

1 declares that individuals who plan, inspect, install, alter,
2 extend, repair and maintain plumbing systems shall be
3 individuals of proven skill. Further, the General Assembly
4 declares that a guide for the minimum control and number of
5 plumbing materials and fixtures, the design of plumbing
6 systems, and the construction and installation methods of
7 plumbing systems is essential for the protection of public
8 health and convenience. In order to insure plumbing skill and
9 to authoritatively establish what shall be good plumbing
10 practice, this Act provides for the licensing of plumbers and
11 registration of plumbing contractors and for the promulgation
12 of a Minimum Plumbing Code of standards by the Department.⁷
13 This Act is therefore declared to be essential to the public
14 interest.

15 (Source: P.A. 87-885.)

16 (225 ILCS 320/2) (from Ch. 111, par. 1102)

17 Sec. 2. When used in this Act:

18 "Agent" means a person designated by a sponsor as
19 responsible for supervision of an apprentice plumber and who
20 is also an Illinois licensed plumber.

21 "Apprentice plumber" means any licensed person who is
22 learning and performing plumbing under the supervision of a
23 sponsor or his agent in accordance with the provisions of
24 this Act.

25 "Approved apprenticeship program" means an apprenticeship
26 program approved by the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of
27 Apprenticeship and Training and the Department under rules.

28 "Board" means the Illinois State Board of Plumbing
29 Examiners.

30 "Building drain" means that part of the lowest horizontal
31 piping of a drainage system that receives the discharge from
32 soil, waste, and other drainage pipes inside the walls of a
33 building and conveys it to 5 feet beyond the foundation walls

1 where it is connected to the building sewer.

2 "Building sewer" means that part of the horizontal piping
3 of a drainage system that extends from the end of the
4 building drain, receives the discharge of the building drain
5 and conveys it to a public sewer or private sewage disposal
6 system.

7 "Department" means the Illinois Department of Public
8 Health.

9 "Director" means the Director of the Illinois Department
10 of Public Health.

11 "Governmental unit" means a city, village, incorporated
12 town, county, or sanitary or water district.

13 "Irrigation contractor" means a person who installs or
14 supervises the installation of lawn sprinkler systems subject
15 to Section 2.5 of this Act, other than a licensed plumber or
16 a licensed apprentice plumber.

17 "Lawn sprinkler system" means any underground irrigation
18 system of lawn, shrubbery and other vegetation from any
19 potable water sources; and from any water sources, whether or
20 not potable, in: (i) any county with a population of
21 3,000,000 or more; (ii) any county with a population of
22 275,000 or more which is contiguous in whole or in part to a
23 county with a population of 3,000,000 or more; and (iii) any
24 county with a population of 37,000 or more but less than
25 150,000 which is contiguous to 2 or more counties with
26 respective populations in excess of 275,000. "Lawn sprinkler
27 system" includes without limitation the water supply piping,
28 valves, and sprinkler heads or other irrigation outlets, but
29 does not include the backflow prevention device. "Lawn
30 sprinkler system" does not include an irrigation system used
31 primarily for agricultural purposes.

32 "Person" means any natural person, firm, corporation,
33 partnership, or association.

34 "Plumber" means any licensed person authorized to perform

1 plumbing as defined in this Act, but does not include retired
2 plumbers as defined in this Act.

3 "Plumbing" means the actual installation, repair,
4 maintenance, alteration or extension of a plumbing system by
5 any person.

6 "Plumbing" includes all piping, fixtures, appurtenances
7 and appliances for a supply of water for all purposes,
8 including without limitation lawn sprinkler systems and
9 backflow prevention devices connected to lawn sprinkler
10 systems, from the source of a private water supply on the
11 premises or from the main in the street, alley or at the curb
12 to, within and about any building or buildings where a person
13 or persons live, work or assemble.

14 "Plumbing" includes all piping, from discharge of pumping
15 units to and including pressure tanks in water supply
16 systems.

17 "Plumbing" includes all piping, fixtures, appurtenances,
18 and appliances for a building drain and a sanitary drainage
19 and related ventilation system of any building or buildings
20 where a person or persons live, work or assemble from the
21 point of connection of such building drain to the building
22 sewer or private sewage disposal system 5 feet beyond the
23 foundation walls.

