



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 170

January Session, 2007

Substitute Senate Bill No. 1303

Senate, March 28, 2007

The Committee on General Law reported through SEN. COLAPIETRO of the 31st Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT ENHANCING PREAPPRENTICESHIP TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES.

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 20-334a of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
3 *passage*):

4 (a) Except as otherwise provided in this section, the following
5 licenses may be issued by the Department of Consumer Protection,
6 upon authorization of the boards, under the provisions of section
7 20-333:

8 (1) (A) An unlimited contractor's license may be issued to a person
9 who has served as a journeyman in the trade for which such person
10 seeks a license for not less than two years and, if such service as a
11 journeyman was outside this state, has furnished evidence satisfactory
12 to the appropriate state board that such service is comparable to
13 similar service in this state, or has furnished satisfactory evidence of
14 education and experience and has passed an examination which has

15 demonstrated that such person is competent in all aspects of such
16 trade to be an unlimited contractor. (B) A limited contractor's license
17 may be issued to a person who fulfills the requirements of
18 subparagraph (A) of this subdivision as to a specific area or areas
19 within the trade for which such person seeks a license. (C) The holder
20 of an unlimited or a limited contractor's license may, within the trade,
21 or the area or areas of the trade, for which such holder has been
22 licensed, furnish supplies and do layout, installation, repair and
23 maintenance work and distribute and handle materials, provided
24 nothing in this subdivision shall be construed to authorize the
25 performance of any action for which licensure is required under the
26 provisions of chapter 390 or 391. Such licensee shall furnish the board
27 with evidence that such licensee will comply with all state
28 requirements pertaining to workers' compensation and unemployment
29 insurance and that such evidence shall be available to any properly
30 interested person prior to the issuance of a license under this
31 subdivision.

32 (2) (A) An unlimited journeyman's license may be issued to any
33 person who has completed a bona fide apprenticeship program,
34 including not less than four years' experience in the trade for which
35 such person seeks a license, and has demonstrated such person's
36 competency to perform all services included in the trade for which a
37 license is sought by successfully completing the applicable state
38 licensure examination. (B) A limited journeyman's license may be
39 issued to a person who fulfills the requirements of subparagraph (A) of
40 this subdivision in a specific area or areas of the trade for which such
41 person seeks a license, provided the length of experience required may
42 be less than four years for such area or areas of the trade.

43 (3) (A) An elevator craftsman's license may be issued to any person
44 who has completed an apprenticeship program, has at least two years'
45 experience in elevator installation, repair and maintenance work and
46 has demonstrated such person's competency to perform such work. (B)
47 An elevator helper's license may be issued for the performance of
48 elevator maintenance under the supervision of an elevator craftsman.

49 (4) An apprentice's permit may be issued for the performance of
 50 work in a trade licensed under the provisions of this chapter, for the
 51 purpose of training, which work may be performed only under the
 52 supervision of a licensed contractor, journeyman or elevator craftsman.
 53 A contractor licensed pursuant to this chapter may employ a
 54 preapprentice, provided each such contractor is licensed in the trade
 55 for which the preapprentice has a permit and is available to supervise
 56 the preapprentice. For purposes of this subdivision, "preapprentice"
 57 means a student enrolled in a regional vocational-technical school and
 58 employed pursuant to a written agreement with an apprenticeship
 59 program for a term of training and employment not greater than two
 60 thousand hours or twenty-four months. The employment of a
 61 preapprentice shall not count toward any hiring ratio established
 62 pursuant to section 20-332-15a of the Regulations of Connecticut State
 63 Agencies. Notwithstanding the provisions of said section 20-332-15a,
 64 the worksite ratio shall not be less than one full-time journeyman
 65 instructing and supervising the work of each apprentice or
 66 preapprentice in a specific trade.

67 (5) An apprentice permit shall expire upon the failure of the
 68 apprentice holding such permit to apply for the first licensure
 69 examination given by the department following completion of an
 70 apprentice training program as provided in subdivision (2) of this
 71 subsection.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	from passage	20-334a(a)

Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

In subdivision (4), "sponsored" was deleted for clarity.

GL *Joint Favorable Subst.-LCO*

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 chamber thereof for any purpose:

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

This bill allows a licensed contractor to employ a preapprentice under certain conditions, and has no fiscal impact.

The Out Years

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

OLR Bill Analysis**SB 1303*****AN ACT ENHANCING PREAPPRENTICESHIP TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill allows contractors in any of the licensed occupational trades to employ a preapprentice if (1) the preapprentice and contractor are credentialed in the same trade and (2) the contractor is available to supervise the preapprentice. The bill defines “preapprentice” as a student enrolled in a regional vocational-technical school and employed under a written agreement with an apprenticeship program sponsored for a term of training and employment not longer than 2,000 hours or 24 months.

The bill provides that (1) the preapprentice does not count toward the limit on the number of apprentices a contractor may employ and (2) the worksite ratio cannot be less than one fulltime journey person to one apprentice or preapprentice.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

BACKGROUND***Occupational Licensing System***

The bill applies to the trades overseen by the occupational licensing boards: the Examining Boards for Electrical Work; Plumbing and Piping Work; Heating, Piping, Cooling, and Sheet Metal Work; Elevator Installation, Repair, and Maintenance Work; Fire Protection Sprinkler Systems Work; and Automotive Glasswork and Flat Glasswork. They are in the Department of Consumer Protection (DCP). The law establishes a licensing system for these trades. The licensing boards determine who qualifies for a license and enforce standards by disciplining licensees. Each trade has different levels of

expertise—apprentice, journeyman, and contractor. Contractors may offer their services to the public and apprentices and journeymen must work for contractors. Workers must meet education, training, and experience requirements to qualify for each level. Boards may create limited licenses authorizing their holders to work in a specific area of a trade. They 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.

Apprentice Employment Ratio

DCP regulations require apprentices to work only in the presence, under the direct supervision, and within the sight or hearing of a licensed contractor or journeyman. The regulations limit the number of apprentices certain contractors may employ.

Electrical contractors; plumbing contractors; heating, piping, and cooling contractors; and fire protection sprinkler contractors may employ one apprentice and one additional apprentice for every three journeymen they employ. Elevator installation and repair contractors may employ one helper and one additional helper for each craftsman they employ (Conn. Agencies Reg. § 20-332-15a).

Related Bill

HB 5146, reported favorably by the General Law Committee, changes the employment apprentice ratio allowing a contractor to employ one apprentice and one additional apprentice for each journeyman they employ.

COMMITTEE ACTION

General Law Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 19 Nay 0 (03/14/2007)