

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

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**STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
118TH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 546, L.D. 737, Bill, "An Act to Create an Apprentice Registration Category and to Exempt Certain Persons from Licensure under the Propane and Natural Gas Act"

Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:

**'An Act to Create a Helper Registration Category, to Exempt Certain Persons from Licensure under the Propane and Natural Gas Act and to Eliminate the Tagging Requirement'**

Further amend the bill in section 2 in subsection 6 in the first line (page 1, line 11 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "apprentice" and inserting in its place the following: 'helper'

Further amend the bill in section 2 in subsection 6 in the 3rd line (page 1, line 13 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "apprentice. An apprentice" and inserting in its place the following: 'helper. A helper'

Further amend the bill in section 2 in subsection 6 in the 5th line (page 1, line 15 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "licensed person." and inserting in its place the following: 'licensed person on-site.'

Further amend the bill in section 2 in subsection 6 in the 6th line (page 1, line 16 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "apprentices" and inserting in its place the following: 'helpers'

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT**

Further amend the bill in section 2 in subsection 6 in the first blocked paragraph in the 2nd line (page 1, line 19 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "apprentice" and inserting in its place the following: 'helper'

Further amend the bill in section 2 in subsection 6 in the 2nd blocked paragraph in the 5th line (page 1, line 25 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "apprentice" and inserting in its place the following: 'helper'

Further amend the bill by inserting after section 2 the following:

'Sec. 3. 32 MRSA §14808, sub-§4, as enacted by PL 1995, c. 389, §4, is amended to read:

**4. Limited operator's license; training.** The on-site owner or operator of a dispensing station must hold a limited operator's license issued biennially by the board. The board shall set by rule the requirements for obtaining the limited license. The holder of the limited license is responsible for training other dispensing station employees and documenting that training.

The training for the limited license must include a manual prepared by a regional propane gas association, a video prepared by a national propane gas association or equivalent materials approved by the board. The training documentation must be kept at the station. ~~The on-site owner or operator of the dispensing station is responsible for compliance and is subject to section 14809.~~

'Sec. 4. 32 MRSA §14809, as enacted by PL 1995, c. 389, §4, is repealed.'

Further amend the bill by inserting at the end before the summary the following:

**FISCAL NOTE**

	1997-98	1998-99
<b>REVENUES</b>		
Other Funds	(\$17,250)	(\$24,300)

The registration of propane and natural gas helpers and the exemption of highway transport drivers from certain licensure requirements will result in a net increase of dedicated revenues

2 collected by the Propane and Natural Gas Board within the  
Department of Professional and Financial Regulation. The  
4 estimated increases of dedicated revenue are \$3,500 and \$700 in  
fiscal years 1997-98 and 1998-99, respectively.

6 The repeal of tagging requirements for the installation of  
propane and natural gas equipment will result in the loss of  
8 dedicated revenue from tag fees. The estimated loss of revenues  
to the Propane and Natural Gas Board is at least \$20,750 and  
10 \$25,000 in fiscal years 1997-98 and 1998-99, respectively. These  
revenue losses will be partially offset by the aforementioned  
12 revenue increases but will significantly reduce the board's  
overall resources. The board's remaining revenue sources will be  
14 adequate to meet its anticipated expenditure needs.

16 The Propane and Natural Gas Board will incur some minor  
additional costs to adopt certain rules pertaining to the  
18 registration of propane and natural gas helpers. These costs can  
be absorbed within the board's existing budgeted resources.'

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### SUMMARY

24 This amendment changes all references to "apprentice" to  
"helper." This amendment also adds the words "on-site" to ensure  
26 that all work performed by a helper on-site is done under the  
direct and continuous supervision of a licensed individual. This  
28 amendment repeals the tagging requirement for the installation of  
propane and natural gas equipment. The amendment also adds a  
30 fiscal note to the bill.