#### 52:27D-511

#### LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

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**LAWS OF**: 2011 **CHAPTER**: 43

NJSA: 52:27D-511 (Allows certain plumbers and Heating, Ventilating, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration

contractors to perform propane services)

BILL NO: S2064 (Substituted for A3611)

**SPONSOR(S)** Norcross and others

DATE INTRODUCED: June 21, 2010

**COMMITTEE:** ASSEMBLY: Regulated Professions

**SENATE:** Commerce

AMENDED DURING PASSAGE: Yes

**DATE OF PASSAGE:** ASSEMBLY: February 17, 2011

**SENATE:** December 20, 2010

**DATE OF APPROVAL:** April 6, 2011

**FOLLOWING ARE ATTACHED IF AVAILABLE:** 

FINAL TEXT OF BILL (First reprint enacted)

S2064

SPONSOR'S STATEMENT: (Begins on page 4 of original bill)

Yes

COMMITTEE STATEMENT: ASSEMBLY: Yes

**SENATE**: Yes

(Audio archived recordings of the committee meetings, corresponding to the date of the committee statement, *may possibly* be found at www.njleg.state.nj.us)

FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENT: No

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE: No

A3611

**SPONSOR'S STATEMENT:** (Begins on page 5 of original bill)

Yes

**COMMITTEE STATEMENT:** ASSEMBLY: Yes

SENATE: No

FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENT: No

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE: No

(continued)

	VETO MESSAGE:	No
	GOVERNOR'S PRESS RELEASE ON SIGNING:	No
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	HEARINGS:	No
	NEWSPAPER ARTICLES:	No

LAW/KR

#### P.L.2011, CHAPTER 43, approved April 6, 2011 Senate, No. 2064 (First Reprint)

**AN ACT** concerning the performance of propane services and amending P.L.2007, c.150.

**BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:

- 1. Section 3 of P.L.2007, c.150 (C.52:27D-511) is amended to read as follows:
- 3. a. Within 180 days following the effective date of this act, the department shall adopt rules and regulations pursuant to the "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.) requiring that propane gas suppliers or marketers distribute to each customer a description of the terms of their plans or contracts for the sale of propane and propane services in a plain and conspicuous manner and providing for certification of persons as qualified to engage in the sale of propane and to perform propane services pursuant to subsection c. of this section.
- b. The description required by subsection a. of this section shall contain the following information:
- (1) The supplier's or marketer's charges and pricing policies for propane and propane services that are disclosed in a format including a price conversion chart that will assist a customer to compare price offers from different propane suppliers or marketers on a uniform basis which an average person can understand and use to do comparative shopping for propane, propane services and for a supplier or marketer;
- (2) Notification of the right of customers to obtain the supplier's or marketer's current prices of propane and propane services over the telephone, by facsimile transmission or by any other electronic or written means including any additional charges that may be included in the plan or contract for any other items related to the purchase of propane and propane services;
- (3) Whether the supplier's or marketer's price of propane and propane services may vary depending on non-scheduled or irregular deliveries of propane, or the provision of propane services on weekends, nights, holidays or at other times outside of the normal weekday hours, the criteria for determining what constitutes a non-scheduled or irregular delivery, or outside of normal weekday hours, and the cost of non-scheduled or irregular delivery if propane is provided outside of regular delivery, or if propane services are provided outside of normal weekday hours;

