ENGROSSED SENATE
BILL NO. 1177

By: Long of the Senate

and

Plunk of the House

[professions and occupations - Plumbing License Law of 1955, the Electrical License Act, and the Mechanical Licensing Act -

emergency]

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 59 O.S. 1991, Section 1017, as amended by Section 1, Chapter 318, O.S.L. 1996 (59 O.S. Supp. 1999, Section 1017), is amended to read as follows:

Section 1017. The provisions of The Plumbing License Law of 1955 shall not apply to:

1. Minor repairs, consisting of repairing or replacing faucets or minor working parts of plumbing fixtures;

2. Farm buildings located outside any city or town unless such buildings are connected to a public water or sewer system;

3. Maintenance work for state institutions and school districts;

4. The installation, maintenance, repair, renovation of automatic sprinkler systems and related mechanical appurtenances beginning at a point where the pipe or piping system provides water used exclusively for these automatic sprinklers and their related appurtenances and to standpipes connected to automatic sprinkler systems;

5. The construction, installation, maintenance, repair, renovation, and/or removal of pipe or piping systems and related

mechanical appurtenances including backflow preventers, appliances and/or equipment used in connection therewith, directly or indirectly within or without any building or structure, from a point or location in a source of potable water supply at which point or location there exists any backflow preventer, provided that said pipe and/or piping systems are for:

a. heating,

b. cooling,

c. air conditioning,

d. refrigeration, or

e. boilers and other pressure vessels of whatsoever kind and character.

A "backflow preventer," as used herein, means any permanent mechanical device, or combination of permanent mechanical devices, of whatever material, which, after installation acts to prevent a reversal of the normal directional flow of potable water within the piping system in which it is installed, and shall include, but not be limited to, metal checkvalves and airgaps, either naturally or artificially created. Provided, further, that the exclusionary provisions of this paragraph shall apply only to and within governmental agencies, counties, cities and towns which now have or which hereafter may adopt separate laws relating to the licensing, registration and regulating of persons engaged, for business purposes, in any of the areas of trade hereinbefore specified in this paragraph; the exemptions herein being provided to apply only to these items specifically regulated by any such local laws and ordinances; ~~and~~

6. An individual who performs plumbing work on such individual's property of residence; or

7. Any employee of any municipality performing any plumbing work on the property of the municipality, whether or not the

property is owned, leased, or rented, except as may be required by local ordinances or resolutions.

SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 59 O.S. 1991, Section 1692, as amended by Section 1, Chapter 67, O.S.L. 1997 (59 O.S. Supp. 1999, Section 1692), is amended to read as follows:

Section 1692. A. The provisions of the Electrical License Act shall not apply to:

1. Minor repairs, consisting of repairing or replacing outlets or minor working parts of electrical fixtures;

2. Maintenance work for state and federal institutions;

3. The construction, installation, maintenance, repair and renovation by a public utility regulated by the Corporation Commission;

4. Public service corporations, telephone and telegraph companies, rural electric associations or municipal utilities;

5. The construction, installation, maintenance, repair and renovation of telephone equipment or computer systems by a person, firm, or corporation engaged in the telecommunications or information systems industry when such activities involve work exclusively for communication of data, voice, or for other signaling purposes; except fire alarm systems, security systems and environmental control systems that are not an integral part of a telecommunications system; or

6. The installation, maintenance, repair or replacement of water supply pumps, provided such work is performed from the output side of a fused disconnect or breaker box.

B. Nothing in the Electrical License Act shall be construed to require:

1. Employment of a licensed electrical contractor, journeyman electrician or electrical apprentice except as required by local ordinances and resolutions;

2. Any regular employee of any firm or corporation or municipality to hold a license before doing any electrical work on the property of the firm or corporation or municipality whether or not the property is owned, leased or rented except as may be required by local ordinances and resolutions; or

3. An individual to hold a license before doing electrical work on ~~his~~ the individual's own property or residence except as may be required by local ordinances and resolutions.

SECTION 3. AMENDATORY 59 O.S. 1991, Section 1850.10, as last amended by Section 5, Chapter 353, O.S.L. 1997 (59 O.S. Supp. 1999, Section 1850.10), is amended to read as follows:

Section 1850.10 A. 1. No person shall install, replace or repair gas piping unless such person is licensed under the Mechanical Licensing Act or is licensed as a plumbing contractor or journeyman plumber pursuant to the laws of this state.

2. No person shall install, replace or repair floor furnaces or wall heaters unless such person is licensed under the Mechanical Licensing Act or is licensed as a plumbing contractor or journeyman plumber pursuant to the laws of this state.

B. The Mechanical Licensing Act shall not apply to:

1. A person who is the property owner of record, or his or her authorized representative, when performing minor repair which shall include, but not be limited to, cleaning, adjusting, calibrating and repair of mechanical system parts and the replacement of fuses and room thermostats, and other minor repairs which shall not include any repair which could violate the safe operation of the equipment;

2. The installation of portable, self-contained, ductless air conditioners or heaters;

3. The setting or connecting of detached air conditioning units which utilize flexible ductwork on a manufactured home. The term manufactured home shall have the same definition as such term is defined in Section 1102 of Title 47 of the Oklahoma Statutes;

4. Any permanent employee of a manufacturing facility, whether owned or leased, while performing mechanical work on the premises of such facility. The performance of such mechanical work authorized by this paragraph shall not violate any manufacturer specification or compromise any health or safety standards and practices in accordance with state and federal regulations;

5. The service, repair and installation of boilers, pressure vessels and welded steam lines which are subject to the jurisdiction of the Commissioner of Labor pursuant to the provisions of Sections 141.1 through 141.18 of Title 40 of the Oklahoma Statutes; or

6. Employees of state-owned institutions doing maintenance to state-owned facilities which does not violate manufacturer specifications ~~nor~~ or compromise health or safety standards and practices.

C. The licensing requirements of the Mechanical Licensing Act shall not apply to public utilities, public service corporations, intrastate gas pipeline companies, gas gathering pipeline companies, gas processing companies, rural electric associations, or municipal utilities and their subsidiaries during work on their own facilities or during the performance of energy audits, operational inspections, minor maintenance, or minor repairs for their customers or on their own equipment.

D. The licensing requirements of the Mechanical Licensing Act shall not apply to employees of chemical plants, gas processing plants, and petroleum refineries during work on their own facilities or during the performance of operational inspections, mechanical work, maintenance, or repairs on their own equipment, the performance of which does not violate any manufacturer specification or compromise any health or safety standards and practices in accordance with state and federal regulations.

E. The licensing requirements of the Mechanical Licensing Act shall not apply to employees of research facilities during work on

their own facilities or during the performance of operational inspections, mechanical work, maintenance, or repairs on their own equipment used solely for research purposes when such items of equipment require one or more details of construction not covered by normally used national codes and standards or which involve destruction or reduce life of the equipment and systems.

F. The licensing requirements of the Mechanical Licensing Act shall not apply to employees of any municipality doing any mechanical work on the property of the municipality, whether or not the property is owned, leased or rented, except as may be required by local ordinance or resolution.

SECTION 4. It being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

Passed the Senate the 6th day of March, 2000.

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President of the Senate

Passed the House of Representatives the ____ day of _____, 2000.

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Speaker of the House of Representatives