

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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EIGHTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE

House Document

No. 178

H. P. 607 House of Representatives, January 31, 1929.

Referred to Committee on Legal Affairs and 500 copies ordered printed. Sent up for concurrence.

CLYDE R. CHAPMAN, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Burkett of Portland.

STATE OF MAINE

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

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 plumber within the meaning of this act, is any person, firm or corporation that as a business, hires or employs a person or persons to do plumbing work, or without hiring any person does such work as a business for his or its own account.

Sect. 2. *Appointment of board of registration of master plumbers. Vacancies. Removal of members.* The governor with the advice and consent of the council, shall appoint a

4 board of registration of plumbing consisting of an execu-
5 tive officer, who shall be the director of the division of san-
6 itary engineering of the state department of health, and
7 two other members hereinafter called the appointive mem-
8 bers, at least one of whom shall be a master plumber as
9 defined in section one of this act, and who has been en-
10 gaged in the business of plumbing for at least two years.
11 One of said appointive members shall be appointed for a
12 term of three years, one for a term of two years and the
13 third for a term of one year. Thereafter as the terms of
14 said members expire, new members shall be appointed for
15 terms of three years. Any vacancy in said board caused
16 by the death, resignation or removal of any member shall
17 be filled by the appointment of a person qualified as afore-
18 said, to hold office during the unexpired term of the mem-
19 ber whose place is thus filled. Any member of said board
20 may be removed from office for cause, by the governor,
21 with the advice and consent of the council.

Sect. 3. *Meetings for choice of officers. Regular meetings.*

2 *Seal.* The board of registration of plumbing shall hold
3 regular meetings semi-annually and shall hold additional
4 meetings at such other times as they shall determine by
5 their rules, or upon request of any two appointive members
6 of their board, or upon request of the director of the divi-
7 sion of sanitary engineering. Said board shall cause a seal
8 to be engraved and shall keep correct records of all its pro-
9 ceedings, and make such rules and regulations as it shall

10 deem necessary for the successful enforcement of its au-
11 thority and for the performance of its duties.

Sect. 4. *Registration of master plumbers.* Any person
2 shall, upon the payment of a fee of fifteen dollars, be en-
3 titled to examination, and if found qualified by a majority
4 of the members of the board present shall be registered as
5 a master plumber, and shall receive a certificate thereof
6 under the seal of the board, and signed by the executive
7 officer, which shall state the facts and which must be pub-
8 licly displayed at the principal place of business of said
9 master plumber as long as said person continues in the
10 business as herein defined. Any person refused registration
11 may be re-examined at any subsequent meeting of said
12 board, within two years of the time of such refusal, with-
13 out additional fee and thereafter may be examined as often
14 as he may desire upon payment of the fee of fifteen dollars
15 for each examination.

Sect. 5. *All applicants shall be examined for registration.*
2 *Exceptions. Qualifications of applicants. Conduct of ex-*
3 *aminations. Rules for reciprocity of licensing with boards*
4 *of other states.* The board may without examination, and
5 upon the payment of a fee of fifteen dollars issue a license
6 as a master plumber to any applicant therefor who shall
7 present satisfactory written evidence that he has the qual-
8 ifications of a master plumber and has engaged in the busi-
9 ness of plumbing for at least two years prior to the ap-
10 proval of this act. Each applicant for registration other

11 than as above provided, shall present to the secretary of
12 the board on blanks furnished by the board, a written ap-
13 plication for examination and license, containing such in-
14 formation as the board may require, accompanied by the
15 fee provided for in section four. Examinations shall be
16 in whole or in part in writing and shall be of a thorough
17 and practical character. They shall cover the theoretical
18 and practical nature of plumbing and such branches there-
19 of as the board may deem necessary. The board may make
20 such rules and regulations as may be necessary for reciproc-
21 ity of licensing with the boards of other states which main-
22 tain standards at least equal to this state.

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 pe-
4 riods of one year without further examination on payment
5 of a fee of five dollars for each year.

Sect. 7. *Corporations and partnerships may be licensed.*
2 The board may issue its license to corporations and part-
3 nerships engaged in the plumbing business and applying
4 therefor provided that one or more officers of any such
5 corporation directly in charge of the business affairs of
6 such corporation, or the members of such partnership di-
7 rectly in charge of the business affairs, apply for the exam-
8 inations hereinbefore provided and satisfy the board of their
9 qualifications 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 in-
6 spection. Said board shall annually on or before the first
7 day of January in each year, make a report to the governor
8 containing a full and complete account of all its official acts
9 during the preceding year, and a statement of its receipts
10 and disbursements and such recommendations or suggestions
11 as it may deem essential.

Sect. 9. *Investigation of complaints. License may be re-*
2 *voked.* The board shall investigate all complaints made to
3 it and all cases of non-compliance with or violation of the
4 provisions of this chapter and shall bring all such cases to
5 the notice of the proper prosecuting officers. The board,
6 after a conviction for crime in the course of plumbing busi-
7 ness, of any person, firm or corporation to whom a certifi-
8 cate has been issued by them and after hearing, may by
9 vote of two-thirds of the board revoke the certificate and
10 cancel the registration of the person, firm or corporation
11 to whom the same was issued. Said board may also sus-
12 pend 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 been*
2 *registered. Penalty for violation.* Unless duly registered

3 by said board, no person, firm or corporation shall engage
4 in the business of a master plumber as hereinbefore defined
5 or any branch thereof. Whoever not being duly registered
6 by said board engages in the business of a master plumber,
7 contrary to the provisions of this section, shall be punished
8 by a fine of not less than twenty-five dollars nor more than
9 one hundred dollars for each offense, or by imprisonment
10 for three months, or by both said fine and imprisonment.

Sect. 11. *Employees.* The board shall be empowered to
2 appoint and remove such employees as it shall deem neces-
3 sary and to fix their compensation within the limitations
4 of the appropriation therefor.

Sect. 12. *Compensation and traveling expenses of the*
2 *board.* The executive officer of the board shall receive an
3 annual salary not to exceed eight hundred dollars as shall
4 be approved by the governor and council, for the additional
5 duties created by this act. Appointive members of the board
6 shall be paid five dollars per day while actually engaged
7 on business of the board. Bills for such compensation as
8 well as for incidental and traveling expenses of the board
9 shall be approved by the executive officer, audited by the
10 state auditor, and paid by the state treasurer.

Sect. 13. *Disposal of fees.* All fees received by the board
2 shall be paid by the executive officer thereof into the treas-
3 ury of the state, which shall be maintained as a permanent
4 fund, and is hereby appropriated to carry out the provisions
5 of this act.

Sect. 14. So much of the provisions of section one hundred and sixteen to one hundred and twenty of chapter nineteen of the revised statutes as amended as are inconsistent with the provisions of this act are hereby repealed.