

## **BILL ANALYSIS**

H.B. 2028  
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Defense & Veterans' Affairs  
Committee Report (Unamended)

### **BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE**

The Texas State Board of Plumbing Examiners is responsible for fulfilling and distributing plumbing licenses in Texas. Interested parties report that historically the board has informally accepted hours worked performing plumbing services in the military towards meeting state plumbing licensing requirements. In addition, such parties report that the board has rules in place to assist individuals whose plumbing licenses expired during deployment by allowing such individuals to renew a plumbing license in order to gain employment and also granting additional time to meet all of the renewal requirements. Interested parties assert that the high unemployment rate among veterans in the state and the country necessitates the formalization of processes and rules in state law to allow the board to credit the applicable military experience of a veteran towards the requirements of a plumbing license in Texas. H.B. 2028 seeks to address these concerns by facilitating licensure of applicants with military service.

### **RULEMAKING AUTHORITY**

It is the committee's opinion that rulemaking authority is expressly granted to the Texas State Board of Plumbing Examiners in SECTIONS 1 and 2 of this bill.

### **ANALYSIS**

H.B. 2028 amends the Occupations Code to require the Texas State Board of Plumbing Examiners to credit relevant experience, training, or education in plumbing that an applicant received while serving in the U.S. military, Texas National Guard, or Texas State Guard toward the requirements for a license issued under the Plumbing License Law. The bill requires the board, not later than March 1, 2014, to adopt rules necessary to implement its provisions. The bill applies only to an application for a license filed on or after May 1, 2014.

### **EFFECTIVE DATE**

On passage, or, if the bill does not receive the necessary vote, September 1, 2013.