

2021 -- S 0686 SUBSTITUTE A

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LC002430/SUB A
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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 burnerperson working with and under the direct personal supervision
8 of a licensed burnerperson; (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 journeyperson "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 a maximum of two hundred eighty-eight (288) hours of classroom
5 training gained over two (2) academic years (one hundred forty-four (144) per academic year),
6 upon the successful completion of a course of study in a fully accredited trade school that has been
7 approved by the Rhode Island office of postsecondary commissioner and ~~approved~~ by the Rhode
8 Island department of labor and training apprenticeship council. Provided, that the test applicant has
9 possessed, for at least four (4) years prior to the filing of the application, a certificate of registration
10 in full force and effect from the department of labor and training of Rhode Island specifying the
11 person as an indentured apprentice, and the application of an applicant is accompanied by an
12 affidavit or affidavits of his or her employer or former employers or other reasonably satisfactory
13 evidence showing that the applicant has been actually engaged in electrical work as an apprentice
14 in Rhode Island during those four (4) years; or the application is accompanied by an affidavit or
15 other reasonably satisfactory evidence showing that the applicant has successfully completed a
16 course of study in a recognized college or university and has pursued a course of electrical
17 technology for at least two (2) academic years or is the recipient of an associate degree in electrical
18 technology, and has thereafter been indentured by the department of labor and training as an
19 apprentice for at least ~~two (2)~~ four (4) years and employed as an indentured apprentice by a duly
20 licensed electrician master in this state for a period of ~~two (2)~~ four (4) years; or a showing that the
21 applicant possesses a certificate of license issued under the laws of another state, based on training
22 equal to that required by the state of Rhode Island. Limited-registered apprentice electricians shall
23 be required to work a minimum of four thousand (4,000) hours over a period of time of not less
24 than two (2) years.

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

1 Island during those three (3) years. Class M journeyperson electricians may qualify to take the
2 journeyperson "B" electrician examination upon registering as a fourth-year apprentice and
3 becoming employed by a properly licensed Class A electrical contractor for that period of 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 for
7 at least two (2) years prior to the filing of the application a certificate of registration in full force
8 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 or
10 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 apprentice
12 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 qualification
2 for the journeyperson "B" electrical examination by completing two hundred eighty-eight (288)
3 hours of classroom training in an accredited 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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