

# **WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE**

## **2017 REGULAR SESSION**

**Introduced**

### **House Bill 2822**

BY DELEGATES HOWELL, SHOTT, LEWIS, WARD,

HAMRICK, ARVON, O'NEAL, STORCH, MARTIN,

HILL AND PAYNTER

[Introduced March 8, 2017; Referred  
to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs and Homeland  
Security then Government Organization.]

1 A BILL to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new section,  
 2 designated §21-14-3a; to amend said code by adding thereto a new section, designated  
 3 §29-3B-4a; and to amend said code by adding thereto a new section, designated 29-3D-  
 4 4a, all relating to allowing military veterans with certain military ratings to qualify for  
 5 examination for license as a plumber, allowing military veterans with certain military ratings  
 6 to qualify for examination for license as an electrician; allowing military veterans with  
 7 certain military ratings to qualify for examination for license as a sprinkler fitter in training  
 8 or a journeyman sprinkler fitter.

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:*

1 That the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, be amended by adding thereto a new  
 2 section, designated §21-14-3a; that said code be amended by adding thereto a new section,  
 3 designated §29-3B-4a; and that said code be amended by adding thereto a new section,  
 4 designated §29-3D-4a, all to read as follows:

**CHAPTER 21. LABOR.**

**ARTICLE 14. SUPERVISION OF PLUMBING WORK.**

**§21-14-3a. Veteran qualification for examination for license as a plumber.**

1 Any person who has served on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States and  
 2 who has successfully completed the course of instruction required to qualify him or her for rating  
 3 as a plumber, utilities man or other equivalent rating in his or her particular branch of the Armed  
 4 Forces, and whose service in the Armed Forces was under honorable conditions, may submit to  
 5 the West Virginia Commissioner of Labor a photostatic copy of the certificate issued to him or her  
 6 certifying successful completion of such course of instruction, a photostatic copy of his or her  
 7 discharge from the Armed Forces, an application for a certification as a plumber and the  
 8 prescribed license fee.

9 If the certificate and discharge, as evidenced by the photostatic copies thereof, the

10 application and prescribed license fee are in order, and if the veteran meets all of the requirements  
11 of this article, the veteran shall be permitted to take the same examination or examinations as are  
12 required under this article for applicants who do not apply for a license under the provisions of  
13 this article: *Provided*, That the veteran may be required to attend additional training courses prior  
14 to taking the examination if more than thirty years has passed from his or her successful  
15 completion of the course of instruction and date of application. If the veteran passes such  
16 examination or examinations, he or she shall be licensed as a plumber and shall thereafter be  
17 subject to all of the provisions of this article. If the veteran does not pass such examination or  
18 examinations, any provisions of this article relating to reexaminations shall apply to such veteran  
19 the same as they apply to a person who does not apply for a license under the provisions of this  
20 article.

## **CHAPTER 29. MISCELLANEOUS BOARDS AND OFFICERS.**

### **ARTICLE 3B. SUPERVISION OF ELECTRICIANS.**

#### **§29-3B-4a. Veteran qualification for examination for license as an electrician.**

1 Any person who has served on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States and  
2 who has successfully completed the course of instruction required to qualify him or her for rating  
3 as an electrician, electrician's mate or other equivalent rating in his or her particular branch of the  
4 Armed Forces, and whose service in the Armed Forces was under honorable conditions, may  
5 submit to the West Virginia Commissioner of Labor, a photostatic copy of the certificate issued to  
6 him or her certifying successful completion of such course of instruction, a photostatic copy of his  
7 or her discharge from the Armed Forces, an application for a certification as an electrician and  
8 the prescribed license fee.

9 If the certificate and discharge, as evidenced by the photostatic copies thereof, the  
10 application and prescribed license fee are in order, and if the veteran meets all of the requirements  
11 of this article, the veteran shall be permitted to take the same examination or examinations as are

12 required under this article for applicants who do not apply for a license under the provisions of  
13 this article: *Provided*, That the veteran may be required to attend additional training courses prior  
14 to taking the examination if more than thirty years has passed from his or her successful  
15 completion of the course of instruction and date of application. If the veteran passes such  
16 examination or examinations, he or she shall be licensed as a plumber and shall thereafter be  
17 subject to all of the provisions of this article. If the veteran does not pass such examination or  
18 examinations, any provisions of this article relating to reexaminations shall apply to such veteran  
19 the same as they apply to a person who does not apply for a license under the provisions of this  
20 article.

### **ARTICLE 3D. SUPERVISION OF FIRE PROTECTION WORK.**

#### **§29-3D-4a. Veteran qualification for license as a journeyman sprinkler fitter or a sprinkler fitter in training.**

1 Any person who has served on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States and  
2 who has successfully completed the course of instruction required to qualify him or her for rating  
3 as a fire protection officer or other equivalent rating in his or her particular branch of the Armed  
4 Forces, which provided the veteran direct experience installing, adjusting, repairing and  
5 dismantling fire protection systems, and whose service in the Armed Forces was under honorable  
6 conditions, may submit to the West Virginia Commissioner of Labor, a photostatic copy of a  
7 certificate issued to him or her certifying successful completion of such course of instruction and  
8 documentation evidencing the number of hours of experience the veteran possesses, a  
9 photostatic copy of his or her discharge from the Armed Forces, an application for a certification  
10 as a journeyman sprinkler fitter or sprinkler fitter in training and the prescribed license fee.

11 If the documentation of the veteran's training, hours of experience and discharge, as  
12 evidenced by the photostatic copies thereof, the application and prescribed license fee are in  
13 order, and if the veteran meets all of the requirements of this article, the veteran shall be permitted  
14 to take the same examination or examinations as are required under this article for applicants

15 who do not apply for a license under the provisions of this article: *Provided*, That the veteran may  
16 be required to attend additional training courses prior to taking the examination if more than thirty  
17 years has passed from his or her successful completion of the course of instruction and date of  
18 application. If the veteran passes such examination or examinations, he or she shall be licensed  
19 as a sprinkler fitter in training or a journeyman sprinkler fitter and shall thereafter be subject to all  
20 of the provisions of this article. If the veteran does not pass such examination or examinations,  
21 any provisions of this article relating to reexaminations shall apply to such veteran the same as  
22 they apply to a person who does not apply for a license under the provisions of this article.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to allow honorably discharged veterans who possess certain military ratings to qualify to take an examination for licensing as a plumber, electrician, and sprinkler fitter.

Strike-throughs indicate language that would be stricken from a heading or the present law and underscoring indicates new language that would be added.