
HOUSE BILL 2686

State of Washington 52nd Legislature 1992 Regular Session

By Representatives Kremen, Heavey and Fuhrman

Read first time 01/23/92. Referred to Committee on Commerce & Labor.

1 AN ACT Relating to contractor registration and licensing
2 requirements; and amending RCW 18.27.030 and 19.28.120.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 18.27.030 and 1988 c 285 s 1 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 (1) An applicant for registration as a contractor shall submit an
7 application under oath upon a form to be prescribed by the director and
8 which shall include the following information pertaining to the
9 applicant:

10 ~~((1))~~ (a) Employer social security number.

11 ~~((2) Industrial insurance number.~~

12 ~~(3))~~ (b) Evidence of workers' compensation coverage in the
13 applicant's state of domicile for the applicant's employees working in
14 Washington.

1 (c) Employment security department number.

2 ~~((4))~~ (d) State excise tax registration number.

3 ~~((5))~~ (e) Unified business identifier (UBI) account number may be
4 substituted for the information required by ~~((subsections (2), (3), and~~
5 ~~(4))~~ (b), (c), and (d) of this ~~((section))~~ subsection.

6 ~~((6))~~ (f) Type of contracting activity, whether a general or a
7 specialty contractor and if the latter, the type of specialty.

8 ~~((7))~~ (g) The name and address of each partner if the applicant
9 be a firm or partnership, or the name and address of the owner if the
10 applicant be an individual proprietorship, or the name and address of
11 the corporate officers and statutory agent, if any, if the applicant be
12 a corporation. The information contained in such application shall be
13 a matter of public record and open to public inspection.

14 (2) The department may verify the workers' compensation coverage
15 information provided by the applicant under subsection (1)(b) of this
16 section, including but not limited to information regarding the
17 coverage of an individual employee of the applicant. If coverage is
18 provided under the laws of another state, the department shall notify
19 the other state that the applicant is employing employees in
20 Washington.

21 (3) Registration shall be denied if the applicant has been
22 previously registered as a sole proprietor, partnership or corporation,
23 and was a principal or officer of the corporation, and if the applicant
24 has an unsatisfied final judgment in an action based on RCW 18.27.040
25 that incurred during a previous registration under this chapter.

26 **Sec. 2.** RCW 19.28.120 and 1986 c 156 s 5 are each amended to read
27 as follows:

28 (1) It is unlawful for any person, firm, partnership, corporation,
29 or other entity to engage in, conduct, or carry on the business of

1 installing or maintaining wires or equipment to convey electric
2 current, or installing or maintaining equipment to be operated by
3 electric current as it pertains to the electrical industry, without
4 having an unrevoked, unsuspended, and unexpired electrical contractor
5 license, issued by the department in accordance with this chapter. All
6 electrical contractor licenses expire twenty-four calendar months
7 following the day of their issue. The department may issue an
8 electrical contractors license for a period of less than twenty-four
9 months only for the purpose of equalizing the number of electrical
10 contractor licenses which expire each month. Application for an
11 electrical contractor license shall be made in writing to the
12 department, accompanied by the required fee. The application shall
13 state:

14 (a) The name and address of the applicant; in case of firms or
15 partnerships, the names of the individuals composing the firm or
16 partnership; in case of corporations, the names of the managing
17 officials thereof;

18 (b) The location of the place of business of the applicant and the
19 name under which the business is conducted; ((and))

20 (c) Employer social security number;

21 (d) Evidence of workers' compensation coverage in the applicant's
22 state of domicile for the applicant's employees working in Washington;

23 (e) Employment security department number;

24 (f) State excise tax registration number;

25 (g) Unified business identifier (UBI) account number may be
26 substituted for the information required by (d), (e), and (f) of this
27 subsection; and

28 (h) Whether a general or specialty electrical contractor license is
29 sought and, if the latter, the type of specialty. Electrical
30 contractor specialties include, but are not limited to: Residential,

1 domestic appliances, pump and irrigation, limited energy system, signs,
2 nonresidential maintenance, and a combination specialty. A general
3 electrical contractor license shall grant to the holder the right to
4 engage in, conduct, or carry on the business of installing or
5 maintaining wires or equipment to carry electric current, and
6 installing or maintaining equipment, or installing or maintaining
7 material to fasten or insulate such wires or equipment to be operated
8 by electric current, in the state of Washington. A specialty
9 electrical contractor license shall grant to the holder a limited right
10 to engage in, conduct, or carry on the business of installing or
11 maintaining wires or equipment to carry electrical current, and
12 installing or maintaining equipment; or installing or maintaining
13 material to fasten or insulate such wires or equipment to be operated
14 by electric current in the state of Washington as expressly allowed by
15 the license.

