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HOUSE BILL 1609

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State of Washington                      64th Legislature                      2015 Regular Session

By Representatives Manweller, Vick, and Condotta

Read first time 01/23/15. Referred to Committee on Labor.

1            AN ACT Relating to the granting of exemptions to the plumbing and  
2 electrical codes; adding a new section to chapter 19.28 RCW; adding a  
3 new section to chapter 18.106 RCW; and creating a new section.

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

5            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that overregulation  
6 of plumbing and electrical work adds to consumer costs without  
7 contributing to public health or safety. It is the intent of the  
8 legislature to provide administrative mechanisms to exempt from the  
9 plumbing and electrical codes minor or incidental work that does not  
10 require regulation for the protection of public health or safety,  
11 without necessitating further legislative review or action.

12            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 19.28  
13 RCW to read as follows:

14            (1) The director shall by rule exempt from the requirements of  
15 this chapter minor or incidental work that does not require  
16 certification in order to protect public health or safety.

17            (2) When making an exemption under subsection (1) of this  
18 section, the director may, in addition to public health or safety,  
19 consider the following:

20            (a) Consumer health or safety;

- 1 (b) Employee health or safety;  
2 (c) Changes in technology;  
3 (d) Practicality and consistency with best practices; and  
4 (e) Enforceability.

5 (3) For the purposes of this section, "minor or incidental work"  
6 includes but is not limited to work for which the department does not  
7 require a permit, work for which the manufacturer routinely includes  
8 with the appliance instructions for homeowner installation, or the  
9 simple disconnection and reconnection of an appliance or fixture in  
10 order to move the appliance or fixture in order to accomplish other  
11 work.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 18.106  
13 RCW to read as follows:

14 (1) The director shall by rule exempt from the requirements of  
15 this chapter minor or incidental work that does not require  
16 certification in order to protect public health or safety.

17 (2) When making an exemption under subsection (1) of this  
18 section, the director may, in addition to public health or safety,  
19 consider the following:

- 20 (a) Consumer health or safety;  
21 (b) Employee health or safety;  
22 (c) Changes in technology;  
23 (d) Practicality and consistency with best practices; and  
24 (e) Enforceability.

25 (3) For the purposes of this section, "minor or incidental work"  
26 includes but is not limited to work for which the department does not  
27 require a permit, work for which the manufacturer routinely includes  
28 with the appliance instructions for homeowner installation, or the  
29 simple disconnection and reconnection of an appliance or fixture in  
30 order to move the appliance or fixture in order to accomplish other  
31 work.

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