24 "Plumbing" does not mean or include the trade of
25 drain-laying, the trade of drilling water wells which
26 constitute the sources of private water supplies, and of
27 making connections between such wells and pumping units in
28 the water supply systems of buildings served by such private
29 water supplies, or the business of installing water softening
30 equipment and of maintaining and servicing the same, or the
31 business of manufacturing or selling plumbing fixtures,
32 appliances, equipment or hardware, or to the installation and
33 servicing of electrical equipment sold by a not-for-profit
34 corporation providing electrification on a cooperative basis,

1 that either on or before January 1, 1971, is or has been
2 financed in whole or in part under the federal Rural
3 Electrification Act of 1936 and the Acts amendatory thereof
4 and supplementary thereto, to its members for use on farms
5 owned by individuals or operated by individuals, nor does it
6 mean or include minor repairs which do not require changes in
7 the piping to or from plumbing fixtures or involve the
8 removal, replacement, installation or re-installation of any
9 pipe or plumbing fixtures. Plumbing does not include the
10 installation, repair, maintenance, alteration or extension of
11 building sewers.

12 "Plumbing contractor" means any person who performs
13 plumbing, as defined in this Act, for another person.

14 "Plumbing contractor" shall not include licensed plumbers and
15 licensed apprentice plumbers who either are employed by
16 persons engaged in the plumbing business or are employed by
17 another person for the performance of plumbing solely for
18 that other person, including, but not limited to, a hospital,
19 university, or business maintenance staff. "Plumbing
20 contractor" does not include any entity that maintains an
21 audited net worth of shareholders' equity equal to or
22 exceeding \$100,000,000. Plumbing contractors are required to
23 be registered pursuant to the provisions of this Act.

24 "Plumbing fixtures" means installed receptacles, devices
25 or appliances that are supplied with water or that receive or
26 discharge liquids or liquid borne wastes, with or without
27 discharge into the drainage system with which they may be
28 directly or indirectly connected.

29 "Plumbing system" means the water service, water supply
30 and distribution pipes; plumbing fixtures and traps; soil,
31 waste and vent pipes; building drains; including their
32 respective connections, devices and appurtenances.

33 "Plumbing system" does not include building sewers as
34 defined in this Act.

1 "Retired plumber" means any licensed plumber in good
2 standing who meets the requirements of this Act and the
3 requirements prescribed by Department rule to be licensed as
4 a retired plumber and voluntarily surrenders his plumber's
5 license to the Department, in exchange for a retired
6 plumber's license. Retired plumbers cannot perform plumbing
7 as defined in this Act, cannot sponsor or supervise
8 apprentice plumbers, and cannot inspect plumbing under this
9 Act. A retired plumber cannot fulfill the requirements of
10 subsection (3) of Section 3 of this Act.

11 "Supervision" with respect to first and second year
12 licensed apprentice plumbers means that such apprentices must
13 perform all designing and planning of plumbing systems and
14 all plumbing as defined in this Act under the direct personal
15 supervision of the sponsor or his or her agent who must also
16 be an Illinois licensed plumber, except for maintenance and
17 repair work on existing plumbing systems done by second year
18 apprentice plumbers; provided that before performing any
19 maintenance and repair work without such supervision, such
20 apprentice has received the minimum number of hours of annual
21 classroom instruction recommended by the United States
22 Department of Labor's Bureau of Apprenticeship and Training
23 for apprentice plumbers in a Bureau of Apprenticeship and
24 Training approved plumber apprenticeship program or its
25 equivalent. "Supervision" with respect to all other
26 apprentice plumbers means that, except for maintenance and
27 repair work on existing plumbing systems, any plumbing done
28 by such apprentices must be inspected daily, after initial
29 rough-in and after completion by the sponsor or his or her
30 agent who is also an Illinois licensed plumber. In addition,
31 all repair and maintenance work done by a licensed apprentice
32 plumber on an existing plumbing system must be approved by
33 the sponsor or his or her agent who is also an Illinois
34 licensed plumber.