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

- (4) The amount of any additional charges that may be charged by that supplier or marketer to install a container or any other related equipment that may be needed to store and utilize propane, the amount of any container rental fees that may be charged by that supplier or marketer, notice of the customer's right to use the customer's own container and regulator provided that the container and regulator have been verified by the supplier or marketer to meet current safety and licensing standards, and the cost charged by the supplier or marketer to verify whether the customer's container and regulator meet current standards and regulations;
- (5) Criteria used to determine that supplier's or marketer's pricing structure for propane or propane services, including such criteria as annual usage, the area where the customer lives, the quantity or time of the delivery or other factors;
- (6) Notice of the right to be contacted by that supplier or marketer at least seven business days before the propane supplier or marketer may discontinue further propane deliveries due to nonpayment;
- (7) Notice of the customer's right to receive written verification that the propane supplier or marketer is licensed by the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs;
- (8) Notice of the customer's right to change propane suppliers or marketers, consistent with the terms of the customer's plan or contract, if the customer is dissatisfied with price or services or for any other reason;
- (9) Notice of whether a customer is required to call for delivery of propane or if the deliveries are automatic, how often the automatic delivery will be made, whether the deliveries will be made on weekends and holidays and, if so, whether there are additional charges to make deliveries on weekends and holidays, and if the customer is to receive automatic delivery, whether the customer should inform the supplier or marketer of any changes in the customer's circumstances that might change the rate at which the customer uses propane;
- (10) Notice of whether there is any minimal amount of propane per delivery, how many days a customer has to pay a bill after the delivery of propane is made or propane services are provided, as the case may be, and how many days before late fees are charged to a customer and what the supplier's or marketer's policy is for the delivery of propane or the provision of propane services, if needed, during the winter when a customer may have outstanding debt;
- (11) Notice of the provisions contained within subsection c. of this section;
- (12) If desired by the supplier or marketer, a statement that nothing in this description is a waiver or amendment of the contract or plan between the supplier or marketer and the customer, but is merely a summary of the department's regulations for the convenience of the customer; and

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(13) Any other information that the department considers appropriate to ensure that customers of propane suppliers or marketers are fully informed of the terms of their plans or contracts.

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- 4 c. To ensure the safety of this State's propane customers, any 5 customer who desires to cause propane services to be performed 6 should ensure that any such propane services are performed only by 7 persons certified by the department pursuant to the regulations to be 8 adopted pursuant to paragraph (1) of this subsection or by 1: (1) a licensed master plumber<sup>1</sup>, or journeyman plumber working under 9 the supervision of a master plumber<sup>1</sup>, who has had appropriate 10 training in the performance of propane services as required by the 11 State Board of Examiners of Master Plumbers<sup>1</sup>; or (2) a licensed 12 13 master HVACR contractor, or HVACR journeyperson working 14 under the supervision of a master HVACR contractor, who has had 15 appropriate training in the performance of propane services as 16 required by the State Board of Examiners of Heating, Ventilating, 17 Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Contractors<sup>1</sup>.
  - (1) The department, in consultation with and upon the advice and recommendation of the Liquefied Petroleum Gas Education and Safety Board, shall promulgate rules and regulations for the certification and competency testing of all persons engaged in the sale of propane and performing propane services, other than the performing of propane services by a master plumber or a journeyman plumber working under the supervision of a master plumber <sup>1</sup>or master HVACR contractor or HVACR journeyperson working under the supervision of a master HVACR contractor <sup>1</sup>, and for the dissemination to the public of information regarding the current certification, or the lack thereof, of persons offering to perform propane services in this State.
- 30 (2) Within 180 days of the effective date of
  31 P.L., c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill),
  32 the State Board of Examiners of Master Plumbers, in consultation
  33 with and upon the advice and recommendation of the Liquefied
  34 Petroleum Gas Education and Safety Board, shall promulgate rules
  35 and regulations for the certification and competency testing of all
  36 licensed master plumbers engaged in performing propane services.
- 37 (3) Within 180 days of the effective date of 38 P.L., c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill), 39 the State Board of Examiners of Heating, Ventilating, Air 40 Conditioning and Refrigeration Contractors, in consultation with 41 and upon the advice and recommendation of the Liquefied 42 Petroleum Gas Education and Safety Board, shall promulgate rules 43 and regulations for the certification and competency testing of all 44 licensed master HVACR contractors engaged in performing 45 propane services.
- 46 (4) All persons who are certified by the department 1, a master
  47 HVACR contractor or HVACR journeyperson working under the

#### **S2064** [1R]

- supervision of a master HVACR contractor, or a master plumber or a journeyman plumber working under the supervision of a master plumber shall be legally responsible for the propane services they perform.
  - d. Propane gas suppliers or marketers shall provide the information required by subsection b. of this section to a customer prior to entering into any contract with a customer for the delivery of propane or propane services, upon renewal of an existing contract and in response to a request from a customer.
  - e. The department shall adopt rules and regulations directing propane suppliers and marketers to publish the information required by subsection b. of this section in a format that is clear, uniform and designed to ensure that customers may accurately compare the true cost of services among different suppliers or marketers.
  - f. The department shall also require propane suppliers and marketers to meet the disclosure requirements in subsection b. of this section in advertising to the extent allowed by the advertising medium.

