

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2546**

61st Legislature  
2010 Regular Session

Passed by the House February 11, 2010  
Yeas 58 Nays 37

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**Speaker of the House of Representatives**

Passed by the Senate March 4, 2010  
Yeas 27 Nays 20

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**President of the Senate**

Approved

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**Governor of the State of Washington**

CERTIFICATE

I, Barbara Baker, Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2546** as passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate on the dates hereon set forth.

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**Chief Clerk**

FILED

**Secretary of State  
State of Washington**

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**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2546**

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Passed Legislature - 2010 Regular Session

**State of Washington                      61st Legislature                      2010 Regular Session**

**By** House Commerce & Labor (originally sponsored by Representatives Van De Wege, Conway, Morrell, Angel, Dunshee, and Santos)

READ FIRST TIME 02/02/10.

1            AN ACT Relating to classroom training for electrical trainees;  
2 amending RCW 19.28.161; and providing an effective date.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4            **Sec. 1.** RCW 19.28.161 and 2009 c 36 s 7 are each amended to read  
5 as follows:

6            (1) No person may engage in the electrical construction trade  
7 without having a valid master journeyman electrician certificate of  
8 competency, journeyman electrician certificate of competency, master  
9 specialty electrician certificate of competency, or specialty  
10 electrician certificate of competency issued by the department in  
11 accordance with this chapter. Electrician certificate of competency  
12 specialties include, but are not limited to: Residential, pump and  
13 irrigation, limited energy system, signs, nonresidential maintenance,  
14 restricted nonresidential maintenance, and appliance repair. Until  
15 July 1, 2007, the department of labor and industries shall issue a  
16 written warning to any specialty pump and irrigation or domestic pump  
17 electrician not having a valid electrician certification. The warning  
18 will state that the individual must apply for an electrical training  
19 certificate or be qualified for and apply for electrician certification

1 under the requirements in RCW 19.28.191(1)(g) within thirty calendar  
2 days of the warning. Only one warning will be issued to any  
3 individual. If the individual fails to comply with this section, the  
4 department shall issue a penalty as defined in RCW 19.28.271 to the  
5 individual.

6 (2) A person who is indentured in an apprenticeship program  
7 approved under chapter 49.04 RCW for the electrical construction trade  
8 or who is learning the electrical construction trade may work in the  
9 electrical construction trade if supervised by a certified master  
10 journeyman electrician, journeyman electrician, master specialty  
11 electrician in that electrician's specialty, or specialty electrician  
12 in that electrician's specialty. All apprentices and individuals  
13 learning the electrical construction trade shall obtain an electrical  
14 training certificate from the department. The certificate shall  
15 authorize the holder to learn the electrical construction trade while  
16 under the direct supervision of a master journeyman electrician,  
17 journeyman electrician, master specialty electrician working in that  
18 electrician's specialty, or specialty electrician working in that  
19 electrician's specialty. The certificate may include a photograph of  
20 the holder. The holder of the electrical training certificate shall  
21 renew the certificate biennially. At the time of renewal, the holder  
22 shall provide the department with an accurate list of the holder's  
23 employers in the electrical construction industry for the previous  
24 biennial period and the number of hours worked for each employer(~~(~~  
25 ~~and~~)). The holder shall also provide proof of sixteen hours of:  
26 Approved classroom (~~(electrical continuing education courses)~~) training  
27 covering this chapter, the national electrical code, or electrical  
28 theory(~~(~~); or (~~(the)~~) equivalent (~~(electrical)~~) classroom training  
29 (~~(courses)~~) taken as part of an approved apprenticeship program under  
30 chapter 49.04 RCW or an approved electrical training program under RCW  
31 19.28.191(1)(h). (~~(This education requirement is effective July 1,~~  
32 2007-)) The number of hours of approved classroom training required  
33 for certificate renewal shall increase as follows: (a) Beginning on  
34 July 1, 2011, the holder of an electrical training certificate shall  
35 provide the department with proof of thirty-two hours of approved  
36 classroom training; and (b) beginning on July 1, 2013, the holder of an  
37 electrical training certificate shall provide the department with proof  
38 of forty-eight hours of approved classroom training. At the request of

1 the chairs of the house of representatives commerce and labor committee  
2 and the senate labor, commerce and consumer protection committee, or  
3 their successor committees, the department of labor and industries  
4 shall provide information on the implementation of the new classroom  
5 training requirements for electrical trainees to both committees by  
6 December 1, 2012. A biennial fee shall be charged for the issuance or  
7 renewal of the certificate. The department shall set the fee by rule.  
8 The fee shall cover but not exceed the cost of administering and  
9 enforcing the trainee certification and supervision requirements of  
10 this chapter. Apprentices and individuals learning the electrical  
11 construction trade shall have their electrical training certificates in  
12 their possession at all times that they are performing electrical work.  
13 They shall show their certificates to an authorized representative of  
14 the department at the representative's request.

