

2016 -- H 7276

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2016

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A N A C T

RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS - ELECTRICIANS

Introduced By: Representatives Edwards, Slater, DeSimone, McNamara, and Casey

Date Introduced: January 21, 2016

Referred To: House Corporations

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Sections 5-6-1, 5-6-2, 5-6-3, 5-6-7, 5-6-8, 5-6-10, 5-6-10.1, 5-6-11, 5-6-13,
2 5-6-16, 5-6-19, 5-6-20.1, 5-6-24, 5-6-26, 5-6-29 and 5-6-32 of the General Laws in Chapter 5-6
3 entitled "Electricians" are hereby amended to read as follows:

4 **5-6-1. Definitions.** -- For purposes of this chapter:

5 (1) "Electrical contractor" means a corporation, firm or person, who, by the employment
6 of journeypersons, performs the work of installing, maintaining, servicing, and testing wires,
7 conduits, apparatus, fixtures, and other appliances for carrying or using electricity for light, heat
8 or power purposes exclusive of low voltage wiring for heating or refrigeration equipment for
9 service, maintenance, and installation.

10 (2) "Electrical sign contractor" means a corporation, firm, or person who, by the
11 employment of electrical sign installers, performs the work of installing, altering, and servicing
12 electrical signs. This may include the removal or installation of no more than three (3) wires not
13 to exceed fifteen feet (15') in length and terminating in an existing electrical enclosure directly
14 adjacent to, or at the base of, said sign.

15 (3) "Electrical sign installer" means a person engaged in installing, altering, and
16 servicing electrical signs. This may include the removal or installation of no more than three (3)
17 wires not to exceed fifteen feet (15') in length and terminating in an existing electrical enclosure
18 directly adjacent to, or at the base of, said sign.

19 (4) "Fire alarm contractor" means a corporation, firm, or person who, by the employment

1 of fire alarm installers, performs the work of installing, [maintaining](#), altering ~~and~~, servicing, and
2 testing of fire alarm systems in accordance with the Rhode Island fire safety code, ~~chapters 28.1-~~
3 ~~28.39 of title 23.~~

4 (5) "Fire alarm installation" means the installation or alteration of a fire alarm system
5 according to the Rhode Island fire safety code.

6 (6) "Fire alarm installer" means a person engaged in installing, [maintaining](#), altering, or
7 servicing and testing a fire alarm system used for the purpose of causing an alarm to be sounded
8 in case of fire.

9 (7) "Journeyman electrician" means a person doing any work of installing wires,
10 conduits, apparatus, fixtures, and other appliances.

11 (8) "Lightning protection contractor" means a corporation, firm, or person, who or that,
12 by employment of lightning protection installers, performs the work of installing, altering, and
13 maintaining, lightning protection systems. The "systems" are defined and should be installed in
14 accordance with NFPA 780 current edition, and all referenced NFPA documents.

15 (9) "Lightning protection installer" means a person engaged in the installation, service,
16 or maintenance of a lightning protection system according to NFPA 780 current edition.

17 (10) ~~"Oil burner contractor"~~ ["Burner contractor"](#) means a corporation, firm, or person,
18 who or that, by the employment of oil burnerpersons, performs the work of installing and
19 servicing ~~oil and~~ domestic ~~automatic, coal burning~~ heating equipment, including central heating
20 plants and domestic-type range burners, and including all accessory equipment and control
21 systems, excluding thermostatic, mechanical, and low-voltage wiring on heating, ventilating, and
22 air conditioning equipment.

23 (11) ~~"Oil burnerperson"~~ ["Burnerperson"](#) means a person doing any work, or installing or
24 servicing ~~oil~~ burners and other equipment, installed and serviced by ~~an oil~~ [a](#) burner contractor.

25 (12) "Sign renovation electrical license" means a person engaged in the installation,
26 service, or maintenance of electrical signs, but only when the installation, service, or maintenance
27 requires the removal or installation of no more than three (3) wires.

28 **5-6-2. Work for which license required.** -- (a) (1) No person, firm, or corporation shall
29 enter into, engage in, solicit, advertise, bid for, or work at the business of installing, [maintaining](#),
30 [servicing, and testing](#) wires, conduits, apparatus, fixtures, electrical signs, lightning protection
31 equipment as defined in § 5-6-1, and other appliances for carrying or using or generating
32 electricity for light, heat, fire alarms, as defined in chapter 28.25 of title 23, entitled "Fire Alarm
33 Systems", or power purposes, exclusive of low voltage wiring for heating/refrigeration
34 equipment, or work at the business of removing and reattaching existing electrical meters, unless

1 that person, firm, or corporation shall have received a license and a certificate for the business,
2 issued by the state board of examiners of electricians of the division of professional regulation of
3 the department of labor and training in accordance with the provisions set forth in this chapter.

