

2 SSB 6231 - S AMD - 177
3 By Senator Hochstatter

4 NOT ADOPTED 2/15/00

5 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
6 following:

7 "Sec. 1. RCW 19.28.005 and 1993 c 275 s 1 are each amended to read
8 as follows:

9 The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter.

10 (1) "Administrator" means a person designated by an electrical
11 contractor to supervise electrical work and electricians in accordance
12 with the rules adopted under this chapter.

13 (2) "Board" means the electrical board under RCW 19.28.065.

14 (3) "Chapter" means chapter 19.28 RCW.

15 (4) "Department" means the department of labor and industries.

16 (5) "Director" means the director of the department or the
17 director's designee.

18 (6) "Electrical construction trade" includes but is not limited to
19 installing or maintaining electrical wires and equipment that are used
20 for light, heat, or power and installing and maintaining remote
21 control, signaling, power limited, or communication circuits or
22 systems.

23 (7) "Electrical contractor" means a person, firm, partnership,
24 corporation, or other entity that offers to undertake, undertakes,
25 submits a bid for, or does the work of installing or maintaining wires
26 or equipment that convey electrical current.

27 (8) "Equipment" means any equipment or apparatus that directly
28 uses, conducts, or is operated by electricity but does not mean plug-in
29 household appliances.

30 (9) "Industrial control panel" means a factory-wired or user-wired
31 assembly of industrial control equipment such as motor controllers,
32 switches, relays, power supplies, computers, cathode ray tubes,
33 transducers, and auxiliary devices. The panel may include disconnect
34 means and motor branch circuit protective devices.

35 (10) "Journeyman electrician" means a person who has been issued a
36 journeyman electrician certificate of competency by the department.

1 (11) "Specialty electrician" means a person who has been issued a
2 specialty electrician certificate of competency by the department.

3 (12) "Telecommunications backbone cabling systems" means a system
4 that provides interconnections between telecommunications closets,
5 equipment rooms, and entrance facilities in the telecommunications
6 cabling system structure. Backbone cabling consists of the backbone
7 cables, intermediate and main cross-connects, mechanical terminations,
8 and patch cords or jumpers used for backbone to backbone cross-
9 connection. Backbone cabling also includes cabling between buildings.

10 (13) "Telecommunications closet" means a room for housing
11 telecommunications equipment, cable terminations, and cross-connect
12 wiring that serve that particular floor. The closet is the recognized
13 transition point between the backbone and horizontal cabling systems.

14 (14) "Telecommunications horizontal cabling systems" means the
15 portions of the telecommunications cabling system that extends from the
16 work area telecommunications outlet or connector to the
17 telecommunications closet. The horizontal cabling includes the
18 horizontal cables, the telecommunications outlet or connector in the
19 work area, the mechanical termination, and horizontal cross-connections
20 located in the telecommunications closet.

21 (15) "Telecommunications structured cabling system" means the
22 complete collective configuration of cabling and associated hardware at
23 a given site and installed to perform specific telecommunications
24 functions.

25 (16) "Telecommunications systems" means structured cabling systems
26 that begin at the demarcation point between the local service provider
27 and the customer's premises structured cabling system.

28 (a) Telecommunications systems encompass all forms of information
29 generation, processing, and transporting of signals conveyed
30 electronically or optically within or between buildings, including
31 voice, data, video, and audio.

32 (b) Telecommunications systems include structured cabling systems,
33 compatible connecting hardware, telecommunications equipment, premises
34 switching equipment, infrared, fiber optic, radio-frequency, and other
35 limited-energy interconnections associated with telecommunications
36 systems or appliances.

37 (c) Telecommunications systems do not include horizontal cabling
38 used for fire protection signaling systems, intrusion alarms, access
39 control systems, patient monitoring systems, energy management control

1 systems, industrial and automation control systems, HVAC/refrigeration
2 control systems, lighting control systems, and stand-alone amplified
3 sound or public address systems.

