

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA**  
**SESSION 2017**

**S**

**D**

**SENATE BILL 156**  
**PROPOSED COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE S156-PCS45368-SV-4**

Short Title: Plumbing & Heating Contractors Changes. (Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

March 2, 2017

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT TO CLARIFY THE TYPES OF ACTIVITY REGULATED BY THE STATE  
3 BOARD OF EXAMINERS OF PLUMBING, HEATING, AND FIRE SPRINKLER  
4 CONTRACTORS AND TO REAUTHORIZE THE BOARD TO ISSUE LICENSES FOR  
5 CERTAIN RESTRICTED CLASSIFICATIONS.

6 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

7 **SECTION 1.** G.S. 87-21 reads as rewritten:

8 **"§ 87-21. Definitions; contractors licensed by Board; examination; posting license, etc.**

9 (a) Definitions. – For the purpose of this Article:

10 ...

11 (5) Any person, firm or corporation, who for a valuable consideration, (i)  
12 verifies, inspects, evaluates, tests, installs, alters or restores, or offers to  
13 verify, inspect, evaluate, test, install, alter or restore, either plumbing,  
14 heating group number one, or heating group number two, or heating group  
15 number three, or (ii) verifies, inspects, evaluates, tests, lays out, fabricates,  
16 installs, alters or restores, or offers to verify, inspect, evaluate, test, lay out,  
17 fabricate, install, alter or restore fire sprinklers, or any combination thereof,  
18 as defined in this Article, shall be deemed and held to be engaged in the  
19 business of plumbing, heating, or fire sprinkler contracting; provided,  
20 however, that nothing herein shall be deemed to restrict the practice of  
21 qualified registered professional engineers. Any person who installs a  
22 plumbing, heating, or fire sprinkler system on property which at the time of  
23 installation was intended for sale or to be used primarily for rental is deemed  
24 to be engaged in the business of plumbing, heating, or fire sprinkler  
25 contracting without regard to receipt of consideration, unless exempted  
26 elsewhere in this Article.

27 ...

28 (b) Classes of Licenses; Eligibility and Examination of Applicant; Necessity for  
29 License. –

30 (1) In order to protect the public health, comfort and safety, the Board shall  
31 establish two classes of licenses: Class I covering all plumbing, heating, and  
32 fire sprinkler systems for all structures, and Class II covering plumbing and  
33 heating systems in single-family detached residential dwellings.

34 (2) Restricted licenses or classifications. –

35 a. The Board shall establish and issue a fuel piping license for use by  
36 persons who do not possess the required Class I or Class II plumbing



- 1 or heating license, but desire to engage in the contracting or installing  
2 of fuel piping extending from an approved fuel source at or near the  
3 premises, which piping is used or may be used to supply fuel to any  
4 systems, equipment, or appliances located inside the premises.
- 5 b. The Board shall establish and issue a limited plumbing contractor  
6 license for use by persons who do not possess the required Class I or  
7 Class II plumbing license but desire to engage in the contracting or  
8 installation, repair, or replacement of either of the following:
- 9 1. Exterior potable water service lines or backflow preventers  
10 serving irrigation systems or domestic water service systems  
11 of two inch diameter or smaller.
- 12 2. Exterior building sewer or water service piping of two inch  
13 diameter or smaller.
- 14 c. The Board shall establish and issue:
- 15 1. A State and local government plumbing, heating group  
16 number one, heating group number two, or heating group  
17 number three technician license for use by persons who do  
18 not possess the required plumbing, heating group number  
19 one, heating group number two, or heating group number  
20 three contractor license but desire to engage in the  
21 installation, repair, or replacement of plumbing, heating  
22 group number one, heating group number two, or heating  
23 group number three solely as an employee of a State or local  
24 government agency.
- 25 2. A State and local government plumbing, heating group  
26 number one, heating group number two, or heating group  
27 number three technician license for use by persons who do  
28 possess the required plumbing, heating group number one,  
29 heating group number two, or heating group number three  
30 contractor license but also desire to engage in the installation,  
31 repair, or replacement of plumbing, heating group number  
32 one, heating group number two, or heating group number  
33 three as an employee of a State or local government agency  
34 without listing their contractor license in the name of the  
35 State or local government agency. Licensed contractors who  
36 obtain the State and local government technician license shall  
37 be allowed to contract and perform work under their  
38 contractor license only during hours such contractor is not  
39 actively employed with the State or local government as a  
40 technician, and is on-site carrying out the contracting activity  
41 personally. No work can be performed by the State or local  
42 government agency in reliance upon the technician license  
43 when the licensee is not present.
- 44 d. The Board may also establish additional restricted classifications to  
45 provide for:
- 46 1. The licensing of any person, partnership, firm, or corporation  
47 desiring to engage in a specific phase of heating, plumbing, or  
48 fire sprinkling contracting.
- 49 2. The licensing of any person, partnership, firm, or corporation  
50 desiring to engage in a specific phase of heating, plumbing, or  
51 fire sprinkling contracting that is an incidental part of their