4 (2) That person shall carry this license on his or her person at all times while so engaged,
5 and shall affix his or her contractor's license number to any advertisement and/or contract he or
6 she executes and/or to any bid he or she files with any consumer for his or her professional
7 services and to any applicable permit required for the performance of those services.

8 (b) Any person, firm or corporation which is required to apply for a permit from a local
9 building official for any work required to be performed by a person licensed under the provisions
10 of this chapter shall cause the work to be performed by a person licensed under the provisions of
11 this chapter; provided, that the provisions of this section, except the provision regarding removing
12 and reattaching existing electrical meters, shall not apply to owner-occupied single family homes.

13 **5-6-3. Devices and appliances inserted by unlicensed persons.** -- Nothing in this
14 chapter shall be construed to forbid the insertion in electrical circuits, by unlicensed persons, of
15 devices or appliances [including, but not limited to, microwaves, refrigerators, ranges, televisions,](#)
16 [light bulbs, and the like](#) that are properly designed for that insertion and for which proper wire
17 and insertion devices are installed.

18 **5-6-7. Forms of licenses.** -- Fourteen (14) forms of licenses shall be issued:

19 (1) The first, subsequently referred to as Certificate A, is known as an "electrical
20 contractor's license";

21 (2) The second, subsequently referred to as Certificate B, is known as a "journeyman
22 electrician's license";

23 (3) The third, subsequently referred to as Certificate C, is known as a "limited-premises
24 license";

25 (4) The fourth, subsequently referred to as Certificate E, is known as ~~an~~ [a](#) "~~oil~~
26 contractor's license";

27 (5) The fifth, subsequently referred to as Certificate F, is known as ~~an~~ [a](#) "~~oil~~
28 burnerperson's license";

29 (6) The sixth, subsequently referred to as Certificate AF, is known as a "fire alarm
30 contractor's license";

31 (7) The seventh, subsequently referred to as Certificate BF, is known as a "fire alarm
32 installer's license";

33 (8) The eighth, subsequently referred to as Certificate SCF, is known as "an electrical
34 sign contractor's license";

1 (9) The ninth, subsequently referred to as Certificate CF, is known as "an electrical sign
2 installer's license";

3 (10) The tenth, subsequently referred to as Certificate D, is known as a "limited-
4 maintenance license";

5 (11) The eleventh, subsequently referred to as Certificate M shall be known as a
6 "limited-maintenance journeyman license";

7 (12) The twelfth, subsequently referred to as Certificate LPC, shall be known as a
8 "lightning protection contractor's license";

9 (13) The thirteenth, subsequently referred to as Certificate LPI, shall be known as a
10 "lightning protection installer's license"; and

11 (14) The fourteenth, subsequently referred to as certificate SRL, shall be known as a
12 "sign renovation electrical license".

13 **5-6-8. Contractor's certificates/licenses.** -- (a) Electrical contractor's license. -
14 Certificate A shall be issued to any person, firm, or corporation, qualified under this chapter,
15 engaging in, or about to engage in, the business of installing, maintaining, servicing, and testing
16 electrical wires, conduits, apparatus, fixtures, fire alarm and safety communication systems, and
17 other electrical appliances, excluding low-voltage wiring for heating, ventilating, and air
18 conditioning equipment. The certificate shall specify the name of the person, firm, or corporation
19 applying and the name of the person, who in the case of a firm is one of its members, and in the
20 case of a corporation, one of its officers, passing the examination by which he or she or it is
21 authorized to enter upon, or engage in, business as prescribed in the certificate. The holding of a
22 Certificate A does not entitle the holder individually to engage in or perform the actual work of
23 installing, maintaining, servicing, and testing electric wires, conduits, ~~and~~ or appliances as
24 previously described in this chapter, but entitles him or her to conduct business as an electrical
25 contractor. The individual holder of the Certificate A for any person, firm, or corporation shall be
26 responsible for all supervision of personnel employed under the Certificate A.

27 (b) ~~Oil burner contractor's license.~~ Burner contractor's license. - A Certificate E shall be
28 issued to any person, firm, or corporation qualified under this chapter and engaged in, or about to
29 engage in, the business of ~~an oil~~ a burner contractor as defined in § 5-6-1. The certificate shall
30 specify the name of the person, firm, or corporation applying and the name of the person who, in
31 the case of a firm is one of its members, and in the case of a corporation one of its officers,
32 passing the examination, by which he or she or it is authorized to enter upon, or engage in,
33 business as prescribed in the certificate. The holding of a Certificate E does not entitle the holder
34 individually to engage in or perform any work on, or in connection with, electric wires, conduits,

1 and appliances as previously described in this chapter, but entitles the holder to contract to do that
2 work, to the extent permitted in this chapter, through the employment of ~~oil~~ burnerpersons
3 holding a Certificate F. ~~An oil~~ A burner contractor who is the holder of a Certificate A is not
4 required to obtain a Certificate E.

