HOUSE BILL 3177

State of Washington	59th Legislature	2006 Regular Session
By Representatives Hunter,	Holmquist, Schindler,	Serben and Ahern
Read first time 01/24/2006.	Referred to Committe	e on Commerce & Labor.

AN ACT Relating to the regulation of heating, ventilating, air conditioning, and refrigeration contractors; amending RCW 18.106.010, 18.106.020, 18.106.030, 18.106.040, 18.106.050, 18.106.070, 18.106.080, 18.106.090, 18.106.110, 18.106.130, 18.106.150, 18.106.155, 18.106.170, 18.106.180, 18.106.250, 18.106.270, 18.106.320, and 19.28.041; adding a new section to chapter 18.106 RCW; and providing an effective date.

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

8 **Sec. 1.** RCW 18.106.010 and 2003 c 399 s 102 are each amended to 9 read as follows:

10 Unless a different meaning is plainly required by the context, the 11 following words and phrases as ((hereinafter)) used in this chapter 12 shall have the following meaning:

13 (1) "Advisory board" means the state <u>plumbing and mechanical</u> 14 advisory board ((of plumbers));

15 (2) "Contractor" means any person, corporate or otherwise, who 16 engages in, or offers or advertises to engage in, any work covered by 17 the provisions of this chapter by way of trade or business, or any 18 person, corporate or otherwise, who employs anyone, or offers or 1 advertises to employ anyone, to engage in any work covered by the 2 provisions of this chapter;

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(3) "Department" means the department of labor and industries;

4 (4) "Director" means the director of department of labor and 5 industries;

(5) "Heating, ventilating, air conditioning, and refrigeration" or 6 "HVAC/R" (a) means that craft involved in installing, altering, 7 repairing and renovating heating, ventilation, air conditioning, and 8 refrigeration systems and equipment; and (b) does not include 9 residential wood stoves, or work performed by an electric utility or 10 employees of an electrical utility while engaging in the installation, 11 12 repair, replacement, or maintenance of HVAC/R equipment associated with 13 work performed on the utility's lines or systems;

14 (6) "HVAC/R equipment" means all materials, devices, components, appliances, fuel delivery piping, controls, including thermostatic 15 controls for air, liquid, or gas, cabling, and wiring necessary to 16 operate any system that heats, cools, conditions, ventilates, filters, 17 refrigerates, humidifies, or dehumidifies environmental air for 18 industrial, commercial, or residential use, including decorative gas 19 fireplaces, which does not include: (a) Electrical wiring on the 20 21 energized side of a switch or other means of disconnecting the electrical circuit providing power to the HVAC/R equipment from a 22 source of power; (b) mechanical piping other than that necessary to 23 24 deliver fuel; or (c) sheet metal work or ducting;

25 <u>(7) "HVAC/R fuel delivery piping mechanic" means a person who</u> 26 <u>installs, alters, repairs, and renovates piping that delivers liquid or</u> 27 <u>gas fuel to HVAC/R equipment, other than a registered journeyman or</u> 28 <u>specialty plumber who works on piping necessary to deliver gas fuel to</u> 29 <u>HVAC/R equipment;</u>

30 <u>(8) "Journeyman HVAC/R mechanic" means a person who installs,</u> 31 <u>alters, repairs, and renovates HVAC/R equipment who has been issued a</u> 32 <u>certificate of competency by the department of labor and industries</u> 33 <u>under RCW 18.106.070;</u>

34 (9) "Journeyman residential HVAC/R mechanic" means a person who 35 installs, alters, repairs, and renovates HVAC/R equipment in a 36 residential structure who has been issued a certificate of competency 37 by the department of labor and industries under RCW 18.106.070; 1 (10) "Journeyman plumber" means any person who has been issued a 2 certificate of competency by the department of labor and industries as 3 provided in this chapter;

4 (((6))) <u>(11)</u> "Like-in-kind" means having similar characteristics 5 such as plumbing size, type, and function, and being in the same 6 location;

7 ((((7))) <u>(12)</u> "Medical gas piping" means oxygen, nitrous oxide, high pressure nitrogen, medical compressed air, and medical vacuum systems; 8 9 (((+))) (13) "Medical gas piping installer" means a journeyman 10 plumber who has been issued a medical gas piping installer endorsement; (((9))) (14) "Plumbing" means that craft involved in installing, 11 12 altering, repairing and renovating potable water systems, liquid waste 13 and medical piping systems within a systems, gas building. 14 Installation in a water system of water softening or water treatment equipment is not within the meaning of plumbing as used in this 15 16 chapter;

17 ((((10))) (15) "Specialty plumber" means anyone who has been issued 18 a specialty certificate of competency limited to:

(a) Installation, maintenance, and repair of the plumbing of single-family dwellings, duplexes, and apartment buildings that do not exceed three stories; or

22 (b) Maintenance and repair of backflow prevention assemblies.

23 **Sec. 2.** RCW 18.106.020 and 2002 c 82 s 2 are each amended to read 24 as follows:

(1) No person may engage in or offer to engage in the trade of 25 26 plumbing without having a journeyman certificate, specialty certificate, temporary permit, or trainee certificate. A trainee must 27 be supervised by a person who has a journeyman certificate, specialty 28 certificate, or temporary permit, as specified in RCW 18.106.070. No 29 30 contractor may employ a person to engage in or offer to engage in the 31 trade of plumbing unless the person employed has a journeyman certificate, specialty certificate, temporary permit, or trainee 32 33 certificate. This section does not apply to a contractor who is 34 contracting for work on his or her own residence.

35 (2) No person may engage in or offer to engage in medical gas
 36 piping installation without having a certificate of competency as a
 37 journeyman plumber and a medical gas piping installer endorsement. A

trainee may engage in medical gas piping installation if he or she has a training certificate and is supervised by a person with a medical gas piping installer endorsement. No contractor may employ a person to engage in or offer to engage in medical gas piping installation unless the person employed has a certificate of competency as a journeyman plumber and a medical gas piping installer endorsement.

