

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)



Senate
Office of the Secretary

13 JUL 22 P2:09

SENATE

RECEIVED BY: *ji*

S. NO. 1004

Introduced by Senator Antonio "Sonny" F. Trillanes IV

EXPLANATORY NOTE

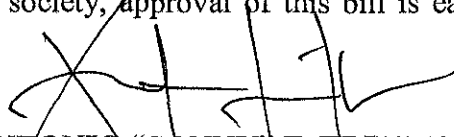
Plumbing system contributes a significant percentage of the value of every building or house. Considering the complexities plumbing installation covers, professional and licensed plumbers are necessary.

Plumbing engineering involves the application of scientific principles in the design of efficient, economical and ecologically-safe systems for the transport and distribution of fluids, solids and gases to answer human and industrial needs. In the country, the act of plumbing works has become more complex and multifaceted with the emergence and expansion of all types of modernized building design and construction. This scenario is evident enough to elucidate the demand for plumbing engineers.

However, there is a partially-met demand for plumbing expertise in the country. Although Republic Act No. 1378, otherwise known as the 'Plumbing Law', provided for the regulation of the trade of master plumbers, it has neither been amended nor revised since its enactment in 1955. Obviously, our Plumbing Law can be considered as obsolete - given the fact that there is a growing need to adopt measures in carrying out more efficient plumbing design and installations. Thus, professionals with adequate academic and technical background in accordance with sound engineering practice and generally-accepted standards are also needed in the country.

This bill, which acknowledges the imperative to revise the old law to upgrade the practice of the Plumbing, seeks to elevate the plumbing trade into a professional engineering in the country. In view of having qualified plumbing engineers with sufficient academic background to cope with the recent technologies worldwide, this proposed measure also endeavours to have a standard Engineering Curriculum for Plumbing to be offered in colleges and universities in the country.


Recognizing the fact that Plumbing Engineering profession needs to keep abreast with technological advancement in a rapidly-changing society, approval of this bill is earnestly requested.


ANTONIO "SONNY" F. TRILLANES IV
Senator

SENATE

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S. NO. 1004

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Introduced by Senator Antonio "Sonny" F. Trillanes IV

AN ACT
REGULATING THE PRACTICE OF PLUMBING ENGINEERING IN THE
PHILIPPINES, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NUMBERED 1378,
OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "AN ACT TO REGULATE THE TRADE OF MASTER
PLUMBER," APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress
assembled:*

ARTICLE I

TITLE, STATEMENT OF POLICY, AND DEFINITION OF TERMS

SECTION 1. **Title.** This Act shall be known as the "*Philippine Plumbing Engineering
Act of 2013.*"

SEC. 2. **Statement of Policy.** - The State recognizes the importance of plumbing
engineering in nation-building and development. The State, therefore, shall develop and nurture
competent, virtuous, productive, and well-rounded professional Plumbing Engineers whose
standards of practice and service are aimed towards excellence, quality, world-class and global
competitiveness through inviolable, honest, effective and credible licensure examinations and
regulatory measures, programs and activities that foster their integrity, continuing professional
education, development and growth.

SEC. 3. **Definition of Terms.** - For purposes of this Act, the following terms shall mean:

a) Plumbing Engineer - a person who is a holder of a valid certificate of
registration / professional license and professional identification card issued by the
Professional Regulatory Board for Plumbing Engineering and the Professional
Regulation Commission and who is legally qualified to practice plumbing engineering in
the Philippines pursuant to this Act.

