

By: Senator(s) Hewes

To: Business and Financial
Institutions

SENATE BILL NO. 2717

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 17-25-5, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 REVISE THE APPROVAL NEEDED IN ORDER FOR A WRITTEN COMPETENCY
3 EXAMINATION TO QUALIFY FOR RECIPROCITY BETWEEN LICENSING
4 JURISDICTIONS; TO AMEND SECTION 27-17-457, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF
5 1972, TO CLARIFY LOCAL IMPOSITION OF PRIVILEGE LICENSE FEES
6 AGAINST BUILDING-INDUSTRY CONTRACTORS; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

8 **SECTION 1.** Section 17-25-5, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
9 amended as follows:

10 17-25-5. * * * Every municipality and county of the State of
11 Mississippi shall grant competency examination reciprocity to any
12 contractor, including, but not limited to, any electrical,
13 plumbing, heating and air conditioning, water and sewer, roofing
14 or mechanical contractor, who is licensed by another municipality
15 or county of this state without imposing any further competency
16 examination requirements provided:

17 (a) That the contractor furnishes evidence that he has
18 a license issued on the basis of a competency examination
19 administered in one (1) municipality or county of the State of
20 Mississippi which has an examining board established by county or
21 municipal ordinance that regularly gives a written examination and
22 which requires written examination to qualify for a license;

23 (b) That he furnishes evidence that he actually took
24 and passed the written examination which qualified him for such
25 license; however, in lieu thereof, he may furnish evidence that
26 he was issued a license prior to May 1, 1972, and prior to the
27 existence of a written examination by a county or municipality
28 which has an examining board that requires written examination to
29 qualify for a license;

30 (c) That he has been actively engaged in the business
31 for which he is licensed for two (2) years or more;

32 (d) That he has held a license for his business for one
33 (1) year or more; and

34 (e) That he pays the license fee to the municipality or
35 county to which application is made for a license unless he holds
36 a current certificate of responsibility issued by the State Board
37 of Public Contractors, in which case no license fee shall be
38 collected.

39 * * *

40 **SECTION 2.** Section 27-17-457, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
41 amended as follows:

42 27-17-457. (1) No contractor, including, but not limited
43 to, any electrical, plumbing, heating and air conditioning, water
44 and sewer, roofing or mechanical contractor * * * who holds a
45 privilege license under this chapter shall * * * advertise to the
46 public that he is "licensed" unless he is * * * in compliance with
47 all competency examination requirements of the local jurisdiction
48 in which he does business or holds a current license or
49 certificate of responsibility from the State Board of Contractors.
50 Any officer collecting privilege tax may suspend the issuance or
51 renewal of a privilege license * * * until such time as the
52 licensee is in compliance with the provisions of this section. If
53 a person advertises himself to the public as "licensed," the
54 person must state to the public that he is "licensed by the city
55 of" or "county of" followed by the name or names of the
56 appropriate cities and counties in which the person * * *
57 currently holds a license issued on the basis of a competency
58 exam, * * * or, if * * * appropriate, "licensed by the State Board
59 of Contractors."

60 (2) (a) No additional privilege license fee shall be
61 required in order for a contractor having a single business
62 location to do business in another municipality or county in the

63 state if the contractor has paid a privilege license fee in the
64 municipality or county where he is domiciled.

65 (b) Any contractor who operates more than one (1)
66 separate place of business within the state must obtain the
67 appropriate privilege license and pay the privilege license fee
68 for each location if required by the local jurisdiction.

69 **SECTION 3.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
70 and after its passage.