7 (3) Except for electricians properly licensed or supervised pursuant to chapter 19.28 RCW and performing work within the scope of 8 their licenses, no person may engage in or offer to engage in the trade 9 of installing, repairing, or maintaining HVAC/R equipment without 10 having a journeyman HVAC/R mechanic certificate, journeyman residential 11 HVAC/R mechanic certificate, HVAC/R fuel delivery piping mechanic 12 13 certificate, temporary permit, or HVAC/R trainee certificate. A trainee must be supervised by a person who has a journeyman HVAC/R 14 mechanic certificate, journeyman residential HVAC/R mechanic 15 certificate, or temporary permit, as specified in RCW 18.106.070. No 16 17 contractor may employ a person to engage in or offer to engage in the trade of repairing, maintaining, or installing HVAC/R equipment unless 18 the person employed has a journeyman HVAC/R mechanic certificate, 19 journeyman residential HVAC/R mechanic certificate, HVAC/R fuel 20 delivery piping mechanic certificate, temporary permit, or HVAC/R 21 trainee certificate. This section does not apply to a contractor who 22 is contracting for work on his or her own residence. This section 23 24 shall also not apply to workers retained by an HVAC/R contractor to engage in only activities that do not require knowledge or skills 25 26 associated with the energizing or fueling of HVAC/R equipment, such as 27 the lifting or movement of decommissioned, de-energized, or unenergized HVAC/R equipment and related tools and supplies to, from, or 28 within the worksite. 29

30 <u>(4)</u> No contractor may advertise, offer to do work, submit a bid, or 31 perform any work under this chapter without being registered as a 32 contractor under chapter 18.27 RCW.

33 (((4))) (5) Violation of this section is an infraction. Each day 34 in which a person engages in the trade of plumbing <u>or HVAC/R</u> in 35 violation of this section or employs a person in violation of this 36 section is a separate infraction. Each worksite at which a person 37 engages in the trade of plumbing <u>or HVAC/R</u> in violation of this section

or at which a person is employed in violation of this section is a
 separate infraction.

3 ((((5)))) <u>(6)</u> Notices of infractions for violations of this section
4 may be issued to:

5 (a) The person engaging in or offering to engage in the trade of
6 plumbing <u>or HVAC/R</u> in violation of this section;

(b) The contractor in violation of this section; and

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8 (c) The contractor's employee who authorized the work assignment of 9 the person employed in violation of this section.

10 **Sec. 3.** RCW 18.106.030 and 1997 c 326 s 4 are each amended to read 11 as follows:

12 (1) Any person desiring to be issued a certificate of competency as 13 provided in this chapter shall deliver evidence in a form prescribed by the department affirming that said person has had sufficient experience 14 in as well as demonstrated general competency in the trade of plumbing 15 16 or specialty plumbing so as to qualify him to make an application for 17 a certificate of competency as a journeyman plumber or specialty plumber. Completion of a course of study in the plumbing trade in the 18 armed services of the United States or at a school accredited by the 19 20 work force training and education coordinating board shall constitute 21 sufficient evidence of experience and competency to enable such person to make application for a certificate of competency. 22

23 (2) Any person desiring to be issued a medical gas piping installer 24 endorsement shall deliver evidence in a form prescribed by the 25 department affirming that the person has met the requirements 26 established by the department for a medical gas piping installer 27 endorsement.

(3) Any person desiring to be issued a journeyman HVAC/R mechanic 28 certificate, journeyman residential HVAC/R mechanic certificate, HVAC/R 29 fuel delivery piping certificate, temporary permit, or HVAC/R trainee 30 certificate shall deliver evidence in a form prescribed by the 31 department affirming that the person has met the requirements 32 established under this chapter for a journeyman HVAC/R mechanic 33 34 certificate, journeyman residential HVAC/R mechanic certificate, HVAC/R 35 fuel delivery piping mechanic certificate, temporary permit, or HVAC/R 36 trainee certificate.

1 (4) In addition to supplying the evidence as prescribed in this 2 section, each applicant for a certificate of competency shall submit an 3 application for such certificate on such form and in such manner as 4 shall be prescribed by the director of the department.

5 **Sec. 4.** RCW 18.106.040 and 2001 c 281 s 2 are each amended to read 6 as follows:

7 (1) Upon receipt of the application and evidence set forth in RCW
8 18.106.030, the director shall review the same and make a determination
9 as to whether the applicant is eligible to take an examination for the
10 certificate of competency. To be eligible to take the examination:

(a) Each applicant for a journeyman plumber's certificate of competency shall furnish written evidence that he or she has completed a course of study in the plumbing trade in the armed services of the United States or at a school licensed by the work force training and education coordinating board, or has had four or more years of experience under the direct supervision of a licensed journeyman plumber.

18 (b) Each applicant for a specialty plumber's certificate of 19 competency under RCW 18.106.010(((8)(a))) (15)(a) shall furnish written 20 evidence that he or she has completed a course of study in the plumbing 21 trade in the armed services of the United States or at a school 22 licensed by the work force training and education coordinating board 23 under chapter 28C.10 RCW, or that he or she has had at least three 24 years practical experience in the specialty.

(c) Each applicant for a specialty plumber's certificate of competency under RCW $18.106.010((\frac{(8)(b)}{(b)}))$ (15)(b) shall furnish written evidence that he or she is eligible to take the examination. These eligibility requirements shall be adopted by rule by the director pursuant to subsection (2)(b) of this section.

(d) Each applicant for a journeyman HVAC/R mechanic certificate of 30 competency under RCW 18.106.010(8) shall furnish: (i) Written evidence 31 that he or she has completed a course of study in the HVAC/R trade in 32 the armed services of the United States, civil service shipyard, or 33 34 repair facility, at a school licensed by the work force training and 35 education coordinating board, or at an apprenticeship program approved by the apprentice council created under RCW 49.04.010; or (ii) evidence 36 of at least eight thousand hours of verifiable work experience, of 37

which at least four thousand hours must be other than (A) the 1 2 installation, repair, or maintenance of residential HVAC/R equipment, (B) fuel delivery piping work, and (C) work in accordance with an 3 HVAC/R equipment's manufacturer's preventative or routine maintenance 4 procedures, other than the repair or replacement of electrical or 5 6 mechanical components, preventative maintenance work, and fuel delivery piping. Of the eight thousand hours of work experience, up to four 7 thousand hours of training may be applied from the completion of a work 8 force accredited training school or apprenticeship program specializing 9 in heating, ventilation, air conditioning, and refrigeration. 10

(e) Each applicant for a journeyman residential HVAC/R mechanic 11 12 certificate of competency under RCW 18.106.010(9) shall furnish: (i) 13 Written evidence that he or she has completed a course of study in the 14 HVAC/R trade in the armed services of the United States, civil service shipyard, or repair facility, at a school licensed by the work force 15 training and education coordinating board, or at an apprenticeship 16 program approved by the apprentice council created under RCW 49.04.010; 17 or (ii) evidence of at least four thousand hours of verifiable work 18 experience of which two thousand hours must be other than: (A) Fuel 19 delivery piping work; and (B) work in accordance with an HVAC/R 20 equipment's manufacturer's preventative or routine maintenance 21 procedures, other than the repair or replacement of electrical or 22 mechanical components, preventative maintenance work and fuel delivery 23 24 piping. Of the four thousand hours or less of work experience, no more than two thousand hours of training may be applied from the completion 25 26 of a work force accredited training school or apprenticeship program specializing in heating, ventilation, air conditioning, and 27 28 refrigeration.