(cf: P.L.2007, c.150, s.3)

2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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Allows certain plumbers and Heating, Ventilating, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration contractors to perform propane services.

# **SENATE, No. 2064**

# **STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

## 214th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JUNE 21, 2010

Sponsored by: Senator DONALD NORCROSS District 5 (Camden and Gloucester)

#### **SYNOPSIS**

Allows master plumber and supervised journeyman plumber to perform propane services.

#### **CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



**AN ACT** concerning the performance of propane services and amending P.L.2007, c.150.

**BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:

- 1. Section 3 of P.L.2007, c.150 (C.52:27D-511) is amended to read as follows:
- 3. a. Within 180 days following the effective date of this act, the department shall adopt rules and regulations pursuant to the "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.) requiring that propane gas suppliers or marketers distribute to each customer a description of the terms of their plans or contracts for the sale of propane and propane services in a plain and conspicuous manner and providing for certification of persons as qualified to engage in the sale of propane and to perform propane services pursuant to subsection c. of this section.
- b. The description required by subsection a. of this section shall contain the following information:
- (1) The supplier's or marketer's charges and pricing policies for propane and propane services that are disclosed in a format including a price conversion chart that will assist a customer to compare price offers from different propane suppliers or marketers on a uniform basis which an average person can understand and use to do comparative shopping for propane, propane services and for a supplier or marketer;
- (2) Notification of the right of customers to obtain the supplier's or marketer's current prices of propane and propane services over the telephone, by facsimile transmission or by any other electronic or written means including any additional charges that may be included in the plan or contract for any other items related to the purchase of propane and propane services;
- (3) Whether the supplier's or marketer's price of propane and propane services may vary depending on non-scheduled or irregular deliveries of propane, or the provision of propane services on weekends, nights, holidays or at other times outside of the normal weekday hours, the criteria for determining what constitutes a non-scheduled or irregular delivery, or outside of normal weekday hours, and the cost of non-scheduled or irregular delivery if propane is provided outside of regular delivery, or if propane services are provided outside of normal weekday hours;
- (4) The amount of any additional charges that may be charged by that supplier or marketer to install a container or any other related equipment that may be needed to store and utilize propane,

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

the amount of any container rental fees that may be charged by that supplier or marketer, notice of the customer's right to use the customer's own container and regulator provided that the container and regulator have been verified by the supplier or marketer to meet current safety and licensing standards, and the cost charged by the supplier or marketer to verify whether the customer's container and regulator meet current standards and regulations;

- (5) Criteria used to determine that supplier's or marketer's pricing structure for propane or propane services, including such criteria as annual usage, the area where the customer lives, the quantity or time of the delivery or other factors;
- (6) Notice of the right to be contacted by that supplier or marketer at least seven business days before the propane supplier or marketer may discontinue further propane deliveries due to nonpayment;
- (7) Notice of the customer's right to receive written verification that the propane supplier or marketer is licensed by the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs;
- (8) Notice of the customer's right to change propane suppliers or marketers, consistent with the terms of the customer's plan or contract, if the customer is dissatisfied with price or services or for any other reason;
- (9) Notice of whether a customer is required to call for delivery of propane or if the deliveries are automatic, how often the automatic delivery will be made, whether the deliveries will be made on weekends and holidays and, if so, whether there are additional charges to make deliveries on weekends and holidays, and if the customer is to receive automatic delivery, whether the customer should inform the supplier or marketer of any changes in the customer's circumstances that might change the rate at which the customer uses propane;
- (10) Notice of whether there is any minimal amount of propane per delivery, how many days a customer has to pay a bill after the delivery of propane is made or propane services are provided, as the case may be, and how many days before late fees are charged to a customer and what the supplier's or marketer's policy is for the delivery of propane or the provision of propane services, if needed, during the winter when a customer may have outstanding debt;
- (11) Notice of the provisions contained within subsection c. of this section;
- (12) If desired by the supplier or marketer, a statement that nothing in this description is a waiver or amendment of the contract or plan between the supplier or marketer and the customer, but is merely a summary of the department's regulations for the convenience of the customer; and
- (13) Any other information that the department considers appropriate to ensure that customers of propane suppliers or marketers are fully informed of the terms of their plans or contracts.