1 "Sponsor" is an Illinois licensed plumber or an approved
2 apprenticeship program that has accepted an individual as an
3 Illinois licensed apprentice plumber for education and
4 training in the field of plumbing and whose name and license
5 number or apprenticeship program number shall appear on the
6 individual's application for an apprentice plumber's license.

7 "Sponsored" means that each Illinois licensed apprentice
8 plumber has been accepted by an Illinois licensed plumber or
9 an approved apprenticeship program for apprenticeship
10 training.

11 "Telecommunications carrier" means a telecommunications
12 carrier as defined in the Public Utilities Act.

13 (Source: P.A. 91-184, eff. 1-1-00; 91-678, eff. 1-26-00.)

14 (225 ILCS 320/3) (from Ch. 111, par. 1103)

15 Sec. 3. (1) All planning and designing of plumbing
16 systems and all plumbing shall be performed only by plumbers
17 licensed under the provisions of this Act hereinafter called
18 "licensed plumbers" and "licensed apprentice plumbers". The
19 inspection of plumbing and plumbing systems shall be done
20 only by the sponsor or his or her agent who shall be an
21 Illinois licensed plumber. Nothing herein contained shall
22 prohibit licensed plumbers or licensed apprentice plumbers
23 under supervision from planning, designing, inspecting,
24 installing, repairing, maintaining, altering or extending
25 building sewers in accordance with this Act. No person who
26 holds a license or certificate of registration under the
27 Illinois Architecture Practice Act of 1989, or the Structural
28 Engineering Practice Act of 1989, or the Professional
29 Engineering Practice Act of 1989 shall be prevented from
30 planning and designing plumbing systems.

31 (2) Nothing herein contained shall prohibit the owner
32 occupant or lessee occupant of a single family residence, or
33 the owner of a single family residence under construction for

1 his or her occupancy, from planning, installing, altering or
 2 repairing the plumbing system of such residence, provided
 3 that (i) such plumbing shall comply with the minimum
 4 standards for plumbing contained in the Illinois State
 5 Plumbing Code, and shall be subject to inspection by the
 6 Department or the local governmental unit if it retains a
 7 licensed plumber as an inspector; and (ii) such owner, owner
 8 occupant or lessee occupant shall not employ other than a
 9 plumber licensed pursuant to this Act to assist him or her.

10 For purposes of this subsection, a person shall be
 11 considered an "occupant" if and only if he or she has taken
 12 possession of and is living in the premises as his or her
 13 bona fide sole and exclusive residence, or, in the case of
 14 an owner of a single family residence under construction for
 15 his or her occupancy, he or she expects to take possession of
 16 and live in the premises as his or her bona fide sole and
 17 exclusive residence, and he or she has a current intention to
 18 live in such premises as his or her bona fide sole and
 19 exclusive residence for a period of not less than 6 months
 20 after the completion of the plumbing work performed pursuant
 21 to the authorization of this subsection, or, in the case of
 22 an owner of a single family residence under construction for
 23 his or her occupancy, for a period of not less than 6 months
 24 after the completion of construction of the residence.
 25 Failure to possess and live in the premises as a sole and
 26 exclusive residence for a period of 6 months or more shall
 27 create a rebuttable presumption of a lack of such intention.

28 (3) ~~The employees of a firm, association, partnership or~~
 29 ~~corporation who engage in plumbing shall be licensed plumbers~~
 30 ~~or licensed apprentice plumbers. At least one member of every~~
 31 ~~firm, association or partnership engaged in plumbing work,~~
 32 ~~and at least one corporate officer of every corporation~~
 33 ~~engaged in plumbing work, as the case may be, shall be a~~
 34 ~~licensed plumber. A retired plumber cannot fulfill the~~

1 ~~requirements of this subsection (3).~~

2 ~~Notwithstanding the provisions of this subsection (3), it~~
3 ~~shall be lawful for~~ An irrigation contractor registered under
4 Section 2.5 of this Act may employ or contract with one or
5 more licensed plumbers in connection with work on lawn
6 sprinkler systems pursuant to Section 2.5 of this Act.

