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5 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the  
6 following:

7 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature finds that:

8 (a) Electric utilities have traditionally installed, maintained,  
9 and repaired electrical wires, equipment, and other apparatus used by  
10 their public institution, commercial, and industrial customers without  
11 licensing and inspection under chapter 19.28 RCW.

12 (b) Electric utilities have traditionally used contractors for  
13 major utility projects and to supplement their own work forces and such  
14 contractors have not been subject to licensing or inspection under  
15 chapter 19.28 RCW.

16 (c) The traditional practice of electric utilities has proved to be  
17 safe, efficient, and economical.

18 (d) Recent administrative actions have prevented electric utilities  
19 from carrying out traditional practices and, as a result, have  
20 prevented utilities from responding to requests from their commercial,  
21 industrial, and public institution customers for repairs.

22 (e) Public institution customers of electric utilities, such as  
23 schools, hospitals, municipal water suppliers, fire protection  
24 districts, sewage treatment plants, and airports depend on electric  
25 equipment to meet vital public needs. If the equipment is not repaired  
26 and maintained in a timely fashion, vital public services are  
27 interrupted and curtailed. The recent administrative actions

1 jeopardize the public health and safety by preventing timely repair and  
2 maintenance of the equipment.

3 (f) The same administrative actions under (d) of this subsection  
4 prevent electric utilities from providing continuous, reliable service  
5 to their commercial and industrial customers and impose unnecessary  
6 delays and economic losses on such customers.

7 (2) The legislature declares it to be the policy of the state of  
8 Washington that: Electric utilities shall not be subject to licensing  
9 and inspection with respect to work on the electric wires, equipment,  
10 and other apparatus of commercial, industrial, or public institution  
11 customers of utilities; no distinction shall be drawn with respect to  
12 licensing and inspection between the electrical work performed for  
13 public institutions and that performed for commercial and industrial  
14 customers; and persons and firms whose work is subject to electric  
15 utility acceptance or approval shall be exempt from such requirements  
16 to the same extent as electric utilities."

17 "**Sec. 2.** RCW 19.28.010 and 1986 c 263 s 1 and 1986 c 156 s 2 are  
18 each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

19 (1) All wires and equipment, and installations thereof, that convey  
20 electric current and installations of equipment to be operated by  
21 electric current, in, on, or about buildings or structures, except for  
22 telephone, telegraph, radio, and television wires and equipment, and  
23 television antenna installations, signal strength amplifiers, and  
24 coaxial installations pertaining thereto shall be in strict conformity  
25 with this chapter, the statutes of the state of Washington, and the  
26 rules issued by the department, and shall be in conformity with  
27 approved methods of construction for safety to life and property. All  
28 wires and equipment, and installations thereof, that fall within  
29 section 90.2(b)(5) of the National Electrical Code, 1981 edition, or

1 RCW 19.28.200 are exempt from the requirements of this chapter. The  
2 regulations and articles in the National Electrical Code, as approved  
3 by the American Standards Association, and in the national electrical  
4 safety code, as approved by the American Standards Association, and  
5 other installation and safety regulations approved by the American  
6 Standards Association, as modified or supplemented by rules issued by  
7 the department in furtherance of safety to life and property under  
8 authority hereby granted, shall be prima facie evidence of the approved  
9 methods of construction. All materials, devices, appliances, and  
10 equipment used in such installations shall be of a type that conforms  
11 to applicable standards or be indicated as acceptable by the  
12 established standards of the Underwriters' Laboratories, Inc. or other  
13 electrical product testing laboratories which are accredited by the  
14 department.

15 (2) This chapter shall not limit the authority or power of any city  
16 or town to enact and enforce under authority given by law, any  
17 ordinance, rule, or regulation requiring an equal, higher, or better  
18 standard of construction and an equal, higher, or better standard of  
19 materials, devices, appliances, and equipment than that required by  
20 this chapter: PROVIDED, That such city or town shall require that its  
21 electrical inspectors meet the qualifications provided for state  
22 electrical inspectors in accordance with RCW 19.28.070. In a city or  
23 town having an equal, higher, or better standard the installations,  
24 materials, devices, appliances, and equipment shall be in accordance  
25 with the ordinance, rule, or regulation of the city or town.  
26 Electrical equipment associated with spas, hot tubs, swimming pools,  
27 and hydromassage bathtubs shall not be offered for sale or exchange  
28 unless the electrical equipment is certified as being in compliance  
29 with the applicable product safety standard by bearing the

1 certification mark of an approved electrical products testing  
2 laboratory.