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- c. To ensure the safety of this State's propane customers, any customer who desires to cause propane services to be performed should ensure that any such propane services are performed only by persons certified by the department pursuant to the regulations to be adopted pursuant to paragraph (1) of this subsection or by a licensed master plumber or journeyman plumber working under the supervision of a master plumber who has had appropriate training in the performance of propane services as required by the State Board of Examiners of Master Plumbers.
  - (1) The department, in consultation with and upon the advice and recommendation of the Liquefied Petroleum Gas Education and Safety Board, shall promulgate rules and regulations for the certification and competency testing of all persons engaged in the sale of propane and performing propane services, other than the performing of propane services by a master plumber or a journeyman plumber working under the supervision of a master plumber, and for the dissemination to the public of information regarding the current certification, or the lack thereof, of persons offering to perform propane services in this State.
  - (2) All persons who are certified by the department <u>or a master plumber or a journeyman plumber working under the supervision of a master plumber</u> shall be legally responsible for the propane services they perform.
  - d. Propane gas suppliers or marketers shall provide the information required by subsection b. of this section to a customer prior to entering into any contract with a customer for the delivery of propane or propane services, upon renewal of an existing contract and in response to a request from a customer.
  - e. The department shall adopt rules and regulations directing propane suppliers and marketers to publish the information required by subsection b. of this section in a format that is clear, uniform and designed to ensure that customers may accurately compare the true cost of services among different suppliers or marketers.
  - f. The department shall also require propane suppliers and marketers to meet the disclosure requirements in subsection b. of this section in advertising to the extent allowed by the advertising medium.

(cf: P.L.2007, c.150, s.3)

2. This act shall take effect immediately.

#### **STATEMENT**

Under the "Propane Gas Customer Protection Act" (C.52:27D-509 et seq.), customers who desire propane services are provided notification to ensure that those propane services are performed only by persons certified by the Department of Community Affairs.

#### S2064 NORCROSS

- The act defines "propane services" as the performing of safety and leak testing of, and the performing of installation, maintenance, repair, removal, adjustment and other services to, propane
- 4 appliances including, without limitation, ranges, water heaters,
- 5 heaters, furnaces, containers and other propane fueled systems, for 6 residential and commercial applications.
- This bill provides that, in addition to persons certified by the
  Department of Community Affairs, a master plumber or a
  journeyman plumber working under the supervision of a master
  plumber may perform propane services, provided that the master
  plumber or journeyman plumber has received training in the
- 12 performance of propane services, as determined by the State Board
- of Examiners of Master Plumbers.

#### SENATE COMMERCE COMMITTEE

#### STATEMENT TO

#### SENATE, No. 2064

with committee amendments

### STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: DECEMBER 6, 2010

The Senate Commerce Committee reports favorably, and with committee amendments, Senate Bill No. 2064.

Under the "Propane Gas Customer Protection Act" P.L.2007, c.150 (C.52:27D-509 et seq.), customers who desire propane services are provided notification to ensure that those propane services are performed only by persons certified by the Department of Community Affairs. The act defines "propane services" as the performing of safety and leak testing of, and the performing of installation, maintenance, repair, removal, adjustment and other services to, propane appliances including, without limitation, ranges, water heaters, heaters, furnaces, containers and other propane fueled systems, for residential and commercial applications.

