
OLR Bill Analysis

SB 267 (File 223, as amended by Senate "A")*

AN ACT CONCERNING SWIMMING POOL MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR WORK.

SUMMARY:

This bill expands the activities that constitute "swimming pool maintenance and repair work" and must be performed by a licensed pool and spa contractor.

Under current law, the term includes the plumbing, heating, and electrical work needed to service, modify, or repair a swimming pool, hot tub, spa, or similar recreational or therapeutic equipment, when the work begins at an outlet, receptacle, connection, back-flow preventor, or fuel supply pipe previously installed by a licensed person. The bill adds replacement, alteration, and maintenance services.

The bill also expands the scope of maintenance and repair work to include renovating or repairing the nonpotable water structures of pools, hot tubs, or spas, not just their components. Existing law includes pool draining, acid washing, or backwash filtration.

By law, the Department of Consumer Protection (DCP) commissioner must adopt regulations on licensing swimming pool contractors, with help from the Plumbing and Piping Work Board. The current regulations include the experience and training needed to qualify to take the licensing exam (Conn. Agencies Reg. § 20-417aa-1). The bill allows, rather than requires as under current law, the regulations to include this information. It also allows the regulations to establish the specific trade areas needing a license and trainee and continuing professional education requirements.

*Senate Amendment "A" (1) removes water treatment from the scope of swimming pool maintenance and (2) allows, rather than

requires, the licensing regulations to address licensing trade areas, qualifications, training, and continuing education.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

REGULATIONS

Under the bill, the DCP commissioner may adopt regulations establishing:

1. specific trade areas requiring a limited license for swimming pool maintenance and repair work and specific trade areas that do not need one;
2. trainee requirements and training specifications;
3. continuing professional education requirements for licensees that include at least three hours of education every two years;
4. qualifying criteria for accredited continuing education programs; and
5. criteria to waive, for good cause, continuing education requirements.

COMMITTEE ACTION

General Law Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 17 Nay 0 (03/18/2014)