1 b) Practice of Plumbing Engineering – The practice of Plumbing Engineering is a
2 professional and organized act of applying scientific principle and technique for the
3 design, installation and operation of plumbing systems involving hot and cold water
4 supply installation of fixtures, sanitary drainage , vent system, storm drainage, fuel gas
5 piping, swimming pools, water feature fire protection system, irrigation system, private
6 water system, private sewage disposal system within or adjacent to any buildings and
7 other structures. It shall embrace services, but not limited to, the following activities:

- 8 1) Consultations, designing, preparation of plans, specifications, estimates,
9 erection, installation and supervision of plumbing work including the inspection
10 and acceptance of materials used therein;
- 11 2) Extension, addition alteration and modifications of all pipings for fixtures,
12 equipment, appliances, and appurtenances in connection with any of the above
13 scope;
- 14 3) Engagement in the teaching or transfer of knowledge and technology of
15 plumbing engineering in any institution of learning particularly on
16 subjects included in the licensure examinations.

17 The enumeration of the above shall not be construed as excluding any other
18 work requiring plumbing engineering knowledge and application.

19 c) Master Plumber – one who is a holder of a valid certificate of registration/ professional
20 license and professional identification card as master plumber.

21 d) Practice of Master Plumber – the practice of master plumber upon the approval of this
22 Act shall embrace the following:

- 23 1) Design analysis, specifications and preparations of plans of plumbing
24 installation of not more than twenty (20) plumbing units;
- 25 2) Preparation of plans including drawing and details of additional installation;
- 26 3) Preparation of cost estimates of the above items 1 and 2; and
- 27 4) Supervision or in-charge of all plumbing installation, operation and maintenance
28 of plumbing system.

29 The practice of Master Plumber who is a holder of valid certificate of Registration
30 Professional License prior to the effectivity of the Act shall not be subjected to the
31 above mentioned plumbing installation limitation.

32 33 **ARTICLE II**

34 **PROFESSIONAL REGULATORY BOARD OF PLUMBING ENGINEERING**

35 **SEC. 4. *Creation and Composition of the Board of Plumbing Engineering.*** – There is
36 hereby created a Professional Regulatory Board of Plumbing Engineering, hereinafter referred
37 to as the Board, under the administrative control and supervision of the Professional Regulation

1 Commission, hereinafter referred to as the Commission, composed of a chairperson and two (2)
2 members to be appointed by the President of the Philippines from three recommendees for each
3 position chosen and ranked by the Commission, which recommendees from a list of five (5)
4 nominees for each position submitted by the accredited Integrated National Organization of
5 Plumbing Engineers. The first set of nominees for the first Board may be submitted by the
6 present association of Plumbing Engineers unless the integrated shall have been set up for the
7 purpose. The first Board shall be organized not later than six (6) months from the effectivity
8 of this Act.

9
10 **SEC. 5. *Qualifications of the Members of the Board.*** – The chairperson and members
11 of the Board must possess the following qualification at the time of their appointment:

- 12 a) Be a Plumbing Engineer holding a valid Certificate of Registration / Professional
13 License as a Plumbing Engineer having a degree of Bachelor of Science in Plumbing
14 Engineering and have been an active practitioner in the profession of Master
15 Plumber/Plumbing Engineering for not less than ten (10) years prior to appointment;
16 b) Be a natural born citizen and resident of the Philippines;
17 c) Be a member of the accredited organization of plumbing engineering;
18 d) Must not be a member of the faculty of any school, academy, institute, college or
19 university where a regular course in Plumbing Engineering is being taught, nor have
20 pecuniary interest in or administrative supervision over any such institution of learning.
21 e) Must not, for a period of three (3) consecutive years prior to his/her appointment, be
22 connected with a review center or with any group or any association where review
23 classes or lectures in preparation for the licensure examination are offered or conducted
24 at the time of appointment; and
25 f) Must not have been convicted of ant offense involving moral turpitude.

26
27 **SEC. 6. *Term of Office.*** – The members of the Board shall hold office for a term of
28 three (3) years or until their successors have been appointed and qualified. Of the member of
29 the first Board appointed under this Act, one (1) member shall be appointed and hold office for
30 three (3) years, one (1) member for two (2) years, and one (1) member for one (1) year.

31 The chairperson or member of the Board may be re-appointed for another term but in no
32 case shall serve continuously for more than six (6) years. Each member of the Board shall
33 qualify by taking the proper oath of office prior to assumption in the performance of duties.