(f) Each applicant for an HVAC/R fuel delivery piping mechanic 29 certificate of competency under RCW 18.106.010(7) shall furnish: (i) 30 Written evidence that he or she has completed a course of study in the 31 HVAC/R trade in the armed services of the United States, civil service 32 shipyard, or repair facility, at a school licensed by the work force 33 training and education coordinating board, or at an apprenticeship 34 35 program approved by the apprentice council created under RCW 49.04.010; 36 or (ii) evidence of at least two thousand hours of verifiable work 37 experience, of which one thousand hours must be from other than preventative maintenance work. In addition, a gas codes course 38

1 approved by the department, of no less than sixty hours, must be 2 completed. Of the two thousand hours of work experience, no more than 3 one thousand hours of training may be applied from the completion of a 4 work force accredited training school or apprenticeship program 5 specializing in heating, ventilation, air conditioning, and 6 refrigeration.

7 (2)(a) The director shall establish reasonable rules for the 8 examinations to be given applicants for certificates of competency. In 9 establishing the rules, the director shall consult with the state 10 <u>plumbing and mechanical</u> advisory board ((of plumbers as)) established 11 in RCW 18.106.110.

(b) The director shall establish reasonable criteria by rule for determining an applicant's eligibility to take an examination for the certificate of competency for specialty plumbers under subsection (1)(c) of this section. In establishing the criteria, the director shall consult with the state <u>plumbing and mechanical</u> advisory board ((of plumbers as)) established in RCW 18.106.110. ((These rules must take effect by July 1, 2002.))

19 (3) Upon determination that the applicant is eligible to take the 20 examination, the director shall so notify the applicant, indicating the 21 time and place for taking the same.

22 (4) No other requirement for eligibility may be imposed.

23 **Sec. 5.** RCW 18.106.050 and 1997 c 326 s 5 are each amended to read 24 as follows:

(1) The department, with the advice of the advisory board, shall prepare a written examination to be administered to applicants for certificates of competency for journeyman plumber and specialty plumber. The examination shall be constructed to determine:

(a) Whether the applicant possesses varied general knowledge of the
 technical information and practical procedures that are identified with
 the trade of journeyman plumber or specialty plumber; and

(b) Whether the applicant is familiar with the applicable plumbing
 codes and the administrative rules of the department pertaining to
 plumbing and plumbers.

35 ((The department shall administer the examination to eligible 36 persons. All applicants shall, before taking the examination, pay to 37 the department a fee.)) 1 (2) ((For purposes of the medical gas piping installer 2 endorsement,)) The department, with the advice of the advisory board, 3 shall prepare a written examination to be administered to applicants 4 for certificates of competency for journeyman HVAC/R mechanic, 5 journeyman residential HVAC/R mechanic, and HVAC/R fuel delivery piping 6 mechanic. The examination shall be constructed to determine:

7 (a) Whether the applicant possesses varied general knowledge of the 8 technical information and practical procedures that are identified with 9 the HVAC/R trade; and

10 (b) Whether the applicant is familiar with the applicable plumbing, 11 electrical, and mechanical codes and administrative rules of the 12 department pertaining to HVAC/R.

13 (3) The department, with the consent of the advisory board, may 14 enter into a contract with a nationally recognized testing agency to develop, administer, and score ((medical gas piping installer)) any 15 examinations required by this chapter. All applicants shall, before 16 17 taking an examination ((for a medical gas piping installer endorsement)), pay the required examination fee. The department shall 18 set the examination fee by contract with a nationally recognized 19 testing agency. The fee shall cover but not exceed the costs of 20 21 preparing and administering the examination and the materials necessary 22 to conduct the practical elements of the examination. The department 23 shall approve training courses and set the fees for training courses 24 for ((the medical gas piping installer endorsement)) examinations under 25 this chapter.

The department shall certify the results of the examination<u>s under</u> this chapter, and shall notify the applicant in writing whether he or she has passed or failed. Any applicant who has failed the examination may retake the examination, upon the terms and after a period of time that the director shall set by rule. The director may not limit the number of times that a person may take the examination.

32 Sec. 6. RCW 18.106.070 and 2003 c 399 s 801 are each amended to 33 read as follows:

(1) The department shall issue a certificate of competency to all applicants who have passed the examination and have paid the fee for the certificate. The certificate shall bear the date of issuance, and shall expire on the birthdate of the holder immediately following the

date of issuance. The certificate shall be renewable every other year, 1 2 upon application, on or before the birthdate of the holder. The department shall renew a certificate of competency if the applicant: 3 (a) Pays the renewal fee assessed by the department; and (b) during the 4 5 past two years has completed sixteen hours of continuing education approved by the department with the advice of the advisory board, 6 7 including four hours related to electrical safety. If a person fails to renew the certificate by the renewal date, he or she must pay a 8 doubled fee. If the person does not renew the certificate within 9 10 ninety days of the renewal date, he or she must retake the examination 11 and pay the examination fee.

journeyman plumber and specialty plumber certificates of 12 The 13 competency, the medical gas piping installer endorsement, the 14 journeyman HVAC/R mechanic, journeyman residential HVAC/R mechanic, HVAC/R fuel delivery piping mechanic certificates, and the temporary 15 permits provided for in this chapter grant the holder the right to 16 17 engage in the work of plumbing as a journeyman plumber, specialty plumber, journeyman HVAC/R mechanic, journeyman residential HVAC/R 18 mechanic, HVAC/R fuel delivery piping mechanic, or medical gas piping 19 installer, in accordance with their provisions throughout the state and 20 21 within any of its political subdivisions on any job or any employment 22 without additional proof of competency or any other license or permit or fee to engage in the work. This section does not preclude employees 23 24 from adhering to a union security clause in any employment where such 25 a requirement exists.