7 (4) (a) A licensed apprentice plumber shall plan, design
8 and install plumbing only under the supervision of the
9 sponsor or his or her agent who is also an Illinois
10 licensed plumber.

11 (b) An applicant for licensing as an apprentice
12 plumber shall be at least 16 years of age and apply on
13 the application form provided by the Department. Such
14 application shall verify that the applicant is sponsored
15 by an Illinois licensed plumber or an approved
16 apprenticeship program and shall contain the name and
17 license number of the licensed plumber or program
18 sponsor.

19 (c) No licensed plumber shall sponsor more than 2
20 licensed apprentice plumbers at the same time. If 2
21 licensed apprentice plumbers are sponsored by a plumber
22 at the same time, one of the apprentices must have, at a
23 minimum, 2 years experience as a licensed apprentice. No
24 licensed plumber sponsor or his or her agent may
25 supervise 2 licensed apprentices with less than 2 years
26 experience at the same time. The sponsor or agent shall
27 supervise and be responsible for the plumbing performed
28 by a licensed apprentice.

29 (d) No agent shall supervise more than 2 licensed
30 apprentices at the same time.

31 (e) No licensed plumber may, in any capacity,
32 supervise more than 2 licensed apprentice plumbers at the
33 same time.

34 (f) No approved apprenticeship program may sponsor

1 more licensed apprentices than 2 times the number of
2 licensed plumbers available to supervise those licensed
3 apprentices.

4 (g) No approved apprenticeship program may sponsor
5 more licensed apprentices with less than 2 years
6 experience than it has licensed plumbers available to
7 supervise those licensed apprentices.

8 (h) No individual shall work as an apprentice
9 plumber unless he or she is properly licensed under this
10 Act. The Department shall issue an apprentice plumber's
11 license to each approved applicant.

12 (i) No licensed apprentice plumber shall serve more
13 than a 6 year licensed apprenticeship period. If, upon
14 completion of a 6 year licensed apprenticeship period,
15 such licensed apprentice plumber does not apply for the
16 examination for a plumber's license and successfully pass
17 the examination for a plumber's license, his or her
18 apprentice plumber's license shall not be renewed.

19 Nothing contained in P.A. 83-878, entitled "An Act in
20 relation to professions", approved September 26, 1983, was
21 intended by the General Assembly nor should it be construed
22 to require the employees of a governmental unit or privately
23 owned municipal water supplier who operate, maintain or
24 repair a water or sewer plant facility which is owned or
25 operated by such governmental unit or privately owned
26 municipal water supplier to be licensed plumbers under this
27 Act. In addition, nothing contained in P.A. 83-878 was
28 intended by the General Assembly nor should it be construed
29 to permit persons other than licensed plumbers to perform the
30 installation, repair, maintenance or replacement of plumbing
31 fixtures, such as toilet facilities, floor drains, showers
32 and lavatories, and the piping attendant to those fixtures,
33 within such facility or in the construction of a new
34 facility.

1 Nothing contained in P.A. 83-878, entitled "An Act in
2 relation to professions", approved September 26, 1983, was
3 intended by the General Assembly nor should it be construed
4 to require the employees of a governmental unit or privately
5 owned municipal water supplier who install, repair or
6 maintain water service lines from water mains in the street,
7 alley or curb line to private property lines and who install,
8 repair or maintain water meters to be licensed plumbers under
9 this Act if such work was customarily performed prior to the
10 effective date of such Act by employees of such governmental
11 unit or privately owned municipal water supplier who were not
12 licensed plumbers. Any such work which was customarily
13 performed prior to the effective date of such Act by persons
14 who were licensed plumbers or subcontracted to persons who
15 were licensed plumbers must continue to be performed by
16 persons who are licensed plumbers or subcontracted to persons
17 who are licensed plumbers. When necessary under this Act,
18 the Department shall make the determination whether or not
19 persons who are licensed plumbers customarily performed such
20 work.

21 (Source: P.A. 91-91, eff. 1-1-00; 91-678, eff. 1-26-00.)

22 (225 ILCS 320/8) (from Ch. 111, par. 1107)

23 Sec. 8. The Director shall:

24 (1) Prepare forms for application for examination for a
25 plumber's license.