34 Any vacancy occurring in the membership of the board within the term of a member
35 shall be filled for the unexpired portion of the term only.

1 **SEC. 7. *Compensation and Allowances of the Board Members.*** – The chairperson and
2 members of the Board shall receive compensation and allowances comparable to that being
3 received by the chairperson and members of existing regulatory boards under the Commission
4 as provided for in the General Appropriations Act.

5
6 **SEC. 8. *Supervision of the Board, Custodian of Records, Secretariat and Support***
7 ***Services.*** – The Board shall be under the administrative supervision of the Commission. All
8 Records of the Board, including the application for examination, examination papers and
9 Result, minutes of deliberation, administrative cases and other investigation involving the
10 plumbing Engineers/Master Plumbers shall be kept by the Commission.

11 The Commission shall designate the Secretary of the Board and shall provide the
12 Secretariat necessary support services to implement the provisions of this Act.

13
14 **SEC. 9. *Powers, Function, Duties and Responsibilities of the Board.*** – The Board
15 shall exercise the following specific powers, function, duties and responsibilities:

- 16 a) To promulgate and adopt the rules and regulations necessary for carrying out the
17 provisions of this Act;
- 18 b) To supervise the examination, registration, licensure and practice of Plumbing
19 Engineering/Master Plumbing in the Philippines;
- 20 c) To administer oaths to successful examinees entering the practice of Plumbing
21 Engineering;
- 22 d) To issue the Certificate of Registration to successful examinees;
- 23 e) To issue, suspend, revoke, or reinstate the Certificate of Registration for the practice of
24 the Plumbing Engineering profession;
- 25 f) To adopt an official seal of the Board;
- 26 g) To look into the conditions affecting the practice of the professions and whenever
27 necessary, adopt measures as may be deemed proper for the enhancement and
28 maintenance of high professional and ethical standards of the professions;
- 29 h) To ensure, in coordination with the Commission on Higher Education Department
30 (CHED), that all educational institutions offering Plumbing Engineering education
31 comply with the policies, standards and requirements of the course prescribed by CHED
32 in the areas of curriculum, faculty, library and facilities;
- 33 i) To prescribe and/or adopt a Code of Ethics and a Code of Technical Standards for the
34 practice of Plumbing Engineering / Master Plumbing profession;
- 35 j) To hear and try administrative cases involving violations of this Act, its implementing
36 rules and regulations, the Code of Ethics/Technical Standards and for the purpose, to

1 issue *subpoena testificandum* and *subpoena duces tecum* to secure the appearance of
2 witnesses and the production of documents in connection therewith.

3 k) To prescribe guidelines for the Continuing Professional Education (CPE) program in
4 coordination with the accredited integrated organization of Plumbing Engineers/Master
5 Plumbers;

6 l) To prepare, adopt issue or amend the syllabi of the subjects for examination;

7 m) To approve, issue, limit or revoke temporary special permit to practice Plumbing
8 Engineering/Master Plumbers and;

9 n) Discharge such other duties and functions as may be deemed necessary for the
10 enhancement of the Plumbing Engineering/Master Plumbing Profession and the
11 upgrading, development and growth of Plumbing Engineering/Master Plumbing
12 education in the Philippines.

13
14 **SEC. 10. Annual Report.** – The Board shall, at the close of each calendar year, submit
15 an annual report to the President of the Philippines through the Professional Regulation
16 Commission, giving detailed account of its recommendation for the adoption of measure that
17 will upgrade and improve the conditions affecting the practice of Plumbing Engineering/Master
18 Plumbing in the Philippines.

19
20 **SEC. 11. Removal of Board Member.** – Any vacancy occurring in the membership of
21 the Board within the term of a member shall be filled for the unexpired portion of the term
22 only. The President may remove any member of the Board, upon the recommendation of the
23 Commission, on the following grounds:

24 a) Neglect of duty or incompetence;

25 b) Violation or tolerance of the violation of this Act or the Code of Ethics or the Code of
26 Technical Standards for Plumbing Engineers; and

27 c) Final judgment of a crime involving moral turpitude.