(2)(a) A person who is indentured in an apprenticeship program 26 27 approved under chapter 49.04 RCW for the plumbing construction trade or who is learning the plumbing construction trade may work in the 28 plumbing construction trade if supervised by a certified journeyman 29 plumber or a certified specialty plumber in that plumber's specialty. 30 31 All apprentices and individuals learning the plumbing construction 32 trade shall obtain a plumbing training certificate from the department. The certificate shall authorize the holder to learn the plumbing 33 34 construction trade ((while)) under the direct supervision of a journeyman plumber or a specialty plumber working in his or her 35 specialty. The holder of the plumbing training certificate shall renew 36 37 the certificate annually. At the time of renewal, the holder shall 38 provide the department with an accurate list of the holder's employers

in the plumbing construction industry for the previous year and the 1 number of hours worked for each employer. An annual fee shall be 2 charged for the issuance or renewal of the certificate. The department 3 shall set the fee by rule. The fee shall cover, but not exceed, the 4 cost of administering and enforcing the trainee certification and 5 supervision requirements of this chapter. Apprentices and individuals 6 7 learning the plumbing construction trade shall ((have)) possess their plumbing training certificates ((in their possession)) at all times 8 ((that they are)) when performing plumbing work. They shall show their 9 10 certificates to an authorized representative of the department at the representative's request. 11

12 (b) A person who is indentured in an apprenticeship program 13 approved under chapter 49.04 RCW for the HVAC/R trade or who is 14 learning the HVAC/R trade may work in the HVAC/R trade if supervised by a journeyman HVAC/R mechanic, journeyman residential HVAC/R mechanic, 15 or HVAC/R fuel delivery piping mechanic who works in that mechanic's 16 17 scope of work. All apprentices and individuals learning the HVAC/R trade shall obtain an HVAC/R training certificate from the department. 18 The certificate shall authorize the holder to learn the HVAC/R trade 19 under the direct supervision of a journeyman HVAC/R mechanic, a 20 21 journeyman residential HVAC/R mechanic, or an HVAC/R fuel delivery piping mechanic who works in that mechanic's scope of work. The holder 22 of the HVAC/R training certificate shall renew the certificate 23 24 annually. At the time of renewal, the holder shall provide the department with an accurate list of the holder's employers in the 25 26 HVAC/R industry for the previous year and the number of hours worked 27 for each employer. An annual fee shall be charged for the issuance or renewal of the certificate. The department shall set the fee by rule. 28 The fee shall cover, but not exceed, the cost of administering and 29 enforcing the trainee certification and supervision requirements of 30 this chapter. Apprentices and individuals learning the HVAC/R trade 31 shall possess their HVAC/R training certificates at all times when 32 performing HVAC/R work. They shall show their certificates to an 33 authorized representative of the department at the representative's 34 35 <u>request</u>.

36 (3) Any person who has been issued a plumbing <u>or HVAC/R</u> training
 37 certificate under this chapter may work if that person is under
 38 supervision. Supervision shall consist of a person being on the same

job site and under the control of either a journeyman plumber or an 1 2 appropriate specialty plumber, or a journeyman HVAC/R mechanic, journeyman residential HVAC/R mechanic, or HVAC/R fuel delivery piping 3 mechanic who has an applicable certificate of competency issued under 4 this chapter. Either a journeyman plumber or an appropriate specialty 5 plumber, or a journeyman HVAC/R mechanic, journeyman residential HVAC/R 6 7 mechanic, or HVAC/R fuel delivery piping mechanic shall be on the same job site as the noncertified individual for a minimum of seventy-five 8 percent of each working day unless otherwise provided in this chapter. 9 10 The ratio of noncertified individuals to certified journeymen or specialty plumbers, or journeyman HVAC/R mechanics, journeyman 11 residential HVAC/R mechanics, or HVAC/R fuel delivery piping mechanics 12 13 working on a job site shall be:

(a) Not more than two noncertified plumbers working on any one job
 site for every certified specialty plumber or journeyman plumber
 working as a specialty plumber; ((and))

17 (b) Not more than one noncertified plumber working on any one job 18 site for every certified journeyman plumber working as a journeyman 19 plumber;

20 (c) Not more than one HVAC/R trainee working on any job site for 21 every journeyman HVAC/R mechanic working as a journeyman HVAC/R 22 mechanic;

23 (d) Not more than two HVAC/R trainees working on any residential 24 job site for either every (i) journeyman residential HVAC/R mechanic 25 working as a journeyman residential HVAC/R mechanic or (ii) journeyman 26 HVAC/R mechanic; and

27 (e) At least one (i) certified HVAC/R fuel delivery piping mechanic
28 working as an HVAC/R fuel delivery piping mechanic, (ii) journeyman
29 residential HVAC/R mechanic working as a journeyman residential HVAC/R
30 mechanic, or (iii) journeyman HVAC/R mechanic at a site where an HVAC/R
31 trainee is performing HVAC/R fuel delivery piping work.

An individual who has a current training certificate and who has successfully completed or is currently enrolled in an approved apprenticeship program or in a technical school program in the plumbing construction <u>or HVAC/R</u> trade in a school approved by the work force training and education coordinating board, may work without direct onsite supervision during the last six months of meeting the practical experience requirements of this chapter. 1 (4) An individual who has a current training certificate and who 2 has successfully completed or is currently enrolled in a medical gas 3 piping installer training course approved by the department may work on 4 medical gas piping systems if the individual is under the direct 5 supervision of a certified medical gas piping installer who holds a 6 medical gas piping installer endorsement one hundred percent of a 7 working day on a one-to-one ratio.

(5) The training to become a certified plumber, journeyman HVAC/R 8 mechanic, journeyman residential HVAC/R mechanic, or HVAC/R fuel 9 delivery piping mechanic must include not less than sixteen hours of 10 classroom training established by the director with the advice of the 11 12 advisory board. The classroom training must include, but not be 13 limited to, electrical wiring safety, grounding, bonding, and other 14 related items plumbers and HVAC/R mechanics need to know to work under RCW 19.28.091. 15

(6) All persons who are certified plumbers before January 1, 2003,
are deemed to have received the classroom training required in
subsection (5) of this section.