This bill, with committee amendments, provides that, in addition to persons certified by the Department of Community Affairs, a master plumber, a journeyman plumber working under the supervision of a master plumber, a licensed master HVACR contractor, or HVACR journeyperson working under the supervision of a master HVACR contractor may perform propane services, provided that the master plumber or master HVACR contractor has received training in the performance of propane services, as determined by the State Board of Examiners of Master Plumbers or the State Board of Examiners of Heating, Ventilating, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Contractors, respectively.

The committee amendments also add a requirement that, within 180 days from the effective date of the bill, the State Board of Examiners of Master Plumbers and the State Board of Examiners of Heating, Ventilating, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Contractors, in consultation with and upon the advice and recommendation of the Liquefied Petroleum Gas Education and Safety Board, shall promulgate rules and regulations for the certification and competency testing of all licensed master plumbers and master HVACR contractors engaged in performing propane services.

#### ASSEMBLY REGULATED PROFESSIONS COMMITTEE

#### STATEMENT TO

# [First Reprint] **SENATE, No. 2064**

### STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JANUARY 20, 2011

The Assembly Regulated Professions Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 2064 (1R).

Under the "Propane Gas Customer Protection Act" P.L.2007, c.150 (C.52:27D-509 et seq.), customers who desire propane services are provided notification to ensure that those propane services are performed only by persons certified by the Department of Community Affairs. The act defines "propane services" as the performing of safety and leak testing of, and the performing of installation, maintenance, repair, removal, adjustment and other services to, propane appliances including, without limitation, ranges, water heaters, heaters, furnaces, containers and other propane fueled systems, for residential and commercial applications.

This bill provides that, in addition to persons certified by the Department of Community Affairs, a master plumber, a journeyman plumber working under the supervision of a master plumber, a licensed master HVACR contractor, or HVACR journeyperson working under the supervision of a master HVACR contractor may perform propane services, provided that the master plumber or master HVACR contractor has received training in the performance of propane services, as determined by the State Board of Examiners of Master Plumbers or the State Board of Examiners of Heating, Ventilating, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Contractors, respectively.

The bill also stipulates that, within 180 days from the effective date of the bill, the State Board of Examiners of Master Plumbers and the State Board of Examiners of Heating, Ventilating, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Contractors, in consultation with and upon the advice and recommendation of the Liquefied Petroleum Gas Education and Safety Board, shall promulgate rules and regulations for the certification and competency testing of all licensed master plumbers and master HVACR contractors engaged in performing propane services.

This bill is identical to Assembly Bill No. 3611, which was also reported by the committee today.

# ASSEMBLY, No. 3611

# **STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

## 214th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED DECEMBER 13, 2010

**Sponsored by:** 

Assemblyman VINCENT PRIETO
District 32 (Bergen and Hudson)
Assemblyman MATTHEW W. MILAM
District 1 (Cape May, Atlantic and Cumberland)

#### **SYNOPSIS**

Allows certain plumbers and Heating, Ventilating, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration contractors to perform propane services.

#### **CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 1/21/2011)

**AN ACT** concerning the performance of propane services and amending P.L.2007, c.150.

**BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:

- 1. Section 3 of P.L.2007, c.150 (C.52:27D-511) is amended to read as follows:
- 3. a. Within 180 days following the effective date of this act, the department shall adopt rules and regulations pursuant to the "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.) requiring that propane gas suppliers or marketers distribute to each customer a description of the terms of their plans or contracts for the sale of propane and propane services in a plain and conspicuous manner and providing for certification of persons as qualified to engage in the sale of propane and to perform propane services pursuant to subsection c. of this section.
- b. The description required by subsection a. of this section shall contain the following information:
- (1) The supplier's or marketer's charges and pricing policies for propane and propane services that are disclosed in a format including a price conversion chart that will assist a customer to compare price offers from different propane suppliers or marketers on a uniform basis which an average person can understand and use to do comparative shopping for propane, propane services and for a supplier or marketer;
- (2) Notification of the right of customers to obtain the supplier's or marketer's current prices of propane and propane services over the telephone, by facsimile transmission or by any other electronic or written means including any additional charges that may be included in the plan or contract for any other items related to the purchase of propane and propane services;
- (3) Whether the supplier's or marketer's price of propane and propane services may vary depending on non-scheduled or irregular deliveries of propane, or the provision of propane services on weekends, nights, holidays or at other times outside of the normal weekday hours, the criteria for determining what constitutes a non-scheduled or irregular delivery, or outside of normal weekday hours, and the cost of non-scheduled or irregular delivery if propane is provided outside of regular delivery, or if propane services are provided outside of normal weekday hours;
- (4) The amount of any additional charges that may be charged by that supplier or marketer to install a container or any other related equipment that may be needed to store and utilize propane,

