



# House of Representatives

General Assembly

**File No. 370**

February Session, 2002

Substitute House Bill No. 5505

*House of Representatives, April 8, 2002*

The Committee on Public Health reported through REP. EBERLE of the 15th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

## **AN ACT ENSURING THE PROPER INSTALLATION AND MAINTENANCE OF MEDICAL GAS AND VACUUM SYSTEMS.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 20-330 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2002*):

3 As used in this chapter:

4 (1) "Contractor" means any person regularly offering to the general  
5 public services of such person or such person's employees in the field  
6 of electrical work, plumbing and piping work, solar work, heating,  
7 piping, cooling and sheet metal work, fire protection sprinkler systems  
8 work, elevator installation, repair and maintenance work, irrigation  
9 work, automotive glass work or flat glass work, as defined in this  
10 section;

11 (2) "Electrical work" means the installation, erection, maintenance,  
12 alteration or repair of any wire, cable, conduit, busway, raceway,

13 support, insulator, conductor, appliance, apparatus, fixture or  
14 equipment that generates, transforms, transmits or uses electrical  
15 energy for light, heat, power or other purposes, but does not include  
16 low voltage wiring, not exceeding twenty-four volts, used within a  
17 lawn sprinkler system;

18 (3) "Plumbing and piping work" means the installation, repair,  
19 replacement, alteration or maintenance of gas, water and associated  
20 fixtures, laboratory equipment, sanitary equipment, other than  
21 subsurface sewage disposal systems, fire prevention apparatus, all  
22 water systems for human usage, sewage treatment facilities and all  
23 associated fittings within a building and includes lateral storm and  
24 sanitary lines from buildings to the mains, swimming pools and  
25 pumping equipment, and includes making connections to back flow  
26 prevention devices, and includes low voltage wiring, not exceeding  
27 twenty-four volts, used within a lawn sprinkler system, but does not  
28 include (A) solar work, except for the repair of those portions of a solar  
29 hot water heating system that include the basic domestic hot water  
30 tank and the tie-in to the potable water system, [and] (B) the  
31 installation, repair, replacement, alteration or maintenance of fire  
32 prevention apparatus within a structure, except for standpipes that are  
33 not connected to sprinkler systems, and (C) medical gas and vacuum  
34 systems work;

35 (4) "Solar work" means the installation, repair, replacement,  
36 alteration or maintenance of an active, passive or hybrid solar hot  
37 water heating system;

38 (5) "Heating, piping and cooling work" means (A) the installation,  
39 repair, replacement, maintenance or alteration of any apparatus for  
40 piping, appliances, devices or accessories for heating systems,  
41 including sheet metal work, and (B) the installation, repair,  
42 replacement, maintenance or alteration of air conditioning and  
43 refrigeration systems, boilers, including apparatus and piping for the  
44 generation or conveyance of steam and associated pumping  
45 equipment. Heating, piping and cooling work does not include solar

46 work or medical gas and vacuum systems;

47 (6) "Apprentice" means any person registered with the Labor  
48 Department for the purpose of learning a skilled trade;

49 (7) "Elevator installation, repair and maintenance work" means the  
50 installation, erection, maintenance and repair of all types of elevators,  
51 dumb waiters, escalators, and moving walks and all mechanical  
52 equipment, fittings, associated piping and wiring from a source of  
53 supply brought to the equipment room by an unlimited electrical  
54 contractor for all types of machines used to hoist or convey persons or  
55 materials, but does not include temporary hoisting machines used for  
56 hoisting materials in connection with any construction job or project;

57 (8) "Elevator maintenance" means the lubrication, inspection and  
58 replacement of controls, hoistway and car parts;

59 (9) "Fire protection sprinkler systems work" means the layout, on-  
60 site fabrication, installation, alteration or repair of any automatic or  
61 manual sprinkler system designed for the protection of the interior or  
62 exterior of a building or structure from fire, or any piping or tubing  
63 and appurtenances and equipment pertaining to such system  
64 including overhead and underground water mains, fire hydrants and  
65 hydrant mains, standpipes and hose connections to sprinkler systems,  
66 sprinkler tank heaters excluding electrical wiring, air lines and thermal  
67 systems used in connection with sprinkler and alarm systems  
68 connected thereto, foam extinguishing systems or special hazard  
69 systems including water spray, foam, carbon dioxide or dry chemical  
70 systems, halon and other liquid or gas fire suppression systems, but  
71 does not include (A) any engineering design work connected with the  
72 layout of fire protection sprinkler systems, or (B) any work performed  
73 by employees of or contractors hired by a public water system, as  
74 defined in subsection (a) of section 25-33d;

75 (10) "State Fire Marshal" means the State Fire Marshal or any  
76 member of the Division of State Police to whom the Commissioner of  
77 Public Safety has delegated powers under section 29-291;

