

2021 -- S 0686

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2021

A N A C T

RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- ELECTRICIANS

Introduced By: Senator Walter S. Felag

Date Introduced: March 18, 2021

Referred To: Senate Labor

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 supervision
8 of a licensed journeyman; (2) One properly registered apprentice fire alarm installer working with
9 and under the direct personal supervision of a licensed fire alarm installer; (3) Two (2) properly
10 registered apprentice electrical sign installers working with and under the direct personal
11 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 immediately
16 upon employment with a properly licensed electrical contractor or lightning-protection contractor.

17 (b) Indentured apprentice electricians are required to work a minimum of eight thousand
18 (8,000) hours over a period of time of not less than four (4) years and successfully complete one
19 hundred forty-four (144) hours of related instruction per year in an indentured apprenticeship

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

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

1 becoming employed by a properly licensed Class A electrical contractor for that period of time.

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

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

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

6 This act would take effect upon passage.

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