15 (3) Any person who has been issued an electrical training  
16 certificate under this chapter may work if that person is under  
17 supervision. Supervision shall consist of a person being on the same  
18 job site and under the control of either a certified master journeyman  
19 electrician, journeyman electrician, master specialty electrician  
20 working in that electrician's specialty, or specialty electrician  
21 working in that electrician's specialty. Either a certified master  
22 journeyman electrician, journeyman electrician, master specialty  
23 electrician working in that electrician's specialty, or specialty  
24 electrician working in that electrician's specialty shall be on the  
25 same job site as the noncertified individual for a minimum of seventy-  
26 five percent of each working day unless otherwise provided in this  
27 chapter.

28 (4) The ratio of noncertified individuals to certified master  
29 journeymen electricians, journeymen electricians, master specialty  
30 electricians, or specialty electricians on any one job site is as  
31 follows:

32 (a) When working as a specialty electrician, not more than two  
33 noncertified individuals for every certified master specialty  
34 electrician working in that electrician's specialty, specialty  
35 electrician working in that electrician's specialty, master journeyman  
36 electrician, or journeyman electrician, except that the ratio  
37 requirements are one certified master specialty electrician working in  
38 that electrician's specialty, specialty electrician working in that

1 electrician's specialty, master journeyman electrician, or journeyman  
2 electrician working as a specialty electrician to no more than four  
3 students enrolled in and working as part of an electrical construction  
4 program at public community or technical colleges, or not-for-profit  
5 nationally accredited trade or technical schools licensed by the  
6 workforce training and education coordinating board under chapter  
7 28C.10 RCW. In meeting the ratio requirements for students enrolled in  
8 an electrical construction program at a trade school, a trade school  
9 may receive input and advice from the electrical board; and

10 (b) When working as a journeyman electrician, not more than one  
11 noncertified individual for every certified master journeyman  
12 electrician or journeyman electrician, except that the ratio  
13 requirements shall be one certified master journeyman electrician or  
14 journeyman electrician to no more than four students enrolled in and  
15 working as part of an electrical construction program at public  
16 community or technical colleges, or not-for-profit nationally  
17 accredited trade or technical schools licensed by the workforce  
18 training and education coordinating board under chapter 28C.10 RCW. In  
19 meeting the ratio requirements for students enrolled in an electrical  
20 construction program at a trade school, a trade school may receive  
21 input and advice from the electrical board.

22 An individual who has a current training certificate and who has  
23 successfully completed or is currently enrolled in an approved  
24 apprenticeship program or in an electrical construction program at  
25 public community or technical colleges, or not-for-profit nationally  
26 accredited technical or trade schools licensed by the workforce  
27 training and education coordinating board under chapter 28C.10 RCW, may  
28 work without direct on-site supervision during the last six months of  
29 meeting the practical experience requirements of this chapter.

30 (5) For the residential (as specified in WAC 296-46B-920(2)(a)),  
31 pump and irrigation (as specified in WAC 296-46B-920(2)(b)), sign (as  
32 specified in WAC 296-46B-920(2)(d)), limited energy (as specified in  
33 WAC 296-46B-920(2)(e)), nonresidential maintenance (as specified in WAC  
34 296-46B-920(2)(g)), restricted nonresidential maintenance as determined  
35 by the department in rule, or other new nonresidential specialties, not  
36 including appliance repair, as determined by the department in rule,  
37 either a master journeyman electrician, journeyman electrician, master  
38 specialty electrician working in that electrician's specialty, or

1 specialty electrician working in that electrician's specialty must be  
2 on the same job site as the noncertified individual for a minimum of  
3 seventy-five percent of each working day. Other specialties must meet  
4 the requirements specified in RCW 19.28.191(1)(g)(ii). When the ratio  
5 of certified electricians to noncertified individuals on a job site is  
6 one certified electrician to three or four noncertified individuals,  
7 the certified electrician must:

8 (a) Directly supervise and instruct the noncertified individuals  
9 and the certified electrician may not directly make or engage in an  
10 electrical installation; and

11 (b) Be on the same job site as the noncertified individual for a  
12 minimum of one hundred percent of each working day.

13 (6) The electrical contractor shall accurately verify and attest to  
14 the electrical trainee hours worked by electrical trainees on behalf of  
15 the electrical contractor.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** This act takes effect July 1, 2011.

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