

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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EIGHTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE

House Document

No. 71

H. P. 284

House of Representatives, Feb. 3, 1927.

On motion of Mr. Eustis of Strong, tabled pending reference to a committee and 500 copies ordered printed.

CLYDE R. CHAPMAN, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Jackson of Portland.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND NINE
HUNDRED AND TWENTY-SEVEN

AN ACT to Create a Board of Registration of Master
Plumbers.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine, as follows:

Section 1. *Definition of Master Plumbers.* A master
2 plumber within the meaning of this act, is any person, firm
3 or corporation that as a business, hires or employs a person
4 or persons to do plumbing work, or without hiring any
5 person does such work as a business for his or its own
6 account.

Sect. 2. *Appointment of Board of Registration of Master
2 Plumbers. Vacancies. Removal of Members.* The gov-
3 ernor with the advice and consent of the council, shall
4 appoint a Board of Registration of Plumbing consisting of

5 three persons, residents in the state, who are master plumb-
6 ers as defined in section one of this act, and who have been
7 engaged in the business of plumbing for at least two years.
8 One of said members shall be appointed for a term of three
9 years, one for a term of two years and the third for a term
10 of one year. Thereafter as the terms of said members
11 expire, new members shall be appointed for terms of three
12 years. Any vacancy in said board caused by the death,
13 resignation or removal of any member shall be filled by the
14 appointment of a person qualified as aforesaid, to hold office
15 during the unexpired term of the member whose place is
16 thus filled. Any member of said board may be removed
17 from office for cause, by the governor, with the advice and
18 consent of the council.

Sect. 3. *Meetings for Choice of Officers. Regular Meet-*
2 *ings. Seal.* The members of said board shall meet within
3 thirty days of their appointment at such time and place as
4 they may determine, and shall elect from the members of
5 the board a chairman and a secretary who shall hold their
6 respective offices until the next annual meeting of the board.
7 Thereafter said board shall hold regular meetings on the
8 second Tuesday of March which shall be the annual meet-
9 ing for the election of officers and on the second Tuesday
10 of November of each year, and such additional meetings at
11 such times and places as it may determine. Said board shall
12 cause a seal to be engraved and shall keep correct records
13 of all its proceedings, and make such rules and regulations

14 as it shall deem necessary for the successful enforcement
15 of its authority and for the performance of its duties.

Sect. 4. *Registration of Master Plumbers. Disposal of*
2 *Fees.* Any person shall, upon the payment of a fee of ten
3 dollars, be entitled to examination, and if found qualified
4 by a majority of the members of the board present shall be
5 registered as a master plumber, and shall receive a certifi-
6 cate thereof under the seal of the board, and signed by the
7 chairman and secretary, which shall state the facts and
8 which must be publicly displayed at the principal place of
9 business of said master plumber as long as said person con-
10 tinues in the business as herein defined. Any person refused
11 registration may be re-examined at any subsequent meeting
12 of said board, within two years of the time of such refusal,
13 without additional fee and thereafter may be examined as
14 often as he may desire upon payment of the fee of ten
15 dollars for each examination. All fees received by the board
16 hereunder shall be paid by the secretary thereof into the
17 treasury of the state.

Sect. 5. *All Applicants Shall Be Examined for Registra-*
2 *tion. Exceptions. Qualifications of Applicants. Conduct*
3 *of Examinations. Rules for Reciprocity of Licensing with*
4 *Boards of Other States.* The board may without examina-
5 tion, and upon the payment of a fee of \$5 issue a license as
6 a master plumber to any applicant therefor who shall present
7 satisfactory written evidence that he has the qualifications
8 of a master plumber and has engaged in the business of

9 plumbing for at least two years prior to the approval of
10 this act. Each applicant for registration other than as above
11 provided, shall present to the secretary of the board on
12 blanks furnished by the board, a written application for
13 examination and license, containing such information as the
14 board may require, accompanied by the fee provided for in
15 section four. Examinations shall be in whole or in part in
16 writing and shall be of a thorough and practical character.
17 They shall cover the theoretical and practical nature of
18 plumbing and such branches thereof as the board may deem
19 necessary. The board may make such rules and regulations
20 as may be necessary for reciprocity of licensing with the
21 boards of other states which maintain standards at least
22 equal to this state; but no such rules shall become operative
23 until they have been approved by a Justice of the Supreme
24 Judicial Court.

Sect. 6. *Renewal of Licenses.* All licenses issued as afore-
2 said shall expire on the last day of the calendar year in
3 which issued, and they may be renewed thereafter for
4 periods of one year without further examination on pay-
5 ment of a fee of two dollars for each year.

Sect. 7. *Corporations and Partnerships May Be Licensed.*
2 The board may issue its license to corporations and partner-
3 ships engaged in the plumbing business and applying there-
4 for provided that one or more officers of any such corpora-
5 tion owning in the aggregate fifty-one per cent of its capital
6 stock and directly in charge of the business affairs of such

7 corporation, or the members of such partnership directly
8 in charge of the business affairs, apply for the examinations
9 hereinbefore provided and satisfy the board of their quali-
10 fications as master plumbers.

Sect. 8. *Record Kept Which Shall Be Open to Inspection.*
2 *Annual Report.* The board shall keep a record of the names
3 and residences of all persons registered hereunder and a
4 record of all moneys received and disbursed by it, and said
5 records or duplicates thereof shall always be open to inspec-
6 tion in the office of the secretary of state during regular
7 office hours. Said board shall annually on or before the first
8 day of January in each year, make a report to the governor
9 containing a full and complete account of all its official acts
10 during the preceding year, and a statement of its receipts
11 and disbursements and such recommendations or suggestions
12 as it may deem essential.

Sect. 9. *Investigation of Complaints. License May Be*
2 *Revoked.* The board shall investigate all complaints made
3 to it and all cases of non-compliance with or violation of
4 the provisions of this chapter and shall bring all such cases
5 to the notice of the proper prosecuting officers. The board,
6 after a conviction for crime in the course of plumbing
7 business, of any person, firm or corporation to whom a
8 certificate has been issued by them and after hearing, may
9 by vote of two-thirds of the board revoke the certificate
10 and cancel the registration of the person, firm or corpora-
11 tion to whom the same was issued. Said board may also

12 suspend or revoke any certificate by a two-thirds vote of the
13 entire board, in any case where such certificate has been
14 wrongfully obtained or for any fraud connected with the
15 said registration.

Sect. 10. *No Person Shall Do Plumbing Who Has Not
2 Been Registered. Penalty for Violation.* Unless duly
3 registered by said board, no person, firm or corporation shall
4 engage in the business of a master plumber as hereinbefore
5 defined or any branch thereof. Whoever not being duly
6 registered by said board engages in the business of a master
7 plumber, contrary to the provisions of this section, shall
8 be punished by a fine of not less than twenty-five dollars
9 nor more than one hundred dollars for each offense, or by
10 imprisonment for three months, or by both said fine and
11 imprisonment.

Sect. 11. *Compensation and Traveling Expenses of the
2 Board.* Members of the board shall be paid ten dollars per
3 day while actually engaged on business of the board. Bills
4 for such compensation as well as for incidental and traveling
5 expenses of the board shall be approved by the chairman,
6 audited by the state auditor, and paid by the state treasurer.