
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5906

State of Washington

53rd Legislature

1993 Regular Session

By Senate Committee on Labor & Commerce (originally sponsored by Senators Moore, Newhouse, Wojahn, Amondson and Hochstatter)

Read first time 03/03/93.

1 AN ACT Relating to electrical inspection standards; and amending
2 RCW 19.28.005, 19.28.010, and 19.28.060.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 19.28.005 and 1988 c 81 s 1 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter.

7 (1) "Administrator" means a person designated by an electrical
8 contractor to supervise electrical work and electricians in accordance
9 with the rules adopted under this chapter.

10 (2) "Board" means the electrical board under RCW 19.28.065.

11 (3) "Chapter" means chapter 19.28 RCW.

12 (4) "Department" means the department of labor and industries.

13 (5) "Director" means the director of the department or the
14 director's designee.

15 (6) "Electrical construction trade" includes but is not limited to
16 installing or maintaining electrical wires, related materials, and
17 equipment that are used for light, heat, or power and installing and
18 maintaining remote control, signaling, power limited, or communication
19 circuits or systems.

1 (7) "Electrical contractor" means a person, firm, partnership,
2 corporation, or other entity that offers to undertake, undertakes,
3 submits a bid for, or does the work of installing or maintaining wires,
4 related materials, or equipment that convey electrical current.

5 (8) "Equipment" means any equipment or apparatus that directly
6 uses, conducts, or is operated by electricity but does not mean plug-in
7 household appliances.

8 (9) "Industrial control panel" means a factory-wired or user-wired
9 assembly of industrial control equipment such as motor controllers,
10 switches, relays, power supplies, computers, cathode ray tubes,
11 transducers, and auxiliary devices. The panel may include disconnect
12 means and motor branch circuit protective devices.

13 (10) "Journeyman electrician" means a person who has been issued a
14 journeyman electrician certificate of competency by the department.

15 ((+10)) (11) "Specialty electrician" means a person who has been
16 issued a specialty electrician certificate of competency by the
17 department.

18 **Sec. 2.** RCW 19.28.010 and 1992 c 79 s 2 are each amended to read
19 as follows:

20 (1) All wires, related materials, and equipment, and installations
21 thereof, that convey electric current and installations of equipment to
22 be operated by electric current, in, on, or about buildings or
23 structures, except for telephone, telegraph, radio, and television
24 wires, related materials, and equipment, and television antenna
25 installations, signal strength amplifiers, and coaxial installations
26 pertaining thereto shall be in strict conformity with this chapter, the
27 statutes of the state of Washington, and the rules issued by the
28 department, and shall be in conformity with approved methods of
29 construction for safety to life and property. All wires and equipment
30 that fall within section 90.2(b)(5) of the National Electrical Code,
31 1981 edition, are exempt from the requirements of this chapter. The
32 regulations and articles in the National Electrical Code, ((as approved
33 by the American Standards Association, and in)) the national electrical
34 safety code, ((as approved by the American Standards Association,)) and
35 other installation and safety regulations approved by the ((American
36 Standards Association)) national fire protection association, as
37 modified or supplemented by rules issued by the department in
38 furtherance of safety to life and property under authority hereby

1 granted, shall be prima facie evidence of the approved methods of
2 construction. All materials, devices, appliances, and equipment used
3 in such installations shall be of a type that conforms to applicable
4 standards or be indicated as acceptable by the established standards of
5 (~~the Underwriters' Laboratories, Inc. or other~~) any electrical
6 product testing (~~laboratories~~) laboratory which (~~are~~) is accredited
7 by the department. Industrial control panels, industrial machinery and
8 industrial process equipment, and their components built or installed
9 by state-licensed electricians, do not need to be listed, labeled, or
10 otherwise indicated as acceptable by an accredited electrical product
11 testing laboratory unless specifically required by the National
12 Electrical Code.

13 (2) Residential buildings or structures moved into or within a
14 county, city, or town are not required to comply with all of the
15 requirements of this chapter, if the original occupancy classification
16 of the building or structure is not changed as a result of the move.
17 This subsection shall not apply to residential buildings or structures
18 that are substantially remodeled or rehabilitated.

19 (3) This chapter shall not limit the authority or power of any city
20 or town to enact and enforce under authority given by law, any
21 ordinance, rule, or regulation requiring an equal, higher, or better
22 standard of construction and an equal, higher, or better standard of
23 materials, devices, appliances, and equipment than that required by
24 this chapter. A city or town shall require that its electrical
25 inspectors meet the qualifications provided for state electrical
26 inspectors in accordance with RCW 19.28.070. In a city or town having
27 an equal, higher, or better standard the installations, materials,
28 devices, appliances, and equipment shall be in accordance with the
29 ordinance, rule, or regulation of the city or town. Electrical
30 equipment associated with spas, hot tubs, swimming pools, and
31 hydromassage bathtubs shall not be offered for sale or exchange unless
32 the electrical equipment is certified as being in compliance with the
33 applicable product safety standard by bearing the certification mark of
34 an approved electrical products testing laboratory.

35 (4) Nothing in this chapter may be construed as permitting the
36 connection of any conductor of any electric circuit with a pipe that is
37 connected with or designed to be connected with a waterworks piping
38 system, without the consent of the person or persons legally

1 responsible for the operation and maintenance of the waterworks piping
2 system.

3 **Sec. 3.** RCW 19.28.060 and 1988 c 81 s 3 are each amended to read
4 as follows:

5 (1) Prior to January 1st of each year, the director shall obtain an
6 authentic copy of the national electrical code ((as approved by the
7 American Standards Association, and an authentic copy of any applicable
8 regulations and standards of the Underwriters' Laboratories, Inc., or
9 other electrical product testing laboratory which is accredited by the
10 department prescribing rules, regulations, and standards for electrical
11 materials, devices, appliances, and equipment, including any
12 modifications and changes that have been made during the previous year
13 in the rules, regulations, and standards)), latest revision. The
14 department, after consulting with the board and receiving the board's
15 recommendations, shall adopt reasonable rules in furtherance of safety
16 to life and property. All rules shall be kept on file by the
17 department. Compliance with the rules shall be prima facie evidence of
18 compliance with this chapter. The department upon request shall
19 deliver to all persons, firms, partnerships, corporations, or other
20 entities licensed under this chapter a copy of the rules.

21 (2) The department shall also obtain and keep on file an authentic
22 copy of any applicable regulations and standards of any electrical
23 product testing laboratory which is accredited by the department
24 prescribing rules, regulations, and standards for electrical materials,
25 devices, appliances, and equipment, including any modifications and
26 changes that have been made during the previous year.

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