(7)(a) An HVAC/R trainee may perform work in accordance with an 19 HVAC/R equipment's manufacturer's preventative or routine maintenance 20 21 procedures, other than the repair or replacement of any electrical or mechanical components, as long as on-site supervision is provided by 22 either a journeyman HVAC/R mechanic working as a journeyman HVAC/R 23 24 mechanic or a journeyman residential HVAC/R mechanic working as a journeyman residential HVAC/R mechanic no less than twenty-five percent 25 of the time during any day the HVAC/R trainee is engaged in such work. 26 27 (b) Each hour that an HVAC/R trainee performs work that is properly supervised pursuant to this section is creditable towards the minimum 28 hours of experience necessary to qualify to take an examination for the 29 certification of competency under RCW 18.106.040. 30

31 Sec. 7. RCW 18.106.080 and 1973 1st ex.s. c 175 s 8 are each 32 amended to read as follows:

33 No examination shall be required of any applicant for:

34 (1) A certificate of competency who, on July 16, 1973, was engaged 35 in a bona fide business or trade of plumbing, or on said date held a 36 valid journeyman plumber's license issued by a political subdivision of 37 the state of Washington and whose license is valid at the time of 1 making his application for said certificate. Applicants qualifying 2 under this section shall be issued a certificate by the department upon 3 making an application as provided in RCW 18.106.030 and paying the fee 4 required under RCW 18.106.050((: PROVIDED, That)). However, no 5 applicant under this section shall be required to furnish such evidence 6 as required by RCW 18.106.030.

7 (2) A certificate of competency as a journeyman HVAC/R mechanic, 8 who before June 30, 2007, provides the department with evidence of at 9 least eight thousand hours of verifiable work experience of which four 10 thousand hours or more must be:

11 (a) Nonresidential HVAC/R work performed after January 1, 1998, 12 with a general or specialty HVAC/R contractor registered under chapter 13 18.27 RCW, and must also possess, at the time of application, a valid 14 electrical license that allows work in the repair, replacement, 15 maintenance, or installation of heating, ventilation, air conditioning, 16 and refrigeration equipment in Washington state;

17 (b) Nonresidential HVAC/R work performed after January 1, 1998, 18 with a registered general or specialty HVAC/R contractor, or the 19 equivalent, which was accrued in another state, country, or province;

20 (c) Nonresidential HVAC/R work experience in the United States
21 armed forces; or

(d) Any combination of at least eight thousand hours of verifiable
 work experience as described in (a) through (c) of this subsection.

24 (3) A certificate of competency as a journeyman residential HVAC/R 25 mechanic, who before June 30, 2007, provides the department with 26 evidence of at least four thousand hours of verifiable work experience 27 after January 1, 1998:

28 (a) With a general or specialty HVAC/R contractor registered under 29 chapter 18.27 RCW, and who possesses at the time of application, a 30 valid electrical license that allows work in the repair, replacement, 31 maintenance, or installation of heating, ventilation, air conditioning, 32 and refrigeration equipment in Washington state;

33 (b) With a registered general or specialty HVAC/R contractor, or 34 the equivalent, which was accrued in another state, country, or 35 province;

36 (c) In the United States armed forces; or

37 (d) Any combination of at least four thousand hours of verifiable
 38 work experience as described in (a) through (c) of this subsection.

(4) A certificate of competency as an HVAC/R fuel delivery piping 1 mechanic, who before June 30, 2007, provides the department with 2 evidence of at least two thousand hours of verifiable work experience 3 after January 1, 1998: 4 (a) With a general or specialty HVAC/R contractor registered under 5 chapter 18.27 RCW, and who either provides proof of completion of a gas б 7 codes course approved by the department of at least sixty hours or holds a valid jurisdictional gas code license within the state of 8 9 Washington; (b) With a registered general or specialty HVAC/R contractor, or 10 the equivalent, which was accrued in another state, country, or 11 12 province; 13 (c) In the United States armed forces; or 14 (d) Any combination of at least two thousand hours of verifiable work experience as listed in (a) through (c) of this subsection. 15 16 Sec. 8. RCW 18.106.090 and 1985 c 7 s 78 are each amended to read 17 as follows: The department is authorized to grant and issue temporary permits 18 in lieu of certificates of competency whenever a plumber or HVAC/R 19 20 mechanic coming into the state of Washington from another state 21 requests the department for a temporary permit to engage in the trade of plumbing as a journeyman plumber or as a specialty plumber, or as a 22 23 journeyman HVAC/R mechanic, journeyman residential HVAC/R mechanic, or 24 HVAC/R fuel delivery piping mechanic during the period of time between filing of an application for a certificate as provided in RCW 25 26 18.106.030 as now or hereafter amended and taking the examination provided for in RCW 18.106.050((+ PROVIDED, That)). However, no 27 temporary permit shall be issued to: 28 (1) Any person who has failed to pass the examination for a 29 30 certificate of competency; 31 (2) Any applicant under this section who has not furnished the department with such evidence required under RCW 18.106.030; 32 (3) ((To)) <u>Any</u> apprentice plumber <u>or apprentice HVAC/R mechanic</u>. 33

34 **Sec. 9.** RCW 18.106.110 and 1997 c 307 s 1 are each amended to read 35 as follows:

36 (1) There is created a state <u>plumbing and mechanical</u> advisory board

((of plumbers)), to be composed of ((five)) fourteen members appointed 1 2 by the governor. ((Two)) Three members shall be journeyman plumbers, ((two)) three members shall be persons conducting a plumbing business, 3 ((and)) one member shall be from the general public who is familiar 4 with the business and trade of plumbing, three members shall be either 5 journeyman HVAC/R mechanics or journeyman residential HVAC/R mechanics, 6 7 at least one of which must reside east of the crest of the Cascade mountains, three members shall be persons conducting an HVAC/R 8 business, at least one of which must reside east of the crest of the 9 Cascade mountains, and one member from the general public who is 10 11 familiar with the HVAC/R trade and business.