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

- the amount of any container rental fees that may be charged by that supplier or marketer, notice of the customer's right to use the customer's own container and regulator provided that the container and regulator have been verified by the supplier or marketer to meet current safety and licensing standards, and the cost charged by the supplier or marketer to verify whether the customer's container and regulator meet current standards and regulations;
  - (5) Criteria used to determine that supplier's or marketer's pricing structure for propane or propane services, including such criteria as annual usage, the area where the customer lives, the quantity or time of the delivery or other factors;

- (6) Notice of the right to be contacted by that supplier or marketer at least seven business days before the propane supplier or marketer may discontinue further propane deliveries due to nonpayment;
- (7) Notice of the customer's right to receive written verification that the propane supplier or marketer is licensed by the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs;
- (8) Notice of the customer's right to change propane suppliers or marketers, consistent with the terms of the customer's plan or contract, if the customer is dissatisfied with price or services or for any other reason;
- (9) Notice of whether a customer is required to call for delivery of propane or if the deliveries are automatic, how often the automatic delivery will be made, whether the deliveries will be made on weekends and holidays and, if so, whether there are additional charges to make deliveries on weekends and holidays, and if the customer is to receive automatic delivery, whether the customer should inform the supplier or marketer of any changes in the customer's circumstances that might change the rate at which the customer uses propane;
- (10) Notice of whether there is any minimal amount of propane per delivery, how many days a customer has to pay a bill after the delivery of propane is made or propane services are provided, as the case may be, and how many days before late fees are charged to a customer and what the supplier's or marketer's policy is for the delivery of propane or the provision of propane services, if needed, during the winter when a customer may have outstanding debt;
- (11) Notice of the provisions contained within subsection c. of this section;
- (12) If desired by the supplier or marketer, a statement that nothing in this description is a waiver or amendment of the contract or plan between the supplier or marketer and the customer, but is merely a summary of the department's regulations for the convenience of the customer; and
- (13) Any other information that the department considers appropriate to ensure that customers of propane suppliers or marketers are fully informed of the terms of their plans or contracts.

#### A3611 PRIETO, MILAM

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1 To ensure the safety of this State's propane customers, any 2 customer who desires to cause propane services to be performed 3 should ensure that any such propane services are performed only by 4 persons certified by the department pursuant to the regulations to be 5 adopted pursuant to paragraph (1) of this subsection or by: (1) a 6 licensed master plumber, or journeyman plumber working under the 7 supervision of a master plumber, who has had appropriate training 8 in the performance of propane services as required by the State 9 Board of Examiners of Master Plumbers; or (2) a licensed master 10 HVACR contractor, or HVACR journeyperson working under the 11 supervision of a master HVACR contractor, who has had 12 appropriate training in the performance of propane services as 13 required by the State Board of Examiners of Heating, Ventilating, 14 Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Contractors.