4 (d) Telecommunications systems may interface with other building
5 signal systems including security, alarms, and energy management at
6 cross-connection junctions within telecommunications closets or at
7 extended points of demarcation. Telecommunications systems do not
8 include the installation or termination of premises line voltage
9 service, feeder, or branch circuit conductors or equipment.

10 **Sec. 2.** RCW 19.28.010 and 1993 c 275 s 2 are each amended to read
11 as follows:

12 (1) All wires and equipment, and installations thereof, that convey
13 electric current and installations of equipment to be operated by
14 electric current, in, on, or about buildings or structures, except for
15 noncomposite fiber optic cables, structured communications cabling,
16 telephone, telegraph, radio, and television wires and equipment, and
17 television antenna installations, signal strength amplifiers, and
18 coaxial installations pertaining thereto shall be in strict conformity
19 with this chapter, the statutes of the state of Washington, and the
20 rules issued by the department, and shall be in conformity with
21 approved methods of construction for safety to life and property. All
22 wires and equipment that fall within section 90.2(b)(5) of the National
23 Electrical Code, 1981 edition, are exempt from the requirements of this
24 chapter. The regulations and articles in the National Electrical Code,
25 the national electrical safety code, and other installation and safety
26 regulations approved by the national fire protection association, as
27 modified or supplemented by rules issued by the department in
28 furtherance of safety to life and property under authority hereby
29 granted, shall be prima facie evidence of the approved methods of
30 construction. All materials, devices, appliances, and equipment used
31 in such installations shall be of a type that conforms to applicable
32 standards or be indicated as acceptable by the established standards of
33 any electrical product testing laboratory which is accredited by the
34 department. Industrial control panels, utilization equipment, and
35 their components do not need to be listed, labeled, or otherwise
36 indicated as acceptable by an accredited electrical product testing
37 laboratory unless specifically required by the National Electrical
38 Code, 1993 edition.

1 (2) Residential buildings or structures moved into or within a
2 county, city, or town are not required to comply with all of the
3 requirements of this chapter, if the original occupancy classification
4 of the building or structure is not changed as a result of the move.
5 This subsection shall not apply to residential buildings or structures
6 that are substantially remodeled or rehabilitated.

7 (3) This chapter shall not limit the authority or power of any city
8 or town to enact and enforce under authority given by law, any
9 ordinance, rule, or regulation requiring an equal, higher, or better
10 standard of construction and an equal, higher, or better standard of
11 materials, devices, appliances, and equipment than that required by
12 this chapter. A city or town shall require that its electrical
13 inspectors meet the qualifications provided for state electrical
14 inspectors in accordance with RCW 19.28.070. In a city or town having
15 an equal, higher, or better standard the installations, materials,
16 devices, appliances, and equipment shall be in accordance with the
17 ordinance, rule, or regulation of the city or town. Electrical
18 equipment associated with spas, hot tubs, swimming pools, and
19 hydromassage bathtubs shall not be offered for sale or exchange unless
20 the electrical equipment is certified as being in compliance with the
21 applicable product safety standard by bearing the certification mark of
22 an approved electrical products testing laboratory.

23 (4) Nothing in this chapter may be construed as permitting the
24 connection of any conductor of any electric circuit with a pipe that is
25 connected with or designed to be connected with a waterworks piping
26 system, without the consent of the person or persons legally
27 responsible for the operation and maintenance of the waterworks piping
28 system.

29 **Sec. 3.** RCW 19.28.200 and 1998 c 98 s 1 are each amended to read
30 as follows:

31 (1) No license under the provision of this chapter shall be
32 required from any utility or any person, firm, partnership,
33 corporation, or other entity employed by a utility because of work in
34 connection with the installation, repair, or maintenance of lines,
35 wires, apparatus, or equipment owned by or under the control of a
36 utility and used for transmission or distribution of electricity from
37 the source of supply to the point of contact at the premises and/or
38 property to be supplied and service connections and meters and other

1 apparatus or appliances used in the measurement of the consumption of
2 electricity by the customer.

