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FOR MORE INFORMATION: COREY.TICKNOR@HOUSE.TEXAS.GOV

GUILLEN PROVIDES CREDIT FOR FUTURE PLUMBERS

Allowing Students to Earn Work Experience Through Classes

AUSTIN - Texas State Representative Ryan Guillen (D-Rural South Texas) authored HB 3049 which will allow high school students to earn up to 250 hours in experience, to be applied towards applications for certain plumbing licenses. The bill was signed into law by Governor Abbott on **Monday, May 29.**

"Demand for skilled license plumbers will always be a necessity in our state, and recruiting young men and women into the trade has proven to be a difficult task in recent years," said Guillen. "In order to prevent a situation where there is a shortage of skilled plumbers, we need an incentive to continue recruiting sufficient interest."

Over the last several years, the amount of students going into the plumbing trade has fallen, while the demand for licensed plumbers has remained steady. In order to encourage students to learn the plumbing trade, HB 3049 will allow applicants to earn up to 250 hours of work experience required to receive a journeyman plumber or plumber-limited license. Guillen hopes that by streamlining the process of becoming a licensed plumber, the state can encourage more students to learn the trade, and ensure that Texas has enough plumbers to sustain our communities in the future.

"I would like to see the supply of industrial tradesmen match the demand," said Guillen. "By providing Texas students with an easier path to becoming a certified plumber, we will have a much better chance at making that goal a reality."

This Act went into effect on Monday. May 29.

Representative Ryan Guillen serves ten rural South Texas counties in the Texas House of Representatives, including Atascosa, Brooks, Duval, Jim Hogg, Kenedy, La Salle, Live Oak, McMullen, Starr, and Willacy.

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