28 He/She shall be given due notice and hearing where his/her right to be heard and to defend
29 himself/herself, assisted by counsel, shall be respected in a proper administrative investigation
30 the Commission shall conduct.

31 32 **ARTICLE III**

33 **EXAMINATION, REGISTRATION, AND LICENSE**

34 **SEC. 12. Licensure Examination Required.** – All applicants for registration for the
35 practice of Plumbing Engineering shall be required to undergo and pass a written technical
36 examination as provided for in this Act.

1 **SEC. 13. *Qualification for Admission to the Licensure Examination.*** – Every
2 applicant for Plumbing Engineering examination shall establish to the satisfaction of the Board
3 that he/she is:

- 4 a) A citizen of the Philippines or a foreigner whose country state has reciprocity with the
5 Philippines in the practice of the profession;
- 6 b) Of good moral character;
- 7 c) A graduate of Bachelor of Science in Plumbing Engineering in a school, academy,
8 institute or college duly recognized by the Commission on Higher Education
9 Department (CHED); *Provided that*;
- 10 d) Within seven (7) years upon the effectivity of this Act, a graduate of any Bachelor of
11 Science degree in Engineering or Architecture may qualify for the examination.

12
13 **SEC. 14. *Scope of Examinations.*** – The examination for Plumbing Engineering shall
14 basically cover the following subjects:

15 a) Mathematics	20%
16 b) Hydraulic Plumbing Principles and Practice	30%
17 c) Plumbing Laws and Code of Ethics	20%
18 d) Sanitation / Plumbing Design	<u>30%</u>
19	100%

20 The said subjects and their syllabi maybe amended by the Board so as to conform to
21 technological changes brought about by continuing trends in the profession.

22
23 **SEC. 15. *Applicants.*** – All applicants for registration as master plumber shall be
24 required to pass an examination as hereinafter provided.

25 Persons applying for admission to the examination as herein provided, shall, prior to the
26 date of the examination, establish to the satisfaction of the Board of Examiners, that he:

- 27 a) Is at least twenty-one years of age;
- 28 b) Is a citizen of the Philippines;
- 29 c) Is of good moral character;
- 30 d) Is at least a graduate of high school recognized by the government and completing an
31 approved course of not less than three years in Plumbing Technology or equivalent; or
- 32 e) Is a high school graduate and has at least five years of experience in actual plumbing
33 work under the supervision of a registered master plumber / Plumbing Engineer.

34
35 **SEC. 16. *Subjects for the Applicants.*** – Applicants for registration as master plumbers
36 shall be examined in the following subjects:

- 37 a) Plumbing arithmetic, twenty percent;

- 1 b) Plumbing Code, ten percent;
- 2 c) Sanitation, plumbing design and installation, forty percent;
- 3 d) Practical problems, thirty percent.

4
5 **SEC. 17. Rating.** – To pass the licensure examination, a candidate for Plumbing
6 Engineers must obtain a passing rate of seventy percent (70%) in each subject given during the
7 examination: *Provided, however,* That a candidate who obtains a passing rate in the majority of
8 the subjects but obtains a rating in the other subject/s below passing rate seventy percent (70%)
9 but not lower than fifty percent (50%) shall be allowed to take one removal examination on the
10 subject/s where he/she failed to obtain the passing rate: *Provided, finally,* That should the
11 examinee fail to obtain a passing rate in the removal examination, he/she shall be considered as
12 having failed the entire licensure examination.

13 A candidate who failed to pass for the third time shall be allowed to take the
14 examination only one (1) year after taking refresher course.

15
16 **SEC. 18. Report of Ratings.** – The board shall submit to the Commission the rating
17 obtained by each candidate within twenty (20) calendar days after the examination, unless
18 extended for just cause. Upon the release of the results of the examination, the board shall
19 send by mail the rating received by each examinee at his/her given address using the mailing
20 envelope submitted during the examination.