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- (1) The department, in consultation with and upon the advice and recommendation of the Liquefied Petroleum Gas Education and Safety Board, shall promulgate rules and regulations for the certification and competency testing of all persons engaged in the sale of propane and performing propane services, other than the performing of propane services by a master plumber or a journeyman plumber working under the supervision of a master plumber or master HVACR contractor or HVACR journeyperson working under the supervision of a master HVACR contractor, and for the dissemination to the public of information regarding the current certification, or the lack thereof, of persons offering to perform propane services in this State.
- 27 (2) Within 180 days of the effective date of
  28 P.L., c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill),
  29 the State Board of Examiners of Master Plumbers, in consultation
  30 with and upon the advice and recommendation of the Liquefied
  31 Petroleum Gas Education and Safety Board, shall promulgate rules
  32 and regulations for the certification and competency testing of all
  33 licensed master plumbers engaged in performing propane services.
- 34 (3) Within 180 days of the effective date of 35 )(pending before the Legislature as this bill), P.L. , c. (C. 36 the State Board of Examiners of Heating, Ventilating, Air 37 Conditioning and Refrigeration Contractors, in consultation with 38 and upon the advice and recommendation of the Liquefied 39 Petroleum Gas Education and Safety Board, shall promulgate rules 40 and regulations for the certification and competency testing of all 41 licensed master HVACR contractors engaged in performing 42 propane services.
- (4) All persons who are certified by the department, a master
  HVACR contractor or HVACR journeyperson working under the
  supervision of a master HVACR contractor, or a master plumber or
  a journeyman plumber working under the supervision of a master
  plumber shall be legally responsible for the propane services they
  perform.

- d. Propane gas suppliers or marketers shall provide the information required by subsection b. of this section to a customer prior to entering into any contract with a customer for the delivery of propane or propane services, upon renewal of an existing contract and in response to a request from a customer.
- e. The department shall adopt rules and regulations directing propane suppliers and marketers to publish the information required by subsection b. of this section in a format that is clear, uniform and designed to ensure that customers may accurately compare the true cost of services among different suppliers or marketers.
- f. The department shall also require propane suppliers and marketers to meet the disclosure requirements in subsection b. of this section in advertising to the extent allowed by the advertising medium.

15 (cf: P.L.2007, c.150, s.3)

2. This act shall take effect immediately.

#### **STATEMENT**

Under the "Propane Gas Customer Protection Act" P.L.2007, c.150 (C.52:27D-509 et seq.), customers who desire propane services are provided notification to ensure that those propane services are performed only by persons certified by the Department of Community Affairs. The act defines "propane services" as the performing of safety and leak testing of, and the performing of installation, maintenance, repair, removal, adjustment and other services to, propane appliances including, without limitation, ranges, water heaters, heaters, furnaces, containers and other propane fueled systems, for residential and commercial applications.

This bill provides that, in addition to persons certified by the Department of Community Affairs, a master plumber, a journeyman plumber working under the supervision of a master plumber, a licensed master HVACR contractor, or HVACR journeyperson working under the supervision of a master HVACR contractor may perform propane services, provided that the master plumber or master HVACR contractor has received training in the performance of propane services, as determined by the State Board of Examiners of Master Plumbers or the State Board of Examiners of Heating, Ventilating, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Contractors, respectively.

The bill also stipulates that, within 180 days from the effective date of the bill, the State Board of Examiners of Master Plumbers and the State Board of Examiners of Heating, Ventilating, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Contractors, in consultation with and upon the advice and recommendation of the Liquefied

#### A3611 PRIETO, MILAM

- 1 Petroleum Gas Education and Safety Board, shall promulgate rules
- 2 and regulations for the certification and competency testing of all
- 3 licensed master plumbers and master HVACR contractors engaged
- 4 in performing propane services.

#### ASSEMBLY REGULATED PROFESSIONS COMMITTEE

#### STATEMENT TO

#### ASSEMBLY, No. 3611

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JANUARY 20, 2011

The Assembly Regulated Professions Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 3611.

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The bill also stipulates that, within 180 days from the effective date of the bill, the State Board of Examiners of Master Plumbers and the State Board of Examiners of Heating, Ventilating, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Contractors, in consultation with and upon the advice and recommendation of the Liquefied Petroleum Gas Education and Safety Board, shall promulgate rules and regulations for the certification and competency testing of all licensed master plumbers and master HVACR contractors engaged in performing propane services.

This bill is identical to Senate Bill No. 2064 (1R), which was also reported by the committee today.