12 (2) The term of one journeyman plumber expires July 1, 1995; the 13 term of the second journeyman plumber expires July 1, 2000; the term of 14 the third journeyman plumber expires July 1, 2008; the term of one person conducting a plumbing business expires July 1, 1996; the term of 15 16 the second person conducting a plumbing business expires July 1, 2000; 17 ((and)) the term of the third person conducting a plumbing business expires July 1, 2007; the term of the public member with plumbing 18 experience expires July 1, 1997; the term of one journeyman HVAC/R 19 mechanic expires July 1, 2007; the term of the second journeyman HVAC/R 20 21 mechanic expires July 1, 2008; the term of the third journeyman HVAC/R mechanic expires July 1, 2009; the term of one person conducting an 22 HVAC/R business expires July 1, 2007; the term of the second person 23 24 conducting an HVAC/R business expires July 1, 2008; the term of the third person conducting an HVAC/R business expires July 1, 2009; and 25 26 the term of the public member with HVAC/R experience expires July 1, 27 <u>2008</u>. ((Thereafter,)) Upon the expiration of said terms, the governor shall appoint a new member to serve for a period of three years. 28 However, to ensure that the board can continue to act, a member whose 29 term expires shall continue to serve until his or her replacement is 30 31 appointed. In the case of any vacancy on the board for any reason, the 32 governor shall appoint a new member to serve out the term of the person whose position has become vacant. 33

(3)(a) The advisory board shall carry out all the functions and
 duties enumerated in this chapter, as well as generally advise the
 department on all matters relative to this chapter. <u>However, no rules</u>
 shall be amended or repealed until the advisory board has had an

opportunity to consider any proposed amendments or repeals and make
 recommendations to the director relative thereto.

3 (b) The advisory board may, upon a two-thirds majority vote of the entire board, organize itself into two subboards for the purpose of 4 addressing issues of relevance to either the plumbing trade and 5 business or the HVAC/R trade and business, but not to both trades and 6 businesses. All decisions of either subboard constituted pursuant to 7 this subsection (3)(b) shall be deemed a decision of the advisory board 8 if approved by a two-thirds majority vote of the members of the 9 subboard. 10

(4) Each member of the advisory board shall receive travel expenses in accordance with the provisions of RCW 43.03.050 and 43.03.060 as now existing or hereafter amended for each day in which such member is actually engaged in attendance upon the meetings of the advisory board.

15 Sec. 10. RCW 18.106.130 and 1973 1st ex.s. c 175 s 13 are each 16 amended to read as follows:

All moneys received from certificates, permits, or other sources, 17 shall be paid to the state treasurer as ex officio custodian thereof 18 and by him placed in a special fund designated as the "plumbing and 19 20 HVAC/R certificate fund". He shall pay out upon vouchers duly and 21 regularly issued therefor and approved by the director. The treasurer shall keep an accurate record of payments into said fund, and of all 22 23 disbursement therefrom. Said fund shall be charged with its pro rata 24 share of the cost of administering said fund.

25 **Sec. 11.** RCW 18.106.150 and 2003 c 399 s 402 are each amended to 26 read as follows:

(1) Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to require that a
person obtain a license, a certified HVAC/R mechanic, or a certified
plumber in order to do <u>HVAC/R or</u> plumbing work at his or her residence
or farm or place of business or on other property owned by him or her.

31 (2) A current certificate of competency or apprentice permit is not 32 required for:

33 (a) Persons performing <u>HVAC/R or</u> plumbing work on a farm; or

34 (b) Certified journeyman electricians, certified residential35 specialty electricians, or electrical trainees working for an

1 electrical contractor and performing exempt work under RCW
2 18.27.090(18).

3 (3) Nothing in this chapter shall be intended to derogate from or 4 dispense with the requirements of any valid <u>or mechanical</u> plumbing code 5 enacted by a political subdivision of the state, except that no code 6 shall require the holder of a certificate of competency to demonstrate 7 any additional proof of competency or obtain any other license or pay 8 any fee in order to engage in the trade of plumbing <u>or HVAC/R</u>.

9 (4) This chapter shall not apply to common carriers subject to Part 10 I of the Interstate Commerce Act, nor to their officers and employees.

(5) Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to apply to any
 farm, business, industrial plant, or corporation doing plumbing or
 <u>HVAC/R</u> work on premises it owns or operates.

14 (6) Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to restrict the 15 right of any householder to assist or receive assistance from a friend, 16 neighbor, relative or other person when none of the individuals doing 17 such plumbing <u>or HVAC/R work</u> hold themselves out as engaged in the 18 trade or business of plumbing <u>or HVAC/R</u>, respectively.

19 Sec. 12. RCW 18.106.155 and 1977 ex.s. c 149 s 11 are each amended 20 to read as follows:

21 The director may, upon payment of the appropriate fees, grant a 22 certificate of competency without examination to any applicant who is 23 a registered journeyman HVAC/R mechanic, journeyman residential HVAC/R 24 mechanic, journeyman plumber, or specialty plumber in any other state 25 whose requirements for registration are at least substantially 26 equivalent to the requirements of this state, and which extends the same privileges of reciprocity to journeyman HVAC/R mechanics, 27 journeyman residential HVAC/R mechanics, journeymen plumbers, or 28 29 specialty plumbers registered in this state.

30 **Sec. 13.** RCW 18.106.170 and 1983 c 124 s 6 are each amended to 31 read as follows:

An authorized representative of the department may investigate alleged or apparent violations of this chapter. An authorized representative of the department upon presentation of credentials may inspect sites at which a person is doing plumbing <u>or HVAC/R</u> work for the purpose of determining whether that person has a certificate or

permit issued by the department in accordance with this chapter or is supervised by a person who has such a certificate or permit. Upon request of the authorized representative of the department, a person doing plumbing <u>or HVAC/R</u> work shall produce evidence that the person has a certificate or permit issued by the department in accordance with this chapter or is supervised by a person who has such a certificate or permit.

8 **Sec. 14.** RCW 18.106.180 and 2002 c 82 s 3 are each amended to read 9 as follows:

10 (1) An authorized representative of the department may issue a 11 notice of infraction as specified in RCW 18.106.020 if:

12 (a) A person who is doing plumbing <u>or HVAC/R</u> work or who is 13 offering to do plumbing <u>or HVAC/R</u> work fails to produce evidence of:

(i) Having a certificate or permit issued by the department in
 accordance with this chapter, or being supervised by a person who has
 such a certificate or permit; and

(ii) Being registered as a contractor as required under chapter 18 18.27 RCW or this chapter, or being employed by a person who is 19 registered as a contractor;

(b) A person who employs anyone, or offers or advertises to employ anyone, to do plumbing <u>or HVAC/R</u> work fails to produce evidence of being registered as a contractor as required under chapter 18.27 RCW or this chapter; or

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(c) A contractor violates RCW 18.106.320.

