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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2020

A N A C T

RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- ELECTRICIANS

Introduced By: Representatives Edwards, Canario, Williams, Bennett, and Shekarchi

Date Introduced: January 29, 2020

Referred To: House Corporations

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 5-6-24 of the General Laws in Chapter 5-6 entitled "Electricians" is
2 hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **5-6-24. Apprentices -- Registration.**

4 (a) This chapter does not forbid the employment of one properly limited-registered
5 apprentice electrician working with and under the direct personal supervision of a licensed
6 journeyman electrician. Additionally, this chapter does not forbid the employment of: (1) One
7 properly registered apprentice journeyman working with and under the direct personal
8 supervision of a licensed journeyman; (2) One properly registered apprentice fire alarm installer
9 working with and under the direct personal supervision of a licensed fire alarm installer; (3) Two
10 (2) properly registered apprentice electrical sign installers working with and under the direct
11 personal supervision of a licensed electrical sign installer; (4) One properly registered apprentice
12 maintenance electrician working with and under the direct personal supervision of a valid Class C
13 or Class D license holder; or (5) One properly registered apprentice lightning-protection installer
14 working with and under the direct personal supervision of a licensed lightning-protection installer
15 (LPI). Apprentices are required to register with the division of professional regulation
16 immediately upon employment with a properly licensed electrical contractor or lightning-
17 protection contractor.

18 (b) Indentured apprentice electricians are required to work a minimum of eight thousand
19 (8,000) hours over a period of time of not less than four (4) years and successfully complete one

1 hundred forty-four (144) hours of related instruction per year in an indentured apprenticeship
2 program approved by the Rhode Island department of labor and training, to qualify for the
3 journeyperson "B" electrician examination; provided, however, apprentices may receive credit for
4 one hundred forty-four (144) hours of classroom training gained in a vocational school authorized
5 by the board of education, or two hundred eighty-eight (288) hours of classroom training gained
6 upon the successful completion of a course of study in a recognized trade school and approved by
7 the Rhode Island department of labor and training apprenticeship council. Provided, that the test
8 applicant has possessed, for at least four (4) years prior to the filing of the application, a
9 certificate of registration in full force and effect from the department of labor and training of
10 Rhode Island specifying the person as an indentured apprentice, and the application of an
11 applicant is accompanied by an affidavit or affidavits of his or her employer or former employers
12 or other reasonably satisfactory evidence showing that the applicant has been actually engaged in
13 electrical work as an apprentice in Rhode Island during those four (4) years; or the application is
14 accompanied by an affidavit or other reasonably satisfactory evidence showing that the applicant
15 has successfully completed a course of study in a recognized college or university and has
16 pursued a course of electrical technology for at least two (2) academic years or is the recipient of
17 an associate degree in electrical technology, and has thereafter been indentured by the department
18 of labor and training as an apprentice for at least ~~two (2)~~ four (4) years and employed as an
19 indentured apprentice by a duly licensed electrician master in this state for a period of ~~two (2)~~
20 four (4) years; or a showing that the applicant possesses a certificate of license issued under the
21 laws of another state, based on training equal to that required by the state of Rhode Island.
22 Limited-registered apprentice electricians shall be required to work a minimum of four thousand
23 (4,000) hours over a period of time of not less than two (2) years.

24 (c) Indentured apprentice maintenance electricians are required to work a minimum of six
25 thousand (6,000) hours over a period of time of not less than three (3) years and successfully
26 complete one hundred forty-four (144) hours of related instruction per year in an indentured
27 apprenticeship program approved by the Rhode Island department of labor and training, to qualify
28 for the journeyperson "M" electrician examination. Provided, however, that the test applicant has
29 possessed for at least three (3) years prior to the filing of the application a certificate of
30 registration in full force and effect from the department of labor and training specifying the
31 person as an indentured apprentice, and the application of an applicant is accompanied by an
32 affidavit or affidavits of his or her employer or former employers or other reasonably satisfactory
33 evidence showing that the applicant has been actually engaged in electrical work as an apprentice
34 in Rhode Island during those three (3) years. Class M journeyperson electricians may qualify to

1 take the journeyperson "B" electrician examination upon registering as a fourth-year apprentice
2 and becoming employed by a properly licensed Class A electrical contractor for that period of
3 time.

4 (d) Apprentice lightning-protection installers are required to work a minimum of four
5 thousand (4,000) hours over a period of time of not less than two (2) years to qualify for the
6 lightning-protection installer (LPI) examination. Provided, that the test applicant has possessed
7 for at least two (2) years prior to the filing of the application a certificate of registration in full
8 force and effect from the department of labor and training specifying the person as an apprentice
9 lightning-protection installer, and the application of an applicant is accompanied by an affidavit
10 or affidavits of his or her employer or former employers or other reasonably satisfactory evidence
11 showing that the applicant has been actually engaged in lightning-protection work as an
12 apprentice during those two (2) years.

13 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
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1 This act would allow the test applicant to earn the required credits towards the
2 qualification for the journeyperson "B" electrical examination by completing two hundred eighty-
3 eight (288) hours of classroom training in a recognized trade school. This act would also increase
4 the required period of indentured apprenticeship with the department of labor and training and a
5 licensed electrician master, from two (2) to four (4) years.

6 This act would take effect upon passage.

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