3 (3) Nothing in this chapter may be construed as permitting the  
4 connection of any conductor of any electric circuit with a pipe that is  
5 connected with or designed to be connected with a waterworks piping  
6 system, without the consent of the person or persons legally  
7 responsible for the operation and maintenance of the waterworks piping  
8 system."

9 "Sec. 3. RCW 19.28.200 and 1980 c 30 s 15 are each amended to read  
10 as follows:

11 No license under the provision of this chapter shall be required  
12 from any utility or any person, firm, partnership, corporation, or  
13 other entity whose work is subject to approval or acceptance by a  
14 utility before connection to the utility's system because of work in  
15 connection with the installation ~~((and/))~~, repair, or maintenance of  
16 the following:

17 (a) Lines ~~((or))~~, wires, apparatus, or equipment owned by or under  
18 the control of a utility, including but not limited to those used for  
19 transmission or distribution of electricity from the source of supply  
20 to the point of contact at the premises and/or property to be  
21 supplied~~((, or for work in installing or maintaining or repairing on~~  
22 ~~the premises of customers,))~~ and service connections and meters~~((,))~~  
23 and other apparatus or appliances used in the measurement of the  
24 consumption of electricity by the customer~~((s, or for work in~~  
25 ~~connection with))~~;

26 (b) Lines, wires, apparatus, or equipment used in the lighting of  
27 streets, alleys, ways, or public areas or squares~~((, or for the work of~~  
28 ~~installing, maintaining or repairing wires, apparatus or appliances~~  
29 ~~used in their business, or in making or distributing electricity, upon~~

1 ~~the property owned or operated and managed by them; or for the work of~~  
2 ~~installing and repairing))i~~

3 (c) Lines, wires, apparatus, or equipment owned by a commercial,  
4 industrial, or public institution customer that are:

5 (i) Located outside the building or structure; and

6 (ii) Not covered under (d) of this subsection;

7 (d) Lines, wires, apparatus, or equipment owned by commercial,  
8 industrial, or public institution customer and used in making or  
9 distributing electricity on premises used by the customer;

10 (e) Ignition or lighting systems for motor vehicles((~~τ~~))i or ((~~as~~))

11 (f) Wires and equipment, and installations thereof, exempted in RCW  
12 19.28.010."

13 **"Sec. 4.** RCW 19.28.210 and 1989 c 344 s 1 are each amended to read  
14 as follows:

15 (1) The director shall cause an inspector to inspect all wiring,  
16 appliances, devices, and equipment to which this chapter applies.  
17 Nothing contained in this chapter may be construed as providing any  
18 authority for any subdivision of government to adopt by ordinance any  
19 provisions contained or provided for in this chapter except those  
20 pertaining to cities and towns pursuant to RCW 19.28.010(2).

21 (2) Upon request, electrical inspections will be made by the  
22 department within forty-eight hours, excluding holidays, Saturdays, and  
23 Sundays. If, upon written request, the electrical inspector fails to  
24 make an electrical inspection within twenty-four hours, the serving  
25 utility may immediately connect electrical power to the installation if  
26 the necessary electrical work permit is displayed: PROVIDED, That if  
27 the request is for an electrical inspection that relates to a mobile  
28 home installation, the applicant shall provide proof of a current  
29 building permit issued by the local government agency authorized to

1 issue such permits as a prerequisite for inspection approval or  
2 connection of electrical power to the mobile home.

3 (3) Whenever the installation of any wiring, device, appliance, or  
4 equipment is not in accordance with this chapter, or is in such a  
5 condition as to be dangerous to life or property, the person, firm,  
6 partnership, corporation, or other entity owning, using, or operating  
7 it shall be notified by the department and shall within fifteen days,  
8 or such further reasonable time as may upon request be granted, make  
9 such repairs and changes as are required to remove the danger to life  
10 or property and to make it conform to this chapter. The director,  
11 through the inspector, is hereby empowered to disconnect or order the  
12 discontinuance of electrical service to conductors or equipment that  
13 are found to be in a dangerous or unsafe condition and not in  
14 accordance with this chapter. Upon making a disconnection the  
15 inspector shall attach a notice stating that the conductors have been  
16 found dangerous to life or property and are not in accordance with this  
17 chapter. It is unlawful for any person to reconnect such defective  
18 conductors or equipment without the approval of the department, and  
19 until the conductors and equipment have been placed in a safe and  
20 secure condition, and in a condition that complies with this chapter.