(2) A notice of infraction issued under this section shall be personally served on the person named in the notice by an authorized representative of the department or sent by certified mail to the last known address provided to the department of the person named in the notice.

30 **Sec. 15.** RCW 18.106.250 and 2002 c 82 s 4 are each amended to read 31 as follows:

32 (1) The administrative law judge shall conduct notice of infraction33 cases under this chapter pursuant to chapter 34.05 RCW.

34 (2) The burden of proof is on the department to establish the35 commission of the infraction by a preponderance of the evidence. The

notice of infraction shall be dismissed if the defendant establishes
 that, at the time the notice was issued:

(a) The defendant who was issued a notice of infraction authorized
by RCW 18.106.020(((5)(a))) (6)(a) had a certificate or permit issued
by the department in accordance with this chapter, was supervised by a
person who has such a certificate or permit, or was exempt from this
chapter under RCW 18.106.150; or

8 (b) For the defendant who was issued a notice of infraction 9 authorized by RCW 18.106.020(((5) (b) or (c))) (6) (b) or (c), the 10 person employed or supervised by the defendant has a certificate or 11 permit issued by the department in accordance with this chapter, was 12 supervised by a person who had such a certificate or permit, was exempt 13 from this chapter under RCW 18.106.150, or was registered as a 14 contractor under chapter 18.27 RCW.

(3) After consideration of the evidence and argument, the 15 administrative law judge shall determine whether the infraction was 16 17 committed. If it has not been established that the infraction was committed, an order dismissing the notice shall be entered in the 18 record of the proceedings. If it has been established that the 19 infraction was committed, the administrative law judge shall issue 20 21 findings of fact and conclusions of law in its decision and order 22 determining whether the infraction was committed.

(4) An appeal from the administrative law judge's determination or order shall be to the superior court. The decision of the superior court is subject only to discretionary review pursuant to Rule 2.3 of the Rules of Appellate Procedure.

27 **Sec. 16.** RCW 18.106.270 and 1994 c 174 s 8 are each amended to 28 read as follows:

(1) A person found to have committed an infraction under RCW 18.106.020 shall be assessed a monetary penalty of two hundred fifty dollars for the first infraction, and not more than one thousand dollars for a second or subsequent infraction. The department shall set by rule a schedule of penalties for infractions imposed under this chapter.

35 (2) The administrative law judge may waive, reduce, or suspend the 36 monetary penalty imposed for the infraction for good cause shown.

(3) Monetary penalties collected under this chapter shall be
 deposited in the plumbing <u>and HVAC/R</u> certificate fund.

3 **Sec. 17.** RCW 18.106.320 and 2005 c 274 s 229 are each amended to 4 read as follows:

(1) Contractors shall accurately verify and attest to the trainee 5 6 hours worked by plumbing and HVAC/R trainees on behalf of the 7 contractor and that all training hours were under the supervision of a 8 certified plumber and within the proper ratio, and shall provide <u>names</u> 9 and certificate numbers of the supervising plumbers((- names and certificate numbers)) or HVAC/R mechanics. However, contractors are 10 11 not required to identify which hours a trainee works with a specific 12 certified plumber or HVAC/R mechanic.

(2) The department may audit the records of a contractor that has 13 verified the hours of experience submitted by a plumbing or HVAC/R 14 trainee to the department under RCW 18.106.030 in the following 15 16 circumstances: Excessive hours were reported; hours were reported 17 outside the normal course of the contractor's business; or for other similar circumstances in which the department demonstrates a likelihood 18 19 of excessive or improper hours being reported. The department shall 20 limit the audit to records necessary to verify hours. The department 21 shall adopt rules implementing audit procedures. Information obtained 22 from a contractor under the provisions of this section is confidential 23 and is not open to public inspection under chapter 42.56 RCW.

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(3) Violation of this section by a contractor is an infraction.

25 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 18. A new section is added to chapter 18.106
26 RCW to read as follows:

(1) It is unlawful for any person, firm, partnership, corporation, 27 or other entity to advertise, offer to do work, submit a bid, engage 28 29 in, conduct, or carry on the business of installing or maintaining 30 wires or equipment to convey electric current, or installing or maintaining equipment to be operated by electric current as it pertains 31 32 to any HVAC/R equipment defined in RCW 18.106.010(6), without having an unrevoked, unsuspended, and unexpired: (a) Electrical contractor 33 34 license as required by RCW 19.28.041; (b) certificate of competency as 35 a master journeyman electrician, journeyman electrician, master specialty residential electrician, specialty residential electrician, 36

1 or a properly supervised electrical trainee, as required by RCW
2 19.28.161; or (c) certificate of competency as a journeyman HVAC/R
3 mechanic or journeyman residential HVAC/R mechanic issued by the
4 department in accordance with this chapter.

5 (2) It is unlawful for any person, firm, partnership, corporation, or other entity to advertise, offer to do work, submit a bid, engage 6 7 in, conduct, or carry on the business of installing, maintaining, or repairing fuel piping relating to HVAC/R equipment as defined in RCW 8 9 18.106.010(6), without having an unrevoked, unsuspended, and unexpired: 10 (a) Certificate of competency as a journeyman plumber, specialty plumber, properly supervised plumbing trainee, or temporary permit, as 11 12 required by RCW 18.106.020 and provided in RCW 18.106.070; or (b) 13 certificate of competency as a journeyman HVAC/R mechanic, journeyman 14 residential HVAC/R mechanic, HVAC/R fuel delivery mechanic, properly supervised HVAC/R trainee, or temporary permit issued by the department 15 16 in accordance with this chapter.