21
22 **SEC. 19. Professional Oath.** – All successful examinees and all those who have
23 qualified for registration without examination shall be required to take an oath of profession
24 before any member of the Board or any person authorized by the Commission to administer
25 oaths before he/she can be registered and issued a Certificate of Registration/Professional
26 Identification Card, and as a prerequisite to practice as a Plumbing Engineer/Master Plumber.

27
28 **SEC.20. Issuance of Certificate of Registration/Professional Identification Card.**– A
29 Certificate of Registration shall be issued to applicants who pass the examination for Plumbing
30 Engineer/Master Plumber and to those who registered without examination subject to payment
31 of registration fees.

32 The Certificate of Registration of a Plumbing Engineer/Master Plumber shall bear the
33 signatures of the Chairperson of the Commission and the Chairperson and Members of the
34 Board and stamped with the official seal of the Commission and of the Board indicating that
35 the person named therein is a registered Plumbing Engineer/Master Plumber.

36 A Professional Identification Card bearing the registration number, date of issuance,
37 expiry date and duly signed by the Chairperson of the Commission, shall likewise be issued to

1 every registrant, upon payment of the professional fees. No person shall practice
2 Plumbing Engineering/Master Plumbing in the manner contrary to herein provided. A
3 Plumbing Engineer/Master Plumber holding a Professional Identification Card is entitled to
4 practice the profession with all the privileges appurtenant thereto until the expiration of the
5 validity thereof.

6
7 **SEC. 21. Registration without Examination for Plumbing Engineer.** – Within
8 five (5) years after the effectivity of this Act, the Board shall issue certificates of registration
9 and professional identification cards without examination to applicants for registration as
10 plumbing engineer plumbers who shall present evidence or other proof satisfactory to the
11 Board that:

- 12 a) he/she is a registered and licensed Master Plumber at the same time he is a registered
13 and licensed engineer or architect;
- 14 b) he/she is a registered Master Plumber with five (5) years experience in Plumbing work
15 and a holder of a Baccalaureate degree of any engineering or architecture course; and
- 16 c) he/she is a holder of any Baccalaureate degree and has been in active practice in
17 plumbing for at least ten (10) years. *Provided*, that the qualifications mentioned above
18 shall be obtained prior to the effectivity of this Act.

19
20 **SEC. 22. Seal and Use of Seal.** – (a) Each registrant shall, upon registration, obtain the
21 seal of such design as the Board of Plumbing Engineering may adopt. Plans and specification
22 prepared by, or under the direct supervision of a registered Plumbing Engineer/Master
23 Plumber shall be stamped with said seal during the validity of the professional identification
24 card. No person shall stamped or seal any documents with the seal of a registrant after his/her
25 professional license has expired, lost its validity, unless he/she has been reinstated at the
26 practice and/or unless his license has been renewed.

27 (b) Officer or employee of the government, chartered cities, provinces and
28 municipalities charged with the enforcement of laws, ordinances or regulations relating to all
29 Plumbing Engineering/Master Plumbing practices shall not accept or endorse any plumbing
30 plans or documents which have not been prepared and submitted in full accord with the
31 provisions of this Act, nor shall any payment to approved by any such officer for any work,
32 the plans and documents of which have not been prepared, signed by a duly licensed Plumbing
33 Engineer/Master Plumber.

34 (c) Plumbing Engineer/Master Plumber shall not sign his/her name, affix his/her
35 seal or use any other method of signature on plans, specifications or other documents made
36 by under another Plumbing Engineer's/Master Plumber's supervision unless the professional
37 service of the former have been officially terminated and/or the same is made in such manner

1 as to clearly indicate the part of such work actually performed by him/her; and only the
2 Plumbing Engineer/Master Plumber in charge, shall sign for any branch of work or any
3 function of Plumbing Engineering/Master Plumbing practice actually performed by
4 him/her. The Plumbing Engineer/Master Plumber in-charge shall be fully responsible for
5 all plans, specifications and other documents issued under his/her seal or authorized
6 signature.