78 (11) "Journeyman sprinkler fitter" means a specialized pipe fitter  
79 craftsman, experienced and skilled in the installation, alteration,  
80 maintenance and repair of fire protection sprinkler systems;

81 (12) "Irrigation work" means making the connections to back flow  
82 prevention devices, and low voltage wiring, not exceeding twenty-four  
83 volts, used within a lawn sprinkler system;

84 (13) "Sheet metal work" means the installation, erection,  
85 replacement, repair or alteration of duct work systems, both ferrous  
86 and nonferrous;

87 (14) "Journeyman sheet metal worker" means an experienced  
88 craftsman skilled in the installation, erection, replacement, repair or  
89 alteration of duct work systems, both ferrous and nonferrous;

90 (15) "Automotive glass work" means installing, maintaining or  
91 repairing fixed glass in motor vehicles; [and]

92 (16) "Flat glass work" means installing, maintaining or repairing  
93 glass in residential or commercial structures; and

94 (17) "Medical gas and vacuum systems work" means the work and  
95 practice, materials, instrumentation and fixtures used in the  
96 construction, installation, alteration, extension, removal, repair,  
97 maintenance or renovation of gas and vacuum systems and equipment  
98 used solely to transport gases for medical purposes and to remove  
99 liquids, air-gases or solids from such systems.

100 Sec. 2. Section 20-334a of the general statutes is amended by adding  
101 subsection (g) as follows (*Effective July 1, 2002*):

102 (NEW) (g) On or after July 1, 2002, a medical gas and vacuum  
103 systems certificate for medical gas and vacuum systems work may be  
104 issued by the department, upon the authorization of the Plumbing and  
105 Piping Work Board or the Heating, Piping and Cooling Work Board, as  
106 appropriate, to any person who (1) has been issued a P-1, P-2, S-1, S-2,  
107 S-3 or S-4 license under subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of this section,



The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either House thereof for any purpose:

**OFA Fiscal Note**

**State Impact:**

Fund-Type	Agency Affected	Current FY \$	FY 03 \$	FY 04 \$
GF - Revenue Gain	Consumer Protection, Dept.	-	Indeterminate	Indeterminate

Note: GF=General Fund

**Municipal Impact:** None

**Explanation**

This bill requires anyone performing medical gas and vacuum systems work to obtain a medical gas and vacuum systems certificate from the Department of Consumer Protection (DCP). Since such certificate will become part of the annual licensing renewal process, the workload increase can be absorbed within normal budgetary resources.

There will be a \$25 annual fee for the certificate. Since the number of persons applying for medical gas and vacuum systems certificate is unknown, the revenue gain is indeterminate but is expected to be minimal.

**OLR Bill Analysis**

sHB 5505

**AN ACT ENSURING THE PROPER INSTALLATION AND MAINTENANCE OF MEDICAL GAS AND VACUUM SYSTEMS****SUMMARY:**

This bill requires anyone performing medical gas and vacuum systems work to obtain a medical gas and vacuum systems certificate from the Department of Consumer Protection (DCP). DCP may issue the certificate, upon the authorization of the Plumbing and Piping Work Board or Heating, Piping and Cooling Work Board, whichever is applicable. The certificate costs \$25 and must be renewed annually.

The bill requires that a certificate applicant be (1) licensed as an unlimited plumbing-piping contractor or journeyman, unlimited heating-cooling contractor or journeyman, or limited heating-cooling contractor or journeyman; (2) certified as a medical gas and vacuum system brazer in accordance with the American Society of Mechanical Engineers Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code; and (3) certified as having completed an approved training course on medical gas and vacuum system installation as required by the American National Standards Institute-American Society of Sanitary Engineering Series 6000.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2002

**MEDICAL GAS AND VACUUM SYSTEMS WORK**

The bill defines “medical gas and vacuum systems work” as (1) the work and practice, material, instrumentation, and fixtures used in construction, installation, alteration, extension, removal, repair, maintenance, or renovation of gas and vacuum systems and (2) equipment used solely to transport gases for medical purposes and to remove liquids, air-gases, or solids from such systems.

**BACKGROUND*****Licenses***

State law establishes a licensing system for several trades overseen by different licensing boards, including the Heating, Piping and Cooling Work Board and Plumbing and Piping Work Board. The boards have the power to determine who qualifies for a license and to enforce standards by disciplining licensees. Each trade has different levels of expertise—apprentice, journeyman, and contractor. Workers must meet education, training, and experience requirements to qualify for each level. The boards establish less extensive requirements for workers attempting to qualify for a limited license. DCP's duties to the boards include receiving complaints, carrying out investigations, and performing administrative tasks, such as physically issuing licenses and renewals.

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Public Safety Committee

Joint Favorable Change of Reference  
Yea 22    Nay 0

Public Health Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute  
Yea 24    Nay 0