17 **Sec. 19.** RCW 19.28.041 and 2002 c 249 s 2 are each amended to read 18 as follows:

(1) Except as provided by section 18 of this act, it is unlawful 19 20 for any person, firm, partnership, corporation, or other entity to 21 engage in, conduct, or carry on the business of installing or maintaining wires or equipment to convey electric current, 22 or 23 installing or maintaining equipment to be operated by electric current 24 as it pertains to the electrical industry, without having an unrevoked, 25 unsuspended, and unexpired electrical contractor license, issued by the 26 department in accordance with this chapter. All electrical contractor 27 licenses expire twenty-four calendar months following the day of their issue. The department may issue an electrical contractors license for 28 a period of less than twenty-four months only for the purpose of 29 equalizing the number of electrical contractor licenses that expire 30 31 each month. Application for an electrical contractor license shall be made in writing to the department, accompanied by the required fee. 32 The application shall state: 33

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

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

(c) Employer social security number;

4 (d) Evidence of workers' compensation coverage for the applicant's
5 employees working in Washington, as follows:

6 (i) The applicant's industrial insurance account number issued by7 the department;

8 (ii) The applicant's self-insurer number issued by the department;9 or

10 (iii) For applicants domiciled in a state or province of Canada 11 subject to an agreement entered into under RCW 51.12.120(7), as 12 permitted by the agreement, filing a certificate of coverage issued by 13 the agency that administers the workers' compensation law in the 14 applicant's state or province of domicile certifying that the applicant 15 has secured the payment of compensation under the other state's or 16 province's workers' compensation law;

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(e) Employment security department number;

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(f) State excise tax registration number;

(g) Unified business identifier (UBI) account number may be substituted for the information required by (d) of this subsection if the applicant will not employ employees in Washington, and by (e) and (f) of this subsection; and

23 (h) Whether a general or specialty electrical contractor license is 24 sought and, if the latter, the type of specialty. Electrical 25 contractor specialties include, but are not limited to: Residential, pump and irrigation, limited energy system, signs, nonresidential 26 27 maintenance, restricted nonresidential maintenance, appliance repair, and a combination specialty. A general electrical contractor license 28 shall grant to the holder the right to engage in, conduct, or carry on 29 the business of installing or maintaining wires or equipment to carry 30 electric current, and installing or maintaining equipment, 31 or installing or maintaining material to fasten or insulate such wires or 32 equipment to be operated by electric current, in the state of 33 Washington. A specialty electrical contractor license shall grant to 34 35 the holder a limited right to engage in, conduct, or carry on the 36 business of installing or maintaining wires or equipment to carry 37 electrical current, and installing or maintaining equipment; or

installing or maintaining material to fasten or insulate such wires or equipment to be operated by electric current in the state of Washington as expressly allowed by the license.

4 (2) The department may verify the workers' compensation coverage 5 information provided by the applicant under subsection (1)(d) of this 6 section, including but not limited to information regarding the 7 coverage of an individual employee of the applicant. If coverage is 8 provided under the laws of another state, the department may notify the 9 other state that the applicant is employing employees in Washington.

10 (3) The application for an electrical contractor license shall be accompanied by a bond in the sum of four thousand dollars with the 11 12 state of Washington named as obligee in the bond, with good and 13 sufficient surety, to be approved by the department. The bond shall at 14 all times be kept in full force and effect, and any cancellation or revocation thereof, or withdrawal of the surety therefrom, suspends the 15 license issued to the principal until a new bond has been filed and 16 17 approved as provided in this section. Upon approval of a bond, the department shall on the next business day deposit the fee accompanying 18 the application in the electrical license fund and shall file the bond 19 in the office. The department shall upon request furnish to any 20 21 person, firm, partnership, corporation, or other entity a certified 22 copy of the bond upon the payment of a fee that the department shall set by rule. The fee shall cover but not exceed the cost of furnishing 23 24 the certified copy. The bond shall be conditioned that in any 25 installation or maintenance of wires or equipment to convey electrical current, and equipment to be operated by electrical current, the 26 27 principal will comply with the provisions of this chapter and with any electrical ordinance, building code, or regulation of a city or town 28 adopted pursuant to RCW 19.28.010(3) that is in effect at the time of 29 entering into a contract. The bond shall be conditioned further that 30 the principal will pay for all labor, including employee benefits, and 31 32 material furnished or used upon the work, taxes and contributions to the state of Washington, and all damages that may be sustained by any 33 person, firm, partnership, corporation, or other entity due to a 34 failure of the principal to make the installation or maintenance in 35 accordance with this chapter or any applicable ordinance, building 36 37 code, or regulation of a city or town adopted pursuant to RCW 38 19.28.010(3). In lieu of the surety bond required by this section the

license applicant may file with the department a cash deposit or other negotiable security acceptable to the department. If the license applicant has filed a cash deposit, the department shall deposit the funds in a special trust savings account in a commercial bank, mutual savings bank, or savings and loan association and shall pay annually to the depositor the interest derived from the account.

7 (4) The department shall issue general or specialty electrical contractor licenses to applicants meeting all of the requirements of 8 this chapter. The provisions of this chapter relating to the licensing 9 10 of any person, firm, partnership, corporation, or other entity including the requirement of a bond with the state of Washington named 11 12 as obligee therein and the collection of a fee therefor, are exclusive, 13 and no political subdivision of the state of Washington may require or 14 issue any licenses or bonds or charge any fee for the same or a similar purpose. No person, firm, partnership, corporation, or other entity 15 16 holding more than one specialty contractor license under this chapter 17 may be required to pay an annual fee for more than one such license or to post more than one four thousand dollar bond, equivalent cash 18 deposit, or other negotiable security. 19

(5) To obtain a general or specialty electrical contractor license 20 21 the applicant must designate an individual who currently possesses a 22 valid master journeyman electrician's certificate of competency, master specialty electrician's certificate of competency in the specialty for 23 24 which application has been made, or administrator's certificate as a general electrical contractor administrator or as a 25 specialty 26 electrical contractor administrator in the specialty for which 27 application has been made.

(6) Administrator certificate specialties include but are not 28 limited to: Residential, pump and irrigation, limited energy system, 29 nonresidential maintenance, restricted 30 nonresidential signs, maintenance, appliance repair, and combination specialty. To obtain an 31 32 administrator's certificate an individual must pass an examination as set forth in RCW 19.28.051 unless the applicant was a licensed 33 electrical contractor at any time during 1974. Applicants who were 34 electrical contractors licensed by the state of Washington at any time 35 during 1974 are entitled to receive a general electrical contractor 36 37 administrator's certificate without examination if the applicants apply 38 prior to January 1, 1984. The board of electrical examiners shall

1 certify to the department the names of all persons who are entitled to 2 either a general or specialty electrical contractor administrator's 3 certificate.

4 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 20. This act takes effect January 1, 2007.

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