7 (d) Plans and documents duly signed, stamped or sealed as instruments of
8 service are the property and documents of the Plumbing Engineer/Master Plumber.

9 The Board shall formulate, adopt and promulgate all necessary rules and regulations
10 for the effective implementation of the provisions relating to the design of the seal, the
11 signing and sealing of drawings, specifications, reports and other documents by Plumbing
12 Engineers/Master Plumbers.

13
14 **SEC. 23. *Indication of Professional Identification Number and Professional Tax***

15 ***Receipt.*** – The Plumbing Engineer/Master Plumber shall be required to indicate his/her
16 Professional identification card number, the duration of validity, including the professional tax
17 receipt number on the documents he/she signs, uses in connection with the practice of his/her
18 profession.

19
20 **SEC. 24. *Grounds for Suspension and Revocation of Certificate of Registration,***
21 ***Professional Identification Card and Cancellation of Temporary/Special Permit.*** – The Board
22 shall have the power, upon due notice and hearing, to revoke or suspend the Certificate
23 of Registration and accordingly the Professional Identification Card of a Plumbing
24 Engineer/Master Plumber, or to cancel a temporary / special permit for any cause specified in
25 the proceeding section, including but not limited to:

- 26 a) The use or perpetration of any fraud and deceit in obtaining a certificate of
27 registration.
- 28 b) For incompetence, negligence, or for abatement of the illegal practice of
29 Plumbing Engineering/Master Plumbing; and
- 30 c) Violation of the provision of this Act, its implementing rules and regulation and/or
31 violation of the policies of the Board including the Code of Ethics for Plumbing
32 Engineers/Master Plumbers. *Provided*, however, that such action of the Board shall
33 be subject to appeal to the Commission, within fifteen (15) days from written notice.

34
35 **SEC. 25. *Roster of Plumbing Engineers/Master Plumbers.*** – The Board shall
36 prepare, and maintain a roster of the names, residence and/or office addresses of all
37 registered Plumbing Engineers/Master Plumbers, which shall be updated annually in

1 cooperation with the accredited organizations, indicating therein the status of the certificate of
2 registration, professional identification card and membership identification card in the
3 accredited organization of the professional, whether valid, inactive due to death or other
4 reasons, suspended or revoked. The said roster shall be conspicuously posted within the
5 premises of the Commission and the information there from made available to the public
6 upon inquiry or request.

7
8 **SEC. 26. Exemptions from Examination and Registration.** – No examination and
9 registration shall be required for foreign Plumbing Engineer/Master Plumber who are
10 temporarily employed by the Philippine Government or by private firms in the Philippines
11 in the following cases:

- 12 a) Where no qualified equivalent Filipino Professional is available for the specific
13 item of work to be rendered, as attested to by the accredited professional organization;
- 14 b) Where the conditions of the scope and the funding of the work or project are such that
15 it stipulates the temporary employment of a foreign professionals;
- 16 c) As defined in the General Agreement on Trade and Services and other similar
17 international treaties, agreements and/or covenants to which the
18 Philippine Government is a signatory and has ratified: *Provided*, however,
19 That:

- 20 1) The said foreign professional is legally qualified to practice his/her profession
21 in his/her own country in which the requirements for licensing and
22 registration are not lower than those specified in this Act;
- 23 2) The work to be performed by said foreign professional shall be limited
24 only to the particular work or project for which he/she was specifically
25 contracted;
- 26 3) Prior to commencing the work, the foreign professional shall secure a Special
27 Permit from the Board, which shall be subject to the approval of the
28 Commission: *Provided*, That no working visa and/or permit shall be issued
29 by concerned government agencies unless such Special Permit has been
30 granted first;
- 31 4) The said foreign professional shall not engage in private on his/her own
32 account;
- 33 5) For every foreign professional contracted for the work or project, at least two
34 (2) corresponding Filipino professionals who are registered under this Act be
35 employed as counterparts by the Philippine Government or the private
36 firm utilizing the services of such foreign professional for at least the same
37 duration of time as the foreigner's tenure of work; and