5 (c) Fire alarm contractor's license. - A Certificate AF shall be issued to any person, firm,
6 or corporation qualified under this chapter and engaged in, or about to engage in, the business of
7 a fire alarm contractor as defined in § 5-6-1. The certificate shall specify the name of the person,
8 firm, or corporation applying and the person who, in the case of a firm is one of its members, and
9 in the case of a corporation one of its officers, passing the examination by which he or she or it is
10 authorized to enter upon or engage in business as prescribed in the certificate. The holding of a
11 Certificate AF does not entitle the holder individually to engage in, or perform and work on, or in
12 connection with, electric wires, fire alarm wires, conduits, and appliances as previously described
13 in this chapter, but entitles the holder to contract to do that work to the extent permitted in this
14 chapter through the employment of fire alarm installers holding a Certificate BF. A contractor
15 who is the holder of a Certificate A is not required to obtain a Certificate BF.

16 (d) Electrical sign contractor's license. - A Certificate SCF shall be issued to any person,
17 firm, or corporation qualified under this chapter and engaged in or about to engage in the business
18 of electrical sign installations, as defined in § 5-6-1.

19 (e) Lightning protection contractor. - A Certificate LPC shall be issued to any person,
20 firm or corporation qualified under this chapter and engaged in, or about to engage in, the
21 business of lightning protection contractor as defined in § 5-6-1. The Certificate LPC shall
22 specify the name of the person, firm, or corporation applying and the person, who in the case of a
23 firm, is one of its members, and in the case of a corporation, one of its officers, passing the
24 examination by which he or she or it is authorized to enter upon or engage in business as
25 prescribed in the certificate. The holding of a Certificate LPC does not entitle the holder
26 individually to engage in, or perform and work on, or in connection with, the installation of
27 lightning protection equipment as defined in § 5-6-1, unless that individual also holds a
28 Certificate LPI, but entitles the holder to contract to do that work to the extent permitted in this
29 chapter through the employment of lightning protection installers holding a Certificate LPI.

30 (f) Sign renovation electrical license. - A certificate SRL shall be issued to any person,
31 firm, or corporation qualified under this chapter and engaged in, or about to engage in, the
32 business of sign renovation or installation of signs when such renovation or installation requires
33 the removal or installation of no more than three (3) wires.

34 (g) Renewable energy professional. - A Certificate REP shall be issued to any person,

1 firm or corporation, qualified under this chapter, engaged in or about to engage in the business of
2 installing eligible renewable energy technologies as defined in § 39-26-5. All renewable energy
3 electrical work, including installing, connecting, maintaining, servicing and testing all electrical
4 wires, conduits and apparatus; mounting the modules to the mounting racks; mounting the
5 inverters; and tying the inverters into the main electrical panels shall be done by a licensed
6 electrician. Ancillary non-electrical renewable energy work, such as advertising services;
7 distribution of materials to final location of installation including photovoltaic modules to the
8 mounting racks; and installing the ground and rooftop support brackets and ballast for rack
9 systems, may be done by any person, firm or corporation holding an REP Certificate. The REP
10 Certificate shall specify the name of the person, firm, or corporation applying and the name of the
11 person, who in the case of a firm is one of its members, and in the case of a corporation, one of its
12 officers, meeting the requisite education and experience as established in § 5-6-11, by which he
13 or she or it is authorized to enter upon or engage in business as prescribed in the certificate. The
14 holding of a Certificate REP entitles the holder to contract to do that work to the extent permitted
15 in this chapter.

16 The installation, mechanical fastening and conjoining of listed solar sheathing systems
17 that are ten kilowatts (10 kw) or less on residential structures as defined by the Rhode Island one
18 and two (2) family dwelling code may be performed by a registered contractor that has been
19 issued a renewable energy professional certificate (REPC) as defined in § 5-6-11(e) and above
20 referenced. However, said residential solar sheathing system shall be connected to the electrical
21 system from the roof edge and energized by a Rhode Island licensed electrician working in
22 compliance with chapter 6 of title 5. Additionally, the residential solar sheathing systems noted
23 must be listed and labeled by UL or other recognized electrical device certification organization,
24 identified and acceptable by the authority having jurisdiction.

