

House Bill 327 (COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE)

By: Representatives Powell of the 23<sup>rd</sup>, Ehrhart of the 28<sup>th</sup> and Boggs of the 145<sup>th</sup>

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

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

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 **SECTION 1.**

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

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

15 "(12) 'Plumbing' means the practice of installing, maintaining, altering, or repairing piping  
16 fixtures, appliances, and appurtenances in connection with sanitary drainage or storm  
17 drainage facilities, venting systems, medical gas piping systems, natural gas piping systems  
18 on the outlet side of gas meters, or public or private water supply systems within or  
19 adjacent to any building, structure, or conveyance; provided, however, that after July 1,  
20 1997, only master plumbers and journeyman plumbers who have been certified by the  
21 Division of Master Plumbers and Journeyman Plumbers to perform such tasks shall be  
22 authorized to install, maintain, alter, or repair medical gas piping systems. The term  
23 'plumbing' also includes the practice of and materials used in installing, maintaining,  
24 extending, or altering the natural gas, storm-water, ~~or~~ sewerage, and water supply systems  
25 of any premises to their connection with any point of public disposal or other acceptable  
26 terminal. Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, any person who holds a valid  
27 master plumbing license or any company which holds a valid utility contractor license shall

1 be qualified to construct, alter, or repair any plumbing system which extends from the  
2 property line up to but not within five feet of any building, structure, or conveyance,  
3 regardless of the cost or depth of any such plumbing system."

4 **SECTION 2.**

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

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

9 **SECTION 3.**

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

12 **SECTION 4.**

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