

2015 -- H 6227

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LC002713  
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2015

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A N A C T

RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- UNDERGROUND UTILITY  
CONTRACTORS

Introduced By: Representatives Keable, Chippendale, Edwards, Winfield, and  
Newberry

Date Introduced: May 21, 2015

Referred To: House Corporations

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 5-65.3-2 of the General Laws in Chapter 5-65.3 entitled  
2 "Underground Utility Contractors" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **5-65.3-2. Definitions. [Effective January 1, 2015.]** -- When used in this chapter:

4 (1) "Board" means the contractors registration and licensing board as defined in § 5-65-  
5 1.

6 (2) "Underground utility" means the installation, repair, alteration, or replacement of  
7 underground utilities, sewer lines, storm drainage lines or water lines, water service and laterals,  
8 laying drains and related services outside of buildings, making connections with public and/or  
9 private underground utilities, provided that such work is [being performed in conjunction with a](#)  
10 [municipal sewer connection or repair and is](#) to be done between the main, lateral, related services  
11 and/or appurtenances to within five feet (5') of the outer wall of a building or structure and  
12 specifically excluding gas and telecommunications work and any work defined in § 28-27-28.

13 (3) "Underground utility contractor" means any corporation, association, sole  
14 proprietorship, firm, partnership, limited liability corporation, limited liability partnership, or  
15 other business organization that is engaged in the installation, repair, alteration, or replacement of  
16 underground utilities, outside of buildings, making connections with public and/or private  
17 underground utilities provided that such work is [being performed in conjunction with a municipal](#)  
18 [sewer connection or repair and is](#) to be done between the main, laterals, services and/or

1 appurtenances to within five feet (5') of the outer walls of a building or structure. The term  
2 "underground utility contractor" shall include any agent, servant, and/or employee of a licensed  
3 underground utility contractor. The term "underground utility contractor" does not include  
4 individuals licensed under chapter 20 of this title entitled "Plumbers and Irrigators."

5 SECTION 2. Chapter 5-65.3 of the General Laws entitled "Underground Utility  
6 Contractors" is hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

7 **5-65.3-26. Applicability.** -- (a) Any person who engages in the construction or repair of  
8 underground utilities as defined by this chapter in conjunction with the installation or repair of a  
9 municipal sewer connection shall be licensed pursuant to this chapter.

10 (b) The provisions of this chapter shall not apply to services related to laying drains and  
11 related services when no municipal sewer connection is made or repaired.

12 SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF

A N A C T

RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- UNDERGROUND UTILITY  
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1           This act would provide that regulations and licensing necessary for underground utility  
2 contractors shall only be required if the construction is performed in conjunction with a municipal  
3 sewer connection.

4           This act would take effect upon passage.

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