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SENATE BILL 6133

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State of Washington                      62nd Legislature                      2012 Regular Session

By Senators Conway, Roach, Kohl-Welles, Nelson, Kline, and Keiser

Read first time 01/12/12. Referred to Committee on Labor, Commerce & Consumer Protection.

1            AN ACT Relating to requiring training for eligibility for certain  
2 electrician certifications; amending RCW 19.28.181 and 19.28.211;  
3 adding a new section to chapter 19.28 RCW; and providing an effective  
4 date.

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

6            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 19.28 RCW  
7 to read as follows:

8            (1) An applicant for a journeyman certificate of competency under  
9 RCW 19.28.191(1)(f) or a specialty electrician certificate of  
10 competency under RCW 19.28.191(1)(g) must demonstrate to the  
11 satisfaction of the department completion of in-class education as  
12 follows:

13            (a) Twenty-four hours of in-class education if two thousand hours  
14 or more but less than four thousand hours of work are required for the  
15 certificate;

16            (b) Forty-eight hours of in-class education if four thousand or  
17 more but less than six thousand hours of work are required for the  
18 certificate;

1 (c) Seventy-two hours of in-class education if six thousand or more  
2 but less than eight thousand hours of work are required for the  
3 certificate;

4 (d) Ninety-six hours of in-class education if eight thousand or  
5 more hours of work are required for the certificate.

6 (2) For purposes of this section, "in-class education" means  
7 approved classroom training covering this chapter, the national  
8 electric code, or electrical theory; or equivalent classroom training  
9 taken as part of an approved apprenticeship program under chapter 49.04  
10 RCW or an approved electrical training program under RCW  
11 19.28.191(1)(h).

12 (3) Classroom training taken to qualify for trainee certificate  
13 renewal under RCW 19.28.161 qualifies as in-class education under this  
14 section.

15 **Sec. 2.** RCW 19.28.181 and 2001 c 211 s 12 are each amended to read  
16 as follows:

17 Any person desiring to be issued a certificate of competency as  
18 provided in this chapter shall deliver evidence in a form prescribed by  
19 the department affirming that said person has met the qualifications  
20 required under RCW 19.28.191 and section 1 of this act. An electrician  
21 from another jurisdiction applying for a certificate of competency must  
22 provide evidence in a form prescribed by the department affirming that  
23 the person has the equivalent qualifications to those required under  
24 RCW 19.28.191.

25 **Sec. 3.** RCW 19.28.211 and 2009 c 36 s 8 are each amended to read  
26 as follows:

27 (1) The department shall issue a certificate of competency to all  
28 applicants who have passed the examination provided in RCW 19.28.201,  
29 met the in-class education requirements of section 1 of this act if  
30 applicable, and who have complied with RCW 19.28.161 through 19.28.271  
31 and the rules adopted under this chapter. The certificate may include  
32 a photograph of the holder. The certificate shall bear the date of  
33 issuance, and shall expire on the holder's birthday. The certificate  
34 shall be renewed every three years, upon application, on or before the  
35 holder's birthdate. A fee shall be assessed for each certificate and  
36 for each annual renewal.

1 (2) If the certificate holder demonstrates to the department that  
2 he or she has satisfactorily completed an annual eight-hour continuing  
3 education course, the certificate may be renewed without examination by  
4 appropriate application unless the certificate has been revoked,  
5 suspended, or not renewed within ninety days after the expiration date.  
6 For pump and irrigation or domestic pump specialty electricians, the  
7 continuing education course may combine both electrical and plumbing  
8 education provided that there is a minimum of four hours of electrical  
9 training in the course.

10 (a) The contents and requirements for satisfactory completion of  
11 the continuing education course shall be determined by the director and  
12 approved by the board.

13 (b) The department shall accept proof of a certificate holder's  
14 satisfactory completion of a continuing education course offered in  
15 another state as meeting the requirements for maintaining a current  
16 Washington state certificate of competency if the department is  
17 satisfied the course is comparable in nature to that required in  
18 Washington state for maintaining a current certificate of competency.

19 (3) If the certificate is not renewed before the expiration date,  
20 the individual shall pay twice the usual fee. The department shall set  
21 the fees by rule for issuance and renewal of a certificate of  
22 competency. The fees shall cover but not exceed the costs of issuing  
23 the certificates and of administering and enforcing the electrician  
24 certification requirements of this chapter.

25 (4) The certificates of competency and temporary permits provided  
26 for in this chapter grant the holder the right to work in the  
27 electrical construction trade as a master electrician, journeyman  
28 electrician, or specialty electrician in accordance with their  
29 provisions throughout the state and within any of its political  
30 subdivisions without additional proof of competency or any other  
31 license, permit, or fee to engage in such work.

32 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** This act takes effect July 1, 2013.

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