
HOUSE BILL 1486

State of Washington

53rd Legislature

1993 Regular Session

By Representative Brough

Read first time 01/29/93. Referred to Committee on Commerce & Labor.

1 AN ACT Relating to electrical certificates of competency; amending
2 RCW 19.28.540, 19.28.560, and 19.28.570; and repealing RCW 19.28.520
3 and 19.28.530.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 19.28.540 and 1988 c 81 s 14 are each amended to read
6 as follows:

7 (1) An applicant may not be issued a journeyman electrician
8 certificate of competency or a specialty electrician certificate of
9 competency unless the applicant has passed the examination required in
10 this section for a journeyman electrician certificate or specialty
11 electrician certificate, as applicable.

12 (2) The department(~~(, in coordination with the board,~~)) shall
13 ((prepare an examination)) contract with a professional testing agency
14 to develop, administer, and score the journeyman and specialty
15 electrician certification examinations to be administered to applicants
16 for journeyman and specialty certificates of competency. The
17 examination shall be constructed to determine:

18 ((+1)) (a) Whether the applicant possesses varied general
19 knowledge of the technical information and practical procedures that

1 are identified with the status of journeyman electrician or specialty
2 electrician; and

3 ~~((2))~~ (b) Whether the applicant is sufficiently familiar with the
4 applicable electrical codes and the rules of the department pertaining
5 to electrical installations and electricians.

6 (3) The department shall establish reasonable rules for the
7 examinations to be given applicants for certificates of competency. In
8 establishing the rules, the department shall consult with the board.
9 Applicants for examinations shall be notified of the time and place for
10 taking the examination as determined by the department under this
11 section.

12 (4) The department shall, at least four times annually, administer
13 the examination to persons ~~((eligible))~~ applying to take it ~~((under RCW~~
14 ~~19.28.530))~~. A person may take the journeyman or specialty test as
15 many times as necessary without limit. All applicants shall, before
16 taking the examination, pay to the department an examination fee. The
17 department shall set the fee by rule. The fee shall cover but not
18 exceed the costs of preparing and administering the examination.

19 (5) The department shall certify the results of the examination
20 upon such terms and after such a period of time as the department, in
21 cooperation with the board, deems necessary and proper.

22 ~~((3) The department upon the consent of the board may enter into~~
23 ~~a contract with a professional testing agency to develop, administer,~~
24 ~~and score journeyman and/or specialty electrician certification~~
25 ~~examinations)). The examination papers, all grading of papers, and the~~
26 grading of any practical work must be preserved for a period of at
27 least one year after the department has certified the results. All
28 examinations must be conducted by fair and wholly impartial methods.

29 **Sec. 2.** RCW 19.28.560 and 1980 c 30 s 7 are each amended to read
30 as follows:

31 No examination shall be required of any applicant for a certificate
32 of competency who, on July 16, 1973, was engaged in a bona fide
33 business or trade as a journeyman electrician in the state of
34 Washington. Applicants qualifying under this section shall be issued
35 a certificate by the department upon making an application ~~((as~~
36 ~~provided in RCW 19.28.520))~~ and paying the fee required under RCW
37 19.28.540~~((: PROVIDED, That no applicant under this section shall be~~
38 ~~required to furnish such evidence as required by RCW 19.28.520))~~.

1 **Sec. 3.** RCW 19.28.570 and 1986 c 156 s 15 are each amended to read
2 as follows:

3 (1) The department is authorized to enter into a reciprocal
4 agreement with another state providing for the acceptance of the
5 state's journeyman and specialty electrician certificate of competency
6 or its equivalent when the state's requirements are equal to the
7 standards set by this chapter.

8 (2) The department is authorized to grant and issue temporary
9 permits in lieu of certificates of competency whenever an electrician
10 coming into the state of Washington from another state requests the
11 department for a temporary permit to engage in the electrical
12 construction trade as an electrician during the period of time between
13 filing of an application for a certificate ((as provided in RCW
14 19.28.520)) and the date the results of taking the examination provided
15 for in RCW 19.28.540 are furnished to the applicant. ((The department
16 is authorized to enter into reciprocal agreements with other states
17 providing for the acceptance of such states' journeyman and specialty
18 electrician certificate of competency or its equivalent when such
19 states requirements are equal to the standards set by this chapter.))
20 No temporary permit shall be issued to:

21 ~~((1))~~ (a) Any person who has failed to pass the examination for
22 a certificate of competency, except that any person who has failed the
23 examination for competency under this section shall be entitled to
24 continue to work under a temporary permit for ninety days if the person
25 is enrolled in a journeyman electrician refresher course and shows
26 evidence to the department that he or she has not missed any classes.
27 The person, after completing the journeyman electrician refresher
28 course, shall be eligible to retake the examination for competency at
29 the next scheduled time.

30 ~~((2) Any applicant under this section who has not furnished the~~
31 ~~department with such evidence required under RCW 19.28.520.~~

32 ~~(3) To~~) (b) Any apprentice electrician.

33 NEW SECTION. Sec. 4. The following acts or parts of acts are each
34 repealed:

35 (1) RCW 19.28.520 and 1980 c 30 s 3; and

1 (2) RCW 19.28.530 and 1988 c 81 s 13, 1983 c 206 s 14, & 1980 c 30
2 s 4.

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