

# **WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE**

**2020 REGULAR SESSION**

**Committee Substitute**

**for**

**Senate Bill 705**

SENATORS MAYNARD, BLAIR, CLEMENTS, CLINE, AND

RUCKER, *original sponsors*

[Originating in the Committee on the Workforce;

reported on February 19, 2020]



1 A BILL to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new section,  
2 designated §21-14-3a; to amend said code by adding thereto a new section, designated  
3 §29-3B-4a; and to amend said code by adding thereto a new section, designated §29-3D-  
4 4a, all relating to allowing military veterans with certain experience to qualify for  
5 examination for licensure as a plumber, electrician, sprinkler fitter, and sprinkler fitter in  
6 training; providing the qualifications to sit for a plumber's examination; providing  
7 qualifications to sit for an electrician's examination; and providing qualifications to sit for  
8 an examination of a sprinkler fitter in training or a journeyman sprinkler fitter.

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:*

## **CHAPTER 21. LABOR.**

### **ARTICLE 14. SUPERVISION OF PLUMBING WORK.**

#### **§21-14-3a. Veteran qualification for examination for license as a plumber.**

1 Any person who has served as a member of the United States armed forces, National  
2 Guard, or reserve, and who has successfully completed the course of instruction required to  
3 qualify him or her for rating as a plumber, utilities worker, or other equivalent rating in his or her  
4 particular branch of the armed forces, and whose service in the armed forces was under  
5 honorable conditions, may submit to the West Virginia Commissioner of Labor a photostatic copy  
6 of the certificate issued to him or her certifying successful completion of such course of instruction,  
7 a photostatic copy of his or her discharge from the armed forces, an application for a certification  
8 as a plumber, and the prescribed license fee.

9 If the certificate and discharge, as evidenced by the photostatic copies thereof, and the  
10 application and prescribed license fee are in order, and if the veteran meets all of the requirements  
11 of this article, the veteran shall be permitted to take the same examination or examinations as are  
12 required under this article for applicants who do not apply for a license under the provisions of  
13 this article: *Provided*, That the veteran may be required to attend additional training courses prior

14 to taking the examination if more than 30 years have passed from his or her successful completion  
15 of the course of instruction and date of application. If the veteran passes the examination or  
16 examinations, he or she shall be licensed as a plumber and shall thereafter be subject to all of  
17 the provisions of this article. If the veteran does not pass the examination or examinations, any  
18 provisions of this article relating to reexaminations shall apply to the veteran the same as they  
19 apply to a person who does not apply for a license under the provisions of this article.

## **CHAPTER 29. MISCELLANEOUS BOARDS AND OFFICERS.**

### **ARTICLE 3B. SUPERVISION OF ELECTRICIANS.**

#### **§29-3B-4a. Veteran qualification for examination for license as an electrician.**

1 Any person who has served as a member of the United States armed forces, National  
2 Guard, or reserve, and who has successfully completed the course of instruction required to  
3 qualify him or her for rating as an electrician, electrician's mate, or other equivalent rating in his  
4 or her particular branch of the armed forces, and whose service in the armed forces was under  
5 honorable conditions, may submit to the State Fire Marshal a photostatic copy of the certificate  
6 issued to him or her certifying successful completion of such course of instruction, a photostatic  
7 copy of his or her discharge from the armed forces, an application for a certification as an  
8 electrician, and the prescribed license fee.

9 If the certificate and discharge, as evidenced by the photostatic copies thereof, and the  
10 application and prescribed license fee are in order, and if the veteran meets all of the requirements  
11 of this article, the veteran shall be permitted to take the same examination or examinations as are  
12 required under this article for applicants who do not apply for a license under the provisions of  
13 this article: *Provided*, That the veteran may be required to attend additional training courses prior  
14 to taking the examination if more than 30 years have passed from his or her successful completion  
15 of the course of instruction and date of application. If the veteran passes the examination or  
16 examinations, he or she shall be licensed as an electrician and shall thereafter be subject to all

17 of the provisions of this article. If the veteran does not pass the examination or examinations, any  
18 provisions of this article relating to reexaminations shall apply to the veteran the same as they  
19 apply to a person who does not apply for a license under the provisions of this article.

**ARTICLE 3D. SUPERVISION OF FIRE PROTECTION WORK.**

**§29-3D-4a. Veteran qualification for license as a journeyman sprinkler fitter or a sprinkler  
fitter in training.**

1 Any person who has served as a member of the United States armed forces, National  
2 Guard, or reserve, and who has successfully completed the course of instruction required to  
3 qualify him or her for rating as a fire protection officer or other equivalent rating in his or her  
4 particular branch of the armed forces, which provided the veteran direct experience installing,  
5 adjusting, repairing, and dismantling fire protection systems, and whose service in the armed  
6 forces was under honorable conditions, may submit to the State Fire Marshal a photostatic copy  
7 of a certificate issued to him or her certifying successful completion of such course of instruction  
8 and documentation evidencing the number of hours of experience the veteran possesses, a  
9 photostatic copy of his or her discharge from the armed forces, an application for a certification  
10 as a journeyman sprinkler fitter or sprinkler fitter in training, and the prescribed license fee.

11 If the certificate and discharge, as evidenced by the photostatic copies thereof,  
12 documentation of hours of training and experience, and prescribed license fee are in order, and  
13 if the veteran meets all of the requirements of this article, the veteran shall be permitted to take  
14 the same examination or examinations as are required under this article for applicants who do  
15 not apply for a license under the provisions of this article: *Provided*, That the veteran may be  
16 required to attend additional training courses prior to taking the examination if more than 30 years  
17 have passed from his or her successful completion of the course of instruction and date of  
18 application. If the veteran passes the examination or examinations, he or she shall be licensed  
19 as a sprinkler fitter in training or a journeyman sprinkler fitter and shall thereafter be subject to all  
20 of the provisions of this article. If the veteran does not pass the examination or examinations, any

- 21 provisions of this article relating to reexaminations shall apply to the veteran the same as they  
22 apply to a person who does not apply for a license under the provisions of this article.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to all allow military veterans with certain training and experience to qualify for examination for licensure as electricians and plumbers or in other trades.

Strike-throughs indicate language that would be stricken from a heading or the present law and underscoring indicates new language that would be added.