

The House Committee on Governmental Affairs offers the following substitute to HB 327:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

To amend Chapter 14 of Title 43 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to electrical contractors, plumbers, conditioned air contractors, low-voltage contractors, and utility contractors, so as to provide that the term "conditioned air equipment" and the term "plumbing" include natural gas piping systems on the outlet side of the gas meter; to provide for exceptions; to provide an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

SECTION 1.

Chapter 14 of Title 43 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to electrical contractors, plumbers, conditioned air contractors, low-voltage contractors, and utility contractors, is amended by striking paragraphs (5) and (12) of Code Section 43-14-2, relating to definitions, and inserting in lieu thereof new paragraphs (5) and (12) to read as follows:

"(5) 'Conditioned air equipment' means heating and air-conditioning equipment covered under state codes and the natural gas piping system on the outlet side of the gas meter."

"(12) 'Plumbing' means the practice of installing, maintaining, altering, or repairing piping fixtures, appliances, and appurtenances in connection with sanitary drainage or storm drainage facilities, venting systems, medical gas piping systems, natural gas piping systems on the outlet side of gas meters, or public or private water supply systems within or adjacent to any building, structure, or conveyance; provided, however, that after July 1, 1997, only master plumbers and journeyman plumbers who have been certified by the Division of Master Plumbers and Journeyman Plumbers to perform such tasks shall be authorized to install, maintain, alter, or repair medical gas piping systems. The term 'plumbing' also includes the practice of and materials used in installing, maintaining, extending, or altering the natural gas, storm-water, ~~or~~ sewerage, and water supply systems of any premises to their connection with any point of public disposal or other acceptable terminal. Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, any person who holds a valid

1 master plumbing license or any company which holds a valid utility contractor license shall
2 be qualified to construct, alter, or repair any plumbing system which extends from the
3 property line up to but not within five feet of any building, structure, or conveyance,
4 regardless of the cost or depth of any such plumbing system."

5 **SECTION 2.**

6 Said chapter is further amended by adding a new subsection (p) to Code Section 43-14-13,
7 relating to the applicability of the chapter, to read as follows:

8 "This chapter shall not apply to any employee of a regulated gas utility or municipal owned
9 gas utility while in the course and scope of such employment."

10 **SECTION 3.**

11 This Act shall become effective upon its approval by the Governor or upon its becoming law
12 without such approval.

13 **SECTION 4.**

14 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.