
SENATE BILL 6604

State of Washington

55th Legislature

1998 Regular Session

By Senators Schow, Heavey and Horn

Read first time 01/22/98. Referred to Committee on Commerce & Labor.

1 AN ACT Relating to premanufactured electric power generation
2 equipment; 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 person, firm, partnership, corporation, or other
20 entity because of the work of installing and repairing ignition or
21 lighting systems for motor vehicles.

22 (5) No license under the provisions of this chapter shall be
23 required from any person, firm, partnership, corporation, or other
24 entity because of work in connection with the installation, repair, or
25 maintenance of wires and equipment, and installations thereof, exempted
26 in RCW 19.28.010.

27 (6) The department may by rule exempt from licensing requirements
28 under this chapter work performed on premanufactured electric power
29 generation equipment assemblies and control gear involving the testing,
30 repair, modification, maintenance, or installation of components
31 internal to the power generation equipment, the control gear, or the
32 transfer switch.

33 **Sec. 2.** RCW 19.28.610 and 1994 c 157 s 1 are each amended to read
34 as follows:

35 Nothing in RCW 19.28.510 through 19.28.620 shall be construed to
36 require that a person obtain a license or a certified electrician in
37 order to do electrical work at his or her residence or farm or place of
38 business or on other property owned by him or her unless the electrical

1 work is on the construction of a new building intended for rent, sale,
2 or lease. However, if the construction is of a new residential
3 building with up to four units intended for rent, sale, or lease, the
4 owner may receive an exemption from the requirement to obtain a license
5 or use a certified electrician if he or she provides a signed affidavit
6 to the department stating that he or she will be performing the work
7 and will occupy one of the units as his or her principal residence.
8 The owner shall apply to the department for this exemption and may only
9 receive an exemption once every twenty-four months. It is intended
10 that the owner receiving this exemption shall occupy the unit as his or
11 her principal residence for twenty-four months after completion of the
12 units. Nothing in RCW 19.28.510 through 19.28.620 shall be intended to
13 derogate from or dispense with the requirements of any valid electrical
14 code enacted by a city or town pursuant to RCW 19.28.010(3), except
15 that no code shall require the holder of a certificate of competency to
16 demonstrate any additional proof of competency or obtain any other
17 license or pay any fee in order to engage in the electrical
18 construction trade. RCW 19.28.510 through 19.28.620 shall not apply to
19 common carriers subject to Part I of the Interstate Commerce Act, nor
20 to their officers and employees. Nothing in RCW 19.28.510 through
21 19.28.620 shall be deemed to apply to the installation or maintenance
22 of telephone, telegraph, radio, or television wires and equipment; nor
23 to any electrical utility or its employees in the installation, repair,
24 and maintenance of electrical wiring, circuits, and equipment by or for
25 the utility, or comprising a part of its plants, lines or systems. The
26 licensing provisions of RCW 19.28.510 through 19.28.620 shall not apply
27 to:

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

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

38 (3) Any work exempted under RCW 19.28.200(6).

1 Nothing in RCW 19.28.510 through 19.28.620 shall be construed to
2 restrict the right of any householder to assist or receive assistance
3 from a friend, neighbor, relative or other person when none of the
4 individuals doing the electrical installation hold themselves out as
5 engaged in the trade or business of electrical installations. Nothing
6 precludes any person who is exempt from the licensing requirements of
7 this chapter under this section from obtaining a journeyman or
8 specialty certificate of competency if they otherwise meet the
9 requirements of this chapter.

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