26 (2) Prepare and issue licenses as provided in this Act.

27 (3) With the aid of the Board prescribe rules and
28 regulations for examination of applicants for plumber's
29 licenses.

30 (4) With the aid of the Board prepare and give uniform
31 and comprehensive examinations to applicants for a plumber's
32 license which shall test their knowledge and qualifications
33 in the planning and design of plumbing systems, their

1 knowledge, qualifications, and manual skills in plumbing, and
2 their knowledge of the State's minimum code of standards
3 relating to fixtures, materials, design and installation
4 methods of plumbing systems, promulgated pursuant to this
5 Act.

6 (5) Issue a plumber's license and license renewal to
7 every applicant who has passed the examination and who has
8 paid the required license and renewal fee.

9 (6) Prescribe rules for hearings to deny, suspend,
10 revoke or reinstate licenses as provided in this Act.

11 (7) Maintain a current record showing (a) the names and
12 addresses of licensed plumbing contractors, licensed
13 plumbers, licensed apprentice plumbers, and licensed retired
14 plumbers, (b) the dates of issuance of licenses, (c) the date
15 and substance of the charges set forth in any hearing for
16 denial, suspension or revocation of any license, (d) the date
17 and substance of the final order issued upon each such
18 hearing, and (e) the date and substance of all petitions for
19 reinstatement of license and final orders on such petitions.

20 (8) Prescribe, in consultation with the Board, uniform
21 and reasonable rules defining what constitutes an approved
22 course of instruction in plumbing, in colleges, universities,
23 or trade schools, and approve or disapprove the courses of
24 instruction offered by such colleges, universities, or trade
25 schools by reference to their compliance or noncompliance
26 with such rules. Such rules shall be designed to assure that
27 an approved course of instruction will adequately teach the
28 design, planning, installation, replacement, extension,
29 alteration and repair of plumbing.

30 (Source: P.A. 89-665, eff. 8-14-96.)

31 (225 ILCS 320/13.1 new)

32 Sec. 13.1. Plumbing contractors; registration;
33 applications.

1 (1) On and after May 1, 2002, all persons or
2 corporations desiring to engage in the business of
3 plumbing contractor shall register in accordance with the
4 provisions of this Act.

5 (2) Application for registration shall be filed with
6 the Department each year, on or before last day of April,
7 in writing and on forms prepared and furnished by the
8 Department. All plumbing contractor registrations expire
9 on the last day of April of each year.

10 (3) Applications shall contain the name, address,
11 and telephone number of the person and the plumbing
12 license of (i) the individual, if a sole proprietorship;
13 (ii) the partner, if a partnership; or (iii) an officer,
14 if a corporation. The application shall contain the
15 business name, address, and telephone number, a current
16 copy of the plumbing license, and any other information
17 the Department may require by rule.

18 (4) Applicants shall submit an original certificate
19 of insurance documenting that the contractor carries
20 general liability insurance with a minimum of \$100,000
21 per occurrence, bodily injury insurance with a minimum of
22 \$300,000 per occurrence, property damage insurance with a
23 minimum of \$50,000, and workers compensation insurance
24 with a minimum \$500,000. No registration may be issued
25 in the absence of this certificate. Certificates must be
26 in force at all times for registration to remain valid.

27 (5) Applicants shall submit, on a form provided by
28 the Department, an indemnification bond in the amount of
29 \$20,000 or a letter of credit in the same amount for work
30 performed in accordance with this Act and the rules
31 promulgated under this Act.

32 (6) At least one owner or officer of every
33 registered plumbing contractor shall be licensed as a
34 plumber in accordance with this Act. All employees of a

1 licensed plumbing contractor who engage in plumbing work
2 shall be licensed plumbers or apprentice plumbers in
3 accordance with this Act.

4 (7) Plumbing contractors shall submit an annual
5 registration fee in an amount to be established by rule.

6 (8) Plumbing contractor registration shall be
7 renewed annually upon submission, 30 days prior to
8 expiration of the current license, of the registration
9 fee, registration application, indemnification bond, and
10 the certificate of insurance.

