



TEXAS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
State Representative Senfronia Thompson

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**State Rep. Senfronia Thompson Files Legislation to Continue
The Texas State Board of Plumbing Examiners**

AUSTIN, TX – Today, State Representative Senfronia Thompson filed HB 636 to continue the Texas State Board of Plumbing Examiners.

In 2019, Governor Greg Abbott issued an executive order extending the existence of the Texas State Board of Plumbing Examiners (TSBPE) after legislation aimed at its continuance was left unpassed. Under House Bill 636, Texans can be assured that the agency will continue after the expiration of the Governor's order.

"I thank Governor Abbott for issuing his executive order in 2019 but now the Texas Legislature must act to continue this agency as is," said Rep. Thompson. "Since 1947, the Texas State Board of Plumbing Examiners has protected our health and safety, not only by providing modern sanitation systems, but also ensuring that we have hot water, clean drinking water and that our hospitals and dental offices are properly equipped with medical gas pipes."

The skills held by plumbers are not only requested in everyday scenarios but their importance has been enhanced during 2020 as coronavirus numbers continue to rise, with more patients needing hospital care and hospitals scrambling to find room to care for them. Using TSBPE standards, Texas plumbers have kept up with the need for more hospital settings and have helped cities and counties create alternative medical facilities fitted with the latest plumbing systems to ensure patients and physicians have cold and hot water, medical gas and necessary sanitation to help in the fight against COVID.

"Texas plumbers are responsible for installing the medical gas pipes that provide crucial live saving gases, such as oxygen, nitrous oxide and medical air," continued Rep. Thompson. "Our medical facilities have been pushed to their limits during the pandemic with plumbers holding the key to saving lives that, at times, may go unnoticed. HB 636 will provide security for all Texans during the most uncertain times, and reassure them that this profession will continue to answer your call and will do so with the appropriate training and safety techniques that everyone deserves," said Rep. Thompson.

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