1 registration and issuance of professional license after an examination on terms of strict and
2 absolute equality with the citizens, subjects or nationals of said country, including an
3 unconditional recognition of professional licenses issued by the Board and/or the
4 Commission and prerequisite degrees/diplomas issued by institutions of learning duly
5 recognized by the government of the Philippines.

6
7 **SEC. 31. Assistance of Law Enforcement and Other Government Agencies.** – Any
8 law enforcement agency shall, upon call or request of the Board and/or Commission, render
9 such assistance in enforcing this Act including the Code of Ethics, Code of
10 Technical Standards of Practice and the Implementing rules and regulations and measures
11 promulgated thereunder, by prosecuting violators thereof in accordance with law and the
12 Rules of Court.

13
14 **ARTICLE V**
15 **PENAL PROVISIONS**

16 **SEC. 32. Penalties.** – In addition to the administrative sanctions, any of the
17 provisions of this Act, upon conviction, be penalized by a fine of not less than fifty
18 thousand pesos (P 50,000.00) nor more than Two hundred thousand pesos (P200,000.00) or
19 imprisonment of not less than six (6) years, or both such fine and imprisonment, at the
20 discretion of the court.

21
22 **SEC. 33. Prohibitions and Limitations on the Practice of Plumbing Engineering /**
23 **Master Plumbing Profession.** – Unless otherwise prescribed by any supervening law, the
24 practice of Plumbing Engineering/Master Plumbing shall be a professional service,
25 admission to which must be determined on the basis of the individual's personal
26 qualifications. Hence, no firm, company, partnership, association or corporation may be
27 registered or licensed as such for the practice of plumbing engineering/master plumbing.
28 However, persons properly registered and licensed as Plumbing Engineer/Master Plumber
29 may, among themselves or with any other allied professionals, form a partnership or
30 association or corporation and collectively render services as such: *Provided*, That
31 individual members of such partnership or associations or corporations shall be responsible
32 for their own respective acts.

33
34 **SEC. 34. Implementing Rules and Regulations.** – Subject to the approval of the
35 Commission, the Board shall adopt and promulgate such rules, regulations, resolutions, the
36 Code of Ethics and the Code of Technical Standards for Plumbing Engineers to carry out the

1 provisions of this Act, which shall be effective after thirty (30) days following their full
2 publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a major daily newspaper of general circulation.

3
4 **SEC. 35. *Funding.*** – The Chairman of the Professional Regulation Commission
5 shall include in the Commission's program the implementation of this Act, the funding of
6 which shall be included in the Annual General Appropriation Act.

7
8 **SEC. 36. *Separability Clause.*** – If any clause, provision, paragraph or part hereof shall
9 be declared unconstitutional or invalid, such judgment shall not affect invalidate or impair
10 any other part thereof, but such judgment shall merely be confined to the clause,
11 provision, paragraph or part directly involved in the controversy upon which such judgment has
12 been rendered.

13
14 **SEC. 37. *Repealing Clause.*** – Republic Act No. 1378 is hereby repealed. All other
15 laws, decrees, National Codes, executives orders, letter of instructions and other
16 administrative issuances and parts thereof which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act
17 are hereby modified, suspended or repealed accordingly.

18
19 **SEC. 38. *Transitory Provision.*** – The Existing Board of Master Plumbing shall
20 continue to function in the interim until such time as the new Board shall be duly constituted
21 pursuant to this Act.

22
23 **SEC. 39. *Effectivity.*** – This act shall effect fifteen (15) days following its
24 publication in full in the *Official Gazette* or major daily newspaper of general circulation in the
25 Philippines, whichever is earlier.

Approved,