

Michigan Office of Administrative Hearings and Rules
Administrative Rules Division (ARD)

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REQUEST FOR RULEMAKING (RFR)

1. Department:

Licensing and Regulatory Affairs

2. Bureau:

Bureau of Construction Codes

3. Promulgation type:

Full Process

4. Title of proposed rule set:

State Plumbing Board Rules

5. Rule numbers or rule set range of numbers:

R 338.921 through R 338.932

6. Estimated time frame:

12 months

Name of person filling out RFR:

Amanda Johnson

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Address of person filling out RFR:

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7. Describe the general purpose of these rules, including any problems the changes are intended to address.

The Skilled Trades Regulation Act, 2016 PA 407, repealed the State Plumbing Act, 2002 PA 733, MCL 338.3511 to MCL 338.3569. The repealed Plumbing Act is outdated and does not provide uniform licensing, complaint investigation, and enforcement provisions for skilled trades licenses. This places a burden on the bureau administering the Plumbing Act and creates an inefficient use of resources. Additionally, many licensees who are cross-licensed in multiple trades have expressed dissatisfaction with conflicting provisions in separate licensing statutes. The Skilled Trades Regulation Act, 2016 PA 407, streamlines the processes for all license types included while providing for modernized provisions, such as electronic communication and third-party continuing education tracking options, and specifies violations for unlicensed activity as provided to other regulated professions. Because the State Plumbing Act was repealed, the bureau plans to rescind the licensing rules promulgated under that Act and create a new rule set to house all licensing rules regulated under the Skilled Trades Regulation Act, including the plumbing board licenses rules.

8. Please cite the specific promulgation authority for the rules (i.e. department director, commission, board, etc.).

Department Director and Boards & Commission.

A. Please list all applicable statutory references (MCLs, Executive Orders, etc.).

Promulgation of the Plumbing Board Licenses rules is authorized under section 207 of the Skilled Trades Act, 2016 PA 407, MCL 339.5207; and Executive Reorganization Order Nos. 2003-1, 2008 -4, and 2011-4, MCL 445.2011, MCL 445.2025, and MCL 445.2030. This authority replaces the previous authority under 2002 PA 733, MCL 338.3511 to 338.3569.

B. Are the rules mandated by any applicable constitutional or statutory provision? If so, please explain.

Some of the rules are mandated pursuant to MCL 339.5207; which states that the department shall, in consultation with the appropriate board, promulgate rules that the department considers necessary and appropriate to implement and administer and articles 1-6 and that enable the department to fulfill its responsibilities under the act.

9. Please describe the extent to which the rules conflict with or duplicate similar rules, compliance requirements, or other standards adopted at the state, regional, or federal level.

There are no similar rules or regulations adopted by the state, regional, or federal government.

10. Is the subject matter of the rules currently contained in any guideline, handbook, manual, instructional bulletin, form with instructions, or operational memoranda?

There is no subject matter of these rules currently contained in any guideline, handbook, manual, instructional bulletin, form with the instructions, or operational memoranda.

11. Are the rules listed on the department's annual regulatory plan as rules to be processed for the current year?

Yes, these rules are listed in the department's annual regulatory plan.

12. Will the proposed rules be promulgated under Section 44 of the Administrative Procedures Act, 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.244, or under the full rulemaking process?

Full Process

13. Please describe the extent to which the rules exceed similar regulations, compliance requirements, or other standards adopted at the state, regional, or federal level.

There are no similar rules or regulations adopted by the state, regional, or federal government.

14. Do the rules incorporate the recommendations received from the public regarding any complaints or comments regarding the rules? If yes, please explain.

The rules incorporate recommendations received from the public via email and comments provided by the public at an informal advisory meeting.

15. If amending an existing rule set, please provide the date of the last evaluation of the rules and the degree, if any, to which technology, economic conditions, or other factors have changed the regulatory activity covered by the rules since the last evaluation.

The Plumbing Rules are being rescinded and being added to the new Skilled Trades Rules.

16. Are there any changes or developments since implementation that demonstrate there is no continued need for the rules, or any portion of the rules?

No

17. Is there an applicable decision record (as defined in MCL 24.203(6) and required by MCL 24.239(2))? If so, please attach the decision record.

No