



Julie A. Rishel

*Bill Analysis*  
*Legislative Service Commission*

**H.B. 528**  
127th General Assembly  
(As Introduced)

**Reps. Miller, Brady, Letson, Luckie, Mallory, Brown**

---

**BILL SUMMARY**

- Prohibits any person from selling a water key to any individual unless that individual is a plumber who is licensed under the Construction Industry Licensing Board Law, or licensed, certified, or registered by a municipal corporation, or is not licensed or registered but satisfies criteria specified in the bill.
- Requires a plumber purchasing a water key to provide proof of complying with the requirements described immediately above to the person from whom the plumber purchases the water key.

---

**CONTENT AND OPERATION**

**Prohibition against selling water keys to individuals who are not plumbers**

The bill prohibits any person from selling a water key to an individual unless both of the following criteria are satisfied:

(1) The individual purchasing a water key is one of the following individuals:

- A plumber who is licensed as a plumbing contractor under the Construction Industry Licensing Board Law (R.C. Chapter 4740.) or who is licensed, certified, or registered by a municipal corporation;
- A plumber who is not licensed, certified, or registered as described immediately above but the plumber either has registered the plumber's business with the Secretary of State or advertises the services provided through the plumber's business in a newspaper of general circulation, a telephone book, electronic media that is

available to the public, or another advertising media that is owned and operated by a person other than the plumber.

(2) The plumber purchasing the water key provides proof of compliance with the requirements described in (1) immediately above to the person from whom the plumber purchases the water key. (Sec. 3703.25(B).)

The bill defines "plumber" as an individual who holds the individual's self out to the public as providing plumbing services. A "water key" is a device an individual uses to turn on and off the supply of water to real property. (Sec. 3703.25(A).)

Under continuing law, a plumbing contractor who wishes to provide plumbing services for a construction project, as defined under continuing law, on a nonresidential building must obtain a license pursuant to the Construction Industry Licensing Board Law. A plumber wishing to provide plumbing services on a residential building that is located in a municipal corporation that requires plumbers to be licensed, certified, or registered, must comply with the applicable local laws. However, some plumbers work in areas where such regulation does not exist. (Secs. 715.27, 4740.01, and 4740.13, not in the bill.)

---

## HISTORY

ACTION	DATE
Introduced	04-03-08

h0528-i-127.doc/kl