
ENGROSSED SENATE BILL 5984

State of Washington 55th Legislature 1997 Regular Session

By Senators Schow, Hochstatter and Prince

Read first time 02/25/97. Referred to Committee on Commerce & Labor.

1 AN ACT Relating to premanufactured electric power generation
2 equipment assemblies; and amending RCW 19.28.200 and 19.28.610.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 19.28.200 and 1992 c 240 s 1 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 (1) No license under the provision of this chapter shall be
7 required from any utility or any person, firm, partnership,
8 corporation, or other entity employed by a utility because of work in
9 connection with the installation, repair, or maintenance of lines,
10 wires, apparatus, or equipment owned by or under the control of a
11 utility and used for transmission or distribution of electricity from
12 the source of supply to the point of contact at the premises and/or
13 property to be supplied and service connections and meters and other
14 apparatus or appliances used in the measurement of the consumption of
15 electricity by the customer.

16 (2) No license under the provisions of this chapter shall be
17 required from any utility because of work in connection with the
18 installation, repair, or maintenance of the following:

1 (a) Lines, wires, apparatus, or equipment used in the lighting of
2 streets, alleys, ways, or public areas or squares;

3 (b) Lines, wires, apparatus, or equipment owned by a commercial,
4 industrial, or public institution customer that are an integral part of
5 a transmission or distribution system, either overhead or underground,
6 providing service to such customer and located outside the building or
7 structure: PROVIDED, That a utility does not initiate the sale of
8 services to perform such work;

9 (c) Lines and wires, together with ancillary apparatus, and
10 equipment, owned by a customer that is an independent power producer
11 who has entered into an agreement for the sale of electricity to a
12 utility and that are used in transmitting electricity from an
13 electrical generating unit located on premises used by such customer to
14 the point of interconnection with the utility's system.

15 (3) Any person, firm, partnership, corporation, or other entity
16 licensed under RCW 19.28.120 may enter into a contract with a utility
17 for the performance of work under subsection (2) of this section.

18 (4) No license under the provisions of this chapter shall be
19 required from any manufacturer or any person, firm, partnership, or
20 other entity employed by a manufacturer of power generation equipment
21 because of work in the connection with the installation, testing,
22 repair, modification, or maintenance of premanufactured assemblies of
23 electric power generation equipment and control gear.

24 Premanufactured electric power generation equipment assemblies are
25 made up of reciprocating internal combustion engines and the associated
26 control gear equipment. Control gear equipment includes control logic,
27 metering, and annunciation for the operation and the quality of power
28 being generated by the reciprocating internal combustion engine and
29 does not have the function of distribution of power. For the purposes
30 of this subsection, temporary test connections and installation or
31 connection of components internal to the transfer switch, control gear,
32 or the power generation unit shall be included as part of work on
33 premanufactured electric power generation equipment assemblies.

34 (5) No license under the provisions of this chapter shall be
35 required from any person, firm, partnership, corporation, or other
36 entity because of the work of installing and repairing ignition or
37 lighting systems for motor vehicles.

38 ~~((+5))~~ (6) No license under the provisions of this chapter shall
39 be required from any person, firm, partnership, corporation, or other

1 entity because of work in connection with the installation, repair, or
2 maintenance of wires and equipment, and installations thereof, exempted
3 in RCW 19.28.010.

4 **Sec. 2.** 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
20 her principal residence for twenty-four months after completion of the
21 units. Nothing in RCW 19.28.510 through 19.28.620 shall be intended to
22 derogate from or dispense with the requirements of any valid electrical
23 code enacted by a city or town pursuant to RCW 19.28.010(3), except
24 that no code shall require the holder of a certificate of competency to
25 demonstrate any additional proof of competency or obtain any other
26 license or pay any fee in order to engage in the electrical
27 construction trade. RCW 19.28.510 through 19.28.620 shall not apply to
28 common carriers subject to Part I of the Interstate Commerce Act, nor
29 to their officers and employees. Nothing in RCW 19.28.510 through
30 19.28.620 shall be deemed to apply to the installation or maintenance
31 of telephone, telegraph, radio, or television wires and equipment; nor
32 to any electrical utility or its employees in the installation, repair,
33 and maintenance of electrical wiring, circuits, and equipment by or for
34 the utility, or comprising a part of its plants, lines or systems.
35 Nothing in RCW 19.28.510 through 19.28.620 shall be deemed to apply to
36 the installation, maintenance, or modification of premanufactured
37 electric power generation equipment assemblies and control gear
38 equipment by a manufacturer or authorized manufacturer's

1 representative. The licensing provisions of RCW 19.28.510 through
2 19.28.620 shall not apply to:

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

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

13 (3) Employees of any manufacturer or employees of any person, firm,
14 partnership, or other entity employed by a manufacturer while the
15 employer is performing installation, maintenance, or modification work
16 on a premanufactured power generation assembly and controls for that
17 assembly of the nature described in RCW 19.28.200.

18 Nothing in RCW 19.28.510 through 19.28.620 shall be construed to
19 restrict the right of any householder to assist or receive assistance
20 from a friend, neighbor, relative or other person when none of the
21 individuals doing the electrical installation hold themselves out as
22 engaged in the trade or business of electrical installations. Nothing
23 precludes any person who is exempt from the licensing requirements of
24 this chapter under this section from obtaining a journeyman or
25 specialty certificate of competency if they otherwise meet the
26 requirements of this chapter.

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