
SENATE BILL 5504

State of Washington

55th Legislature

1997 Regular Session

By Senators Prince, Hochstatter and Morton

Read first time 01/29/97. Referred to Committee on Commerce & Labor.

1 AN ACT Relating to electrical installation; and amending RCW
2 19.28.610.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 19.28.610 and 1994 c 157 s 1 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 Nothing in RCW 19.28.510 through 19.28.620 shall be construed to
7 require that a person obtain a license or a certified electrician in
8 order to do electrical work at his or her residence or farm or place of
9 business or on other property owned by him or her unless the electrical
10 work is on the construction of a new building intended for rent, sale,
11 or lease. However, if the construction is of a new residential
12 building with up to four units intended for rent, sale, or lease, the
13 owner may receive an exemption from the requirement to obtain a license
14 or use a certified electrician if he or she provides a signed affidavit
15 to the department stating that he or she will be performing the work
16 and will occupy one of the units as his or her principal residence.
17 The owner shall apply to the department for this exemption and may only
18 receive an exemption once every twenty-four months. It is intended
19 that the owner receiving this exemption shall occupy the unit as his or

1 her principal residence for twenty-four months after completion of the
2 units. Nothing in RCW 19.28.510 through 19.28.620 shall be intended to
3 derogate from or dispense with the requirements of any valid electrical
4 code enacted by a city or town pursuant to RCW 19.28.010(3), except
5 that no code shall require the holder of a certificate of competency to
6 demonstrate any additional proof of competency or obtain any other
7 license or pay any fee in order to engage in the electrical
8 construction trade. RCW 19.28.510 through 19.28.620 shall not apply to
9 common carriers subject to Part I of the Interstate Commerce Act, nor
10 to their officers and employees. Nothing in RCW 19.28.510 through
11 19.28.620 shall be deemed to apply to the installation or maintenance
12 of telephone, telegraph, radio, or television wires and equipment; nor
13 to any electrical utility or its employees in the installation, repair,
14 and maintenance of electrical wiring, circuits, and equipment by or for
15 the utility, or comprising a part of its plants, lines or systems. The
16 licensing provisions of RCW 19.28.510 through 19.28.620 shall not apply
17 to:

18 (1) Persons making electrical installations on their own property
19 or to regularly employed employees working on the premises of their
20 employer, unless the electrical work is on the construction of a new
21 building intended for rent, sale, or lease; (~~or~~)

22 (2) Employees of an employer while the employer is performing
23 utility type work of the nature described in RCW 19.28.200 so long as
24 such employees have registered in the state of Washington with or
25 graduated from a state-approved outside lineman apprenticeship course
26 that is recognized by the department and that qualifies a person to
27 perform such work; or

28 (3) Persons installing pumps, not to exceed five horse power, for
29 the purpose of delivering domestic well water to a home or homes.

30 Nothing in RCW 19.28.510 through 19.28.620 shall be construed to
31 restrict the right of any householder to assist or receive assistance
32 from a friend, neighbor, relative or other person when none of the
33 individuals doing the electrical installation hold themselves out as
34 engaged in the trade or business of electrical installations. Nothing
35 precludes any person who is exempt from the licensing requirements of
36 this chapter under this section from obtaining a journeyman or

1 specialty certificate of competency if they otherwise meet the
2 requirements of this chapter.

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