11 (9) The Department shall be notified in advance of
12 any changes in the business structure, name, or location
13 or of the addition or deletion of the owner or officer
14 who is the licensed plumber listed on the application.
15 Failure to notify the Department of this information is
16 grounds for suspension or revocation of the plumbing
17 contractor's registration.

18 (10) In the event that the plumber's license on the
19 application for registration of a plumbing contractor is
20 a license issued by City of Chicago, it shall be the
21 responsibility of the applicant to forward a copy of the
22 plumber's license to the Department, noting the name of
23 the registered plumbing contractor, when it is renewed.

24 (225 ILCS 320/20) (from Ch. 111, par. 1119)

25 Sec. 20. Grounds for discipline. (1) The Director may
26 deny, revoke or suspend a license or registration when
27 findings show one or more of the following:

28 (a) That the licensee or registrant obtained or
29 conspired with others to obtain a license or registration
30 by inducing the issuance thereof in consideration of the
31 payment of money or delivery of any other thing of value
32 or by and through misrepresentation of facts.

33 (b) That the licensee or registrant willfully

1 violated any law of this State or any rule, regulation or
 2 code promulgated thereunder regulating plumbing, licensed
 3 or registered plumbing contractors, licensed plumbers,
 4 licensed apprentice plumbers, licensed retired plumbers,
 5 water well pump installations and private sewage disposal
 6 systems.

7 (c) That the licensee or registrant has been
 8 guilty of negligence or incompetence in the performance
 9 of plumbing.

10 (d) That the licensee or registrant has loaned or
 11 in any manner transferred his or her license to another
 12 person.

13 (e) That the sponsor or his or her agent has failed
 14 to properly supervise a licensed apprentice plumber.

15 (f) That the owner or officer of a registered
 16 plumbing contractor failed to maintain a valid plumbing
 17 license.

18 (g) That the registered plumbing contractor used a
 19 plumbing license without the permission of the licensee.

20 (2) If a license is suspended or revoked, the license
 21 shall be surrendered to the Department but, if suspended, it
 22 shall be returned to the licensee upon the termination of the
 23 suspension period.

24 The Department may refuse to issue or may suspend the
 25 license of any person who fails to file a return, or to pay
 26 the tax, penalty or interest shown in a filed return, or to
 27 pay any final assessment of tax, penalty or interest, as
 28 required by any tax Act administered by the Illinois
 29 Department of Revenue, until such time as the requirements of
 30 any such tax Act are satisfied.

31 (Source: P.A. 87-885.)

32 (225 ILCS 320/29.5)

33 Sec. 29.5. Unlicensed and unregistered practice;

1 violation; civil penalty.

2 (a) A person who practices, offers to practice, attempts
3 to practice, or holds himself or herself out to practice as a
4 plumber or plumbing contractor without being licensed or
5 registered under this Act, or as an irrigation contractor
6 without being registered under this Act, shall, in addition
7 to any other penalty provided by law, pay a civil penalty to
8 the Department in an amount not to exceed \$5,000 for each
9 offense as determined by the Department. The civil penalty
10 shall be assessed by the Department after a hearing is held
11 in accordance with the provisions set forth in this Act
12 regarding the provision of a hearing for the discipline of a
13 licensee or registrant.

14 (b) The Department has the authority and power to
15 investigate any person who practices, offers to practice,
16 attempts to practice, or holds himself or herself out to
17 practice as a plumber or plumbing contractor without being
18 licensed or registered under this Act, or as an irrigation
19 contractor without being registered under this Act.

20 (c) The civil penalty shall be paid within 60 days after
21 the effective date of the order imposing the civil penalty.
22 The order shall constitute a judgment and may be filed and
23 execution had on the judgment in the same manner as a
24 judgment from a court of record. All fines and penalties
25 collected by the Department under this Section of the Act and
26 accrued interest shall be deposited into the Plumbing
27 Licensure and Program Fund for use by the Department in
28 performing activities relating to the administration and
29 enforcement of this Act.

30 (Source: P.A. 90-714, eff. 8-7-98; 91-678, eff. 1-26-00.)

31 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
32 becoming law."