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

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

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

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

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

23 (4) No license under the provisions of this chapter shall be
24 required from any person, firm, partnership, corporation, or other
25 entity because of the work of installing and repairing ignition or
26 lighting systems for motor vehicles.

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

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

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

1 entity because of work in connection with the installation, repair,
2 maintenance, or testing of telecommunications systems.
3 "Telecommunications systems" includes equipment and associated
4 hardware, pathway systems, and cable management systems. It also
5 includes installation of open wiring systems of telecommunications
6 cables, surface nonmetallic raceways designated and used exclusively
7 for telecommunications, optical fiber innerduct raceway, underground
8 raceways designated and used exclusively for telecommunications and
9 installed for additions or extensions to existing telecommunications
10 systems not to exceed fifty feet inside the building, and incidental
11 short sections of circular or surface metal raceway, not to exceed ten
12 feet, for access or protection of telecommunications cabling and
13 installation of cable trays and ladder racks in telecommunications
14 service entrance rooms, spaces, or closets.

15 **Sec. 4.** RCW 19.28.610 and 1998 c 98 s 2 are each amended to read
16 as follows:

17 Nothing in RCW 19.28.510 through 19.28.620 shall be construed to
18 require that a person obtain a license or a certified electrician in
19 order to do electrical work at his or her residence or farm or place of
20 business or on other property owned by him or her unless the electrical
21 work is on the construction of a new building intended for rent, sale,
22 or lease. However, if the construction is of a new residential
23 building with up to four units intended for rent, sale, or lease, the
24 owner may receive an exemption from the requirement to obtain a license
25 or use a certified electrician if he or she provides a signed affidavit
26 to the department stating that he or she will be performing the work
27 and will occupy one of the units as his or her principal residence.
28 The owner shall apply to the department for this exemption and may only
29 receive an exemption once every twenty-four months. It is intended
30 that the owner receiving this exemption shall occupy the unit as his or
31 her principal residence for twenty-four months after completion of the
32 units. Nothing in RCW 19.28.510 through 19.28.620 shall be intended to
33 derogate from or dispense with the requirements of any valid electrical
34 code enacted by a city or town pursuant to RCW 19.28.010(3), except
35 that no code shall require the holder of a certificate of competency to
36 demonstrate any additional proof of competency or obtain any other
37 license or pay any fee in order to engage in the electrical
38 construction trade. RCW 19.28.510 through 19.28.620 shall not apply to

1 common carriers subject to Part I of the Interstate Commerce Act, nor
2 to their officers and employees. Nothing in RCW 19.28.510 through
3 19.28.620 shall be deemed to apply to the installation or maintenance
4 of telephone, telegraph, radio, or television wires and equipment; nor
5 to any electrical utility or its employees in the installation, repair,
6 and maintenance of electrical wiring, circuits, and equipment by or for
7 the utility, or comprising a part of its plants, lines or systems. The
8 licensing provisions of RCW 19.28.510 through 19.28.620 shall not apply
9 to:

10 (1) Persons making electrical installations on their own property
11 or to regularly employed employees working on the premises of their
12 employer, unless the electrical work is on the construction of a new
13 building intended for rent, sale, or lease;

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

20 (3) Any work exempted under RCW 19.28.200(6); or

21 (4) Persons, firms, partnerships, corporations, or other entities
22 engaged in the installation, repair, or maintenance of
23 telecommunications systems.

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

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4 On page 1, line 2 of the title, after "installations;" strike the
5 remainder of the title and insert "and amending RCW 19.28.005,
6 19.28.010, 19.28.200, and 19.28.610."

EFFECT: Eliminates the provisions establishing a telecommunications contractor license and clarifies that an electrical license is not required for the installation, maintenance, and testing of telecommunications systems and equipment.

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