

CHAPTER 703

S.B. No. 137

AN ACT

relating to the continuing education of plumbers.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

SECTION 1. The Plumbing License Law (Article 6243–101, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes) is amended by adding Section 12B to read as follows:

Sec. 12B. CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION. (a) A person holding a license under this Act must complete at least six hours of continuing professional education each license year. Three of the six hours required must be in the subjects of health protection, energy conservation, and water conservation.

(b) The Board by rule shall adopt the criteria for continuing professional education acceptable under this section.

(c) For a person to receive credit for participation in a continuing professional education program or course, the program or course must have been provided according to the criteria adopted by the Board by an individual, business, or association approved by the Board.

(d) A person holding a license under this Act who lives in a county having no city with a population in excess of 100,000 may fulfill the continuing professional education requirement of this section through a correspondence course.

(e) The Board by rule may adopt exemptions from the requirements of this section for certain persons holding a license under this Act if the Board finds that exempting these persons from the continuing education requirements of this Act is in the public interest.

SECTION 2. Subsections (b), (c), and (d), Section 12, The Plumbing License Law (Article 6243–101, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes), are amended to read as follows:

(b) A person who has complied with the continuing education requirement of Section 12B of this Act may renew an unexpired license by paying the required renewal fee to the Board before the expiration date of the license.

(c) A person who has complied with the continuing education requirement of Section 12B of this Act and whose [if a person's] license has been expired for 90 days or less[, the person] may renew the license by paying to the Board the required renewal fee and a fee that is one-half of the examination fee for the license.

(d) *A person who has complied with the continuing education requirement of Section 12B of this Act and whose [If a person's] license has been expired for longer than 90 days but less than two years[, the person] may renew the license by paying to the Board all unpaid renewal fees and a fee that is equal to the examination fee for the license.*

SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 1993, and applies only to the renewal of a license after August 31, 1994. The renewal of a license before September 1, 1993, is governed by the law in effect immediately before September 1, 1993, and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose.

SECTION 4. The importance of this legislation and the crowded condition of the calendars in both houses create an emergency and an imperative public necessity that the constitutional rule requiring bills to be read on three several days in each house be suspended, and this rule is hereby suspended, and that this Act take effect and be in force according to its terms, and it is so enacted.

Passed the Senate on February 17, 1993: Yeas 30, Nays 1; passed the House on May 22, 1993, by a non-record vote.

Approved June 16, 1993.

Effective Sept. 1, 1993.