Washington State House of Representatives Office of Program Research

BILL ANALYSIS

Labor & Workplace Standards Committee

HB 1855

Brief Description: Concerning vehicle identification of electrical contractors.

Sponsors: Representatives Blake, Stambaugh and Gregerson.

Brief Summary of Bill

• Requires vehicles used by electrical contractors to be marked with the contractor's business name and contractor license number.

Hearing Date: 2/7/17

Staff: Joan Elgee (786-7106).

Background:

The electrical laws are administered by the Department of Labor and Industries (Department). The regulatory scheme includes licensure for electrical contractors and certification for electricians. Contractors may be licensed as general or specialty contractors, and similarly, electricians may be certified as journey level or specialty electricians. It is unlawful to engage in the business of the electrical construction trade without being licensed as an electrical general or specialty contractor. License requirements include a bond for payment of labor and for any damages sustained by the failure to comply with the electrical laws, proof of industrial insurance if the contractor has employees, and payment of a fee. The applicant must also designate a person with a master or administrator electrical certificate who ensures all electrical work complies with the law. A person violating the licensing requirements must be assessed a penalty of not less than \$50 or more than \$10,000.

Summary of Bill:

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This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.

Any licensed self-propelled motor vehicle used by a general or specialty contractor while engaged in the electrical construction trade must be marked with the contractor's legal business name and electrical contractor license number. The marks must be on both sides of the vehicle, be in letters that sharply contrast with the background, be readily legible during daylight hours from 50 feet while the vehicle is stationary, and be kept and maintained in a manner that retains the legibility. The marking may be affixed by adhesive, painted on the vehicle, or be a removable device.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Available.

Effective Date: The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of the session in which the bill is

passed.