
ENGROSSED SENATE BILL 6089

State of Washington

68th Legislature

2024 Regular Session

By Senators King, Keiser, and Mullet; by request of Department of Labor & Industries

Read first time 01/09/24. Referred to Committee on Labor & Commerce.

1 AN ACT Relating to eliminating certain minimum requirement
2 equivalencies for electrical inspectors; amending RCW 19.28.321;
3 creating a new section; and providing an expiration date.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 19.28.321 and 2007 c 218 s 84 are each amended to
6 read as follows:

7 The director of labor and industries of the state of Washington
8 and the officials of all incorporated cities and towns where
9 electrical inspections are required by local ordinances shall have
10 power and it shall be their duty to enforce the provisions of this
11 chapter in their respective jurisdictions. The director of labor and
12 industries shall appoint a chief electrical inspector and may appoint
13 other electrical inspectors as the director deems necessary to assist
14 the director in the performance of the director's duties. The chief
15 electrical inspector, subject to the review of the director, shall be
16 responsible for providing the final interpretation of adopted state
17 electrical standards, rules, and policies for the department and its
18 inspectors, assistant inspectors, electrical plan examiners, and
19 other individuals supervising electrical program personnel. If a
20 dispute arises within the department regarding the interpretation of
21 adopted state electrical standards, rules, or policies, the chief

1 electrical inspector, subject to the review of the director, shall
2 provide the final interpretation of the disputed standard, rule, or
3 policy. All electrical inspectors appointed by the director of labor
4 and industries shall have not less than: Four years experience as
5 (~~journeyperson~~) journey level electricians in the electrical
6 construction trade installing and maintaining electrical wiring and
7 equipment (~~(, or two years electrical training in a college of~~
8 ~~electrical engineering of recognized standing and four years~~
9 ~~continuous practical electrical experience in installation work, or~~
10 ~~four years of electrical training in a college of electrical~~
11 ~~engineering of recognized standing and two years continuous practical~~
12 ~~electrical experience in electrical installation work)); or four
13 years experience as a (~~journeyperson~~) journey level electrician
14 performing the duties of an electrical inspector employed by the
15 department or a city or town with an approved inspection program
16 under RCW 19.28.141, except that for work performed in accordance
17 with the national electrical safety code and covered by this chapter,
18 such inspections may be performed by a person certified as an outside
19 journeyperson lineworker, under RCW 19.28.261(5)(b), with four years
20 experience or a person with four years experience as a certified
21 outside journeyperson lineworker performing the duties of an
22 electrical inspector employed by an electrical utility. Such state
23 inspectors shall be paid such salary as the director of labor and
24 industries shall determine, together with their travel expenses in
25 accordance with RCW 43.03.050 and 43.03.060 as now existing or
26 hereafter amended. As a condition of employment, inspectors hired
27 exclusively to perform inspections in accordance with the national
28 electrical safety code must possess and maintain certification as an
29 outside journeyperson lineworker. The expenses of the director of
30 labor and industries and the salaries and expenses of state
31 inspectors incurred in carrying out the provisions of this chapter
32 shall be paid entirely out of the electrical license fund, upon
33 vouchers approved by the director of labor and industries.~~

34 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) The department of labor and industries
35 and the association of Washington cities must work with cities that
36 issue their own electrical permits and perform their own electrical
37 inspections to identify appropriate pathways to qualify as an
38 electrical inspector in this state.

1 (2) The department of labor and industries shall submit a report
2 to the legislature with its findings and recommendations, in
3 accordance with RCW 43.01.036, by December 15, 2024.

4 (3) This section expires June 30, 2025.

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