
Labor & Workforce Development Committee

HB 2323

Brief Description: Concerning electrician licensing and identification requirements.

Sponsors: Representatives Shea and Short.

<p style="text-align: center;">Brief Summary of Bill</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Eliminates the authority of the Department of Labor and Industries to require electricians to wear and visibly display their certificate of competency.

Hearing Date: 1/23/14

Staff: Joan Elgee (786-7106).

Background:

The Department of Labor and Industries (Department) administers and enforces state laws governing electrical work. Individuals performing electrical work must have a journey level or the appropriate specialty certificate of competency and individuals learning the electrical trade must have a training certificate.

In 2009, the Legislature required individuals who perform electrical work to have photo identification in their possession while working. The Legislature also gave the Department authority to adopt a rule requiring electricians to wear and visibly display their certificates. Similar provisions were enacted for the plumbing and conveyance trade. In 2013, the Department adopted a rule requiring electricians and trainees to wear and visibly display their certificates. The rule specifies situations when the certificate may be worn inside the outer layer of clothing, including when the person is working in a crawl space or wearing welding gear.

Individuals who violate the electrical laws and rules, including the identification and certificate display requirements, are subject to civil penalty.

This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.

Summary of Bill:

The authority of the Department to establish a rule requiring an electrician to wear and visibly display his or certificate is eliminated. The Department may require that the individual produce proof of proper licensing and identification upon request, but may not require an individual to wear or visibly display their license or personal identification on their clothing or as part of their uniform.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Available.

Effective Date: The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of the session in which the bill is passed.