

**GENERAL LAW COMMITTEE PUBLIC HEARING – MARCH 8, 2011**  
**TESTIMONY**

**RE: SB 1131 – AAC CONSUMER PROTECTION**

Presented by: Cameron Champlin and Joyce Wojtas  
UA Plumbers & Pipefitters Local 777

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The Plumbers & Pipefitters Local 777 would like to go on record in support of Section 4 of Senate Bill 1131 concerning a “retirement status license” for retirees licensed under the occupational licensing law in Chapter 393 of the general statutes.

Over the years, many of the trades’ people who have reached retirement age have often expressed an interest in keeping their licenses, even though they do not practice the trade. They are very proud of their education in the trade and their careers and would like to be able to keep this memento, which has played such a significant role in their lives and their livelihood. Most retirees have no intention of practicing their trade again, however, due to unforeseen circumstances there may be some people who would like to have a license reinstated.

After reviewing the language in Section 4, it is our belief that this retirement status license should only be granted to people who have reached retirement age or become disabled. Local 777 also believes that because of the continuing education requirements for certain licensed trades in Chapter 393, that the licensing boards should be included in the decision for a license reinstatement. This will ensure that the education requirements are met prior to the actual issuance of a license to practice the trade for which it is intended.

We therefore respectfully request that the bill be amended, starting on Line 142, as follows:

Sec. 4. (NEW) (*Effective January 1, 2012*) (a) Any person currently holding a license issued by the Department of Consumer Protection pursuant to title 20 of the general statutes may renew his or her license as a retirement status license, provided he or she does not intend to actively engage in the practice of the occupation or trade for which the license was originally issued. **The applicant must be eligible for retirement benefits or be eligible for Supplemental Security Income under the federal Social Security Act and have held such license for not less than five years.**

(b) An applicant for a retirement status license shall submit their original license to the Department of Consumer Protection, along with a letter of request for such classification. The letter shall contain a statement expressing the licensee's current retirement status and the acceptance of a restriction on the license prohibiting the

applicant from actively engaging in the practice of the occupation or trade for which the license was originally issued.

(c) **A licensee who is** [Licensees who are] issued a retirement status license may restore their original license by submitting a form, [to be] provided by the Department of Consumer Protection, requesting **a license** reinstatement and [by paying the current annual fee for such license.] **appearing before the appropriate licensing board for a determination of conditions for such reinstatement. The annual fee for the license shall be paid before reinstatement of such license.**

(d) Licensees who are issued a retirement status license shall not practice or offer to practice the occupation or trade for which their license was originally issued.

(e) The fee for a retirement status license shall be twenty dollars.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact:

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