFITS TO DIRECTLY AFFECTED PERSONS OR NONGOVERNMENTAL GROUPS (Summary)

Licensing and registration fees will have an annual impact on an estimated 150 - 350 individuals and/or their employing entities engaged in the business of plumbing to the extent apprentices register with the board, and individuals become licensed tradesman plumbers.

IV. ESTIMATED EFFECT ON COMPETITION AND EMPLOYMENT
(Summary)

The Plumbing Board anticipates that the licensing of tradesman plumbers will enhance competition in the plumbing industry, as intended by Act 515 of 2016. Additionally, this new classification of plumbers, as well as codification of an apprentice plumber registry will increase employment opportunities in the plumbing industry. Also the board anticipates this rule will promote development of quality private sector training and certification programs.

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