16 (2) The department may verify the workers' compensation coverage
17 information provided by the applicant under subsection (1)(d) of this
18 section, including but not limited to information regarding the
19 coverage of an individual employee of the applicant. If coverage is
20 provided under the laws of another state, the department shall notify
21 the other state that the applicant is employing employees in
22 Washington.

23 (3) The application for a contractor license shall be accompanied
24 by a bond in the sum of four thousand dollars with the state of
25 Washington named as obligee in the bond, with good and sufficient
26 surety, to be approved by the department. The bond shall at all times
27 be kept in full force and effect, and any cancellation or revocation
28 thereof, or withdrawal of the surety therefrom, suspends the license
29 issued to the principal until a new bond has been filed and approved as
30 provided in this section. Upon approval of a bond, the department

1 shall on the next business day deposit the fee accompanying the
2 application in the electrical license fund and shall file the bond in
3 the office. The department shall upon request furnish to any person,
4 firm, partnership, corporation, or other entity a certified copy of the
5 bond upon the payment of a fee that the department shall set by rule.
6 The fee shall cover but not exceed the cost of furnishing the certified
7 copy. The bond shall be conditioned that in any installation or
8 maintenance of wires or equipment to convey electrical current, and
9 equipment to be operated by electrical current, the principal will
10 comply with the provisions of this chapter and with any electrical
11 ordinance, building code, or regulation of a city or town adopted
12 pursuant to RCW 19.28.010(2) that is in effect at the time of entering
13 into a contract. The bond shall be conditioned further that the
14 principal will pay for all labor, including employee benefits, and
15 material furnished or used upon the work, taxes and contributions to
16 the state of Washington, and all damages that may be sustained by any
17 person, firm, partnership, corporation, or other entity due to a
18 failure of the principal to make the installation or maintenance in
19 accordance with this chapter or any applicable ordinance, building
20 code, or regulation of a city or town adopted pursuant to RCW
21 19.28.010(2). In lieu of the surety bond required by this section the
22 license applicant may file with the department a cash deposit or other
23 negotiable security acceptable to the department. If the license
24 applicant has filed a cash deposit, the department shall deposit the
25 funds in a special trust savings account in a commercial bank, mutual
26 savings bank, or savings and loan association and shall pay annually to
27 the depositor the interest derived from the account.

28 ~~((3))~~ (4) The department shall issue general or specialty
29 electrical contractor licenses to applicants meeting all of the
30 requirements of this chapter. The provisions of this chapter relating

1 to the licensing of any person, firm, partnership, corporation, or
2 other entity including the requirement of a bond with the state of
3 Washington named as obligee therein and the collection of a fee
4 therefor, are exclusive, and no political subdivision of the state of
5 Washington may require or issue any licenses or bonds or charge any fee
6 for the same or a similar purpose. No person, firm, partnership,
7 corporation, or other entity holding more than one specialty contractor
8 license under this chapter may be required to pay an annual fee for
9 more than one such license or to post more than one four thousand
10 dollar bond, equivalent cash deposit, or other negotiable security.

11 ~~((4))~~ (5) To obtain a general or specialty electrical contractor
12 license the applicant must designate an individual who currently
13 possesses an administrator's certificate as a general electrical
14 contractor administrator or as a specialty electrical contractor
15 administrator in the specialty for which application has been made.
16 Administrator certificate specialties include but are not limited to:
17 Residential, domestic, appliance, pump and irrigation, limited energy
18 system, signs, nonresidential maintenance, and combination specialty.
19 To obtain an administrator's certificate an individual must pass an
20 examination as set forth in RCW 19.28.123 unless the applicant was a
21 licensed electrical contractor at any time during 1974. Applicants who
22 were electrical contractors licensed by the state of Washington at any
23 time during 1974 are entitled to receive a general electrical
24 contractor administrator's certificate without examination if the
25 applicants apply prior to January 1, 1984. The board of electrical
26 examiners shall certify to the department the names of all persons who
27 are entitled to either a general or specialty electrical contractor
28 administrator's certificate.