21 (4) The director, through the electrical inspector, has the right  
22 during reasonable hours to enter into and upon any building or premises  
23 in the discharge of his or her official duties for the purpose of  
24 making any inspection or test of the installation of new construction  
25 or altered electrical wiring, electrical devices, equipment, or  
26 material contained in or on the buildings or premises. No electrical  
27 wiring or equipment subject to this chapter may be concealed until it  
28 has been approved by the inspector making the inspection.

29 (5) Persons, firms, partnerships, corporations, or other entities  
30 making electrical installations shall obtain inspection and approval

1 from an authorized representative of the department as required by this  
2 chapter before requesting the electric utility to connect to the  
3 installations. Electric utilities may connect to the installations if  
4 approval is clearly indicated by certification of the electrical work  
5 permit required to be affixed to each installation or by equivalent  
6 means, except that increased or relocated services may be reconnected  
7 immediately at the discretion of the utility before approval if an  
8 electrical work permit is displayed. The permits shall be furnished  
9 upon payment of the fee to the department.

10 (6) The director, subject to the recommendations and approval of  
11 the board, shall set by rule a schedule of license and electrical work  
12 permit fees that will cover the costs of administration and enforcement  
13 of this chapter. The rules shall be adopted in accordance with the  
14 administrative procedure act, chapter 34.05 RCW. No fee may be charged  
15 for plug-in mobile homes, recreational vehicles, or portable  
16 appliances.

17 (7) Nothing in this chapter authorizes the inspection of any  
18 wiring, appliance, device, or equipment, or installations thereof, that  
19 is exempt from application of this chapter or the inspection of the  
20 work of any person, firm, partnership, corporation, or other entity  
21 that is exempt from the application of this chapter."

22 "Sec. 5. RCW 19.28.610 and 1986 c 156 s 16 are each amended to  
23 read as follows:

24 Nothing in RCW 19.28.510 through 19.28.620 shall be construed to  
25 require that a person obtain a license or a certified electrician in  
26 order to do electrical work at his or her residence or farm or place of  
27 business or on other property owned by him: PROVIDED, HOWEVER, That  
28 nothing in RCW 19.28.510 through 19.28.620 shall be intended to  
29 derogate from or dispense with the requirements of any valid electrical

1 code enacted by a city or town pursuant to RCW 19.28.010(2), except  
2 that no code shall require the holder of a certificate of competency to  
3 demonstrate any additional proof of competency or obtain any other  
4 license or pay any fee in order to engage in the electrical  
5 construction trade: AND PROVIDED FURTHER, That RCW 19.28.510 through  
6 19.28.620 shall not apply to common carriers subject to Part I of the  
7 Interstate Commerce Act, nor to their officers and employees: AND  
8 PROVIDED FURTHER, That nothing in RCW 19.28.510 through 19.28.620 shall  
9 be deemed to apply to the installation or maintenance of telephone,  
10 telegraph, radio, or television wires and equipment; nor to any  
11 electrical utility or its employees or any person, firm, corporation,  
12 or other entity whose work is subject to approval or acceptance by the  
13 utility before connection to the utility's system, in the  
14 installation((s)), repair, and maintenance of electrical wiring,  
15 circuits, and equipment by, on behalf of, under the direction of, or  
16 for the utility, or comprising a part of its plants, lines or systems.  
17 The licensing provisions of RCW 19.28.510 through 19.28.620 shall not  
18 apply to persons making electrical installations on their own property  
19 or to regularly employed employees working on the premises of their  
20 employer or to employees of employers exempt under RCW 19.28.200 so  
21 long as those employees have registered with or graduated from a state  
22 or federally approved apprenticeship course designed for the work being  
23 performed: AND PROVIDED FURTHER, That nothing in RCW 19.28.510 through  
24 19.28.620 shall be construed to restrict the right of any householder  
25 to assist or receive assistance from a friend, neighbor, relative or  
26 other person when none of the individuals doing the electrical  
27 installation hold themselves out as engaged in the trade or business of  
28 electrical installations. Nothing precludes any person who is exempt  
29 from the licensing requirements of this chapter under this section from



1 obtaining a journeyman or specialty certificate of competency if they  
2 otherwise meet the requirements of this chapter."

3 **HB 2053** - H AMD  
4 By Representative Orr

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6 On page 1, line 1 of the title, after "exemptions;" strike the  
7 remainder of the title and insert "amending RCW 19.28.200, 19.28.210,  
8 and 19.28.610; reenacting and amending RCW 19.28.010; and creating a  
9 new section."