25 **5-6-10. Limited premises certificate/license.** -- A Certificate C shall be issued to the
26 department of transportation, state airport corporation and manufacturing and industrial firms that
27 regularly employ one or more [Class B or Class M journeyperson](#) electricians for installation and
28 when the work performed by those individuals is limited to maintenance and repair of electrical
29 wiring, devices, appliances, and equipment on the premises owned or occupied by the applicant.
30 The application must be made by a responsible officer of the firm and contains a description of
31 the premises within which work is to be done under the permit. All work must meet electrical and
32 municipal codes and must be permitted accordingly by the municipality.

33 **5-6-10.1. Limited maintenance license.** -- A Certificate D shall be issued to
34 municipalities, schools, hospitals, colleges, or other non-manufacturing firms or establishments

1 who regularly employ one or more licensed electricians (journeyman/Class B or Class M)
2 when the work performed by those individuals is limited to the maintenance of electrical wiring,
3 devices, appliances, and equipment on the premises owned or occupied by the applicant. The
4 applicant must contain a description of the premises within which work is to be done under the
5 permit. All work must meet electrical and municipal codes and must be permitted accordingly by
6 the municipality.

7 **5-6-11. Certificate/license of oil burnerperson, fire alarm installer, electrical sign**

8 **installers, lightning protection installers and renewable energy professionals.** -- (a) ~~Oil~~

9 ~~burnerperson's~~ Burnerperson's license. - A Certificate F shall be granted to any person who has
10 passed an examination before the division of professional regulation. The certificate shall specify
11 the name of the person authorized to install, work on, and repair electric wiring and equipment
12 located in or on ~~oil~~ burners ~~burning fuel oil no heavier than No. 2,~~ and other equipment serviced
13 by ~~oil~~ burner contractors, to the extent only as is necessary to install, service, maintain and repair
14 those ~~oil~~ burners and equipment. The license shall limit the holder of a Certificate F to do work
15 on electric wiring or equipment located ~~between the meter and~~ on those ~~oil~~ burners and
16 equipment and related components, but in no event to do any electrical work on oil burners
17 burning No. 3, 4, 5, or 6 fuel oil.

18 (b) Fire alarm installer's license. - A Certificate BF shall be granted to any person who
19 has passed an examination before the division of professional regulation. The certificate shall
20 specify the name of the person authorized to work on, install, maintain, and test fire alarm
21 systems.

22 (c) Electrical sign installer's license. - A Certificate CF shall be granted to any person
23 who has passed an examination before the division of professional regulations. The certificate
24 shall specify the name of the person authorized to install, maintain, work on, and repair electrical
25 signs.

26 (d) Lightning protection installer's license. - A Certificate LPI shall be granted to any
27 person who has passed an examination before the division of professional regulations. The
28 certificate shall specify the name of the person authorized to install, maintain, work on, and repair
29 lightning protection systems as defined in § 5-6-1.

30 (e) Renewable energy professional's certificate. - The Rhode Island department of labor
31 and training shall issue a Certificate of Competency in the Design and Installation of Renewable
32 Energy Systems to any person, firm, or corporation that has received a certification from a
33 nationally recognized, or equivalent, renewable energy certification training program and has
34 demonstrated proof of such certification to the Rhode Island office of energy resources.

1 **5-6-13. Journeyperson and burnerperson restricted to work as employee of licensee.**

2 -- (a) Except as provided in § 5-6-14, a holder of a Certificate B is not entitled to do any work of
3 installing, maintaining, servicing, and testing wires, conduits, apparatus, fixtures, or other
4 appliances for carrying or using electricity for light, heat, or power purposes except as an
5 employee of a holder of a Certificate A, of a Certificate C, or a Certificate D, or unless the holder
6 of a Certificate B is also registered as an electrical contractor and holds a certificate.

7 (b) A holder of a Certificate F is not entitled to do any work on electric wiring, conduits,
8 apparatus, fixtures, or other appliances for carrying or using electricity for light, heat, or power
9 purposes, except as an employee of a holder of a Certificate E or A unless the holder of a
10 Certificate F is also registered as ~~an oil~~ a burner contractor and holds a Certificate E.

11 (c) A holder of a Certificate AF is limited to fire alarm, fixtures, equipment for fire alarm
12 purposes only, and life safety equipment only unless the holder of a Certificate AF also holds a
13 Certificate BF.

14 (d) A holder of a Certificate SCF is limited to electrical sign contracting only. A
15 Certificate CF is required for the actual installation of the electrical sign.

16 (e) A holder of a Certificate LPC is limited to lightning protection contracting only. A
17 Certificate LPI is required for the actual installation of the lightning protection system.

18 **5-6-16. License fees.** -- (a) All licenses issued by the division of professional regulation

19 for master electricians, all limited-license electricians, and all journeyperson electricians born in
20 odd years shall expire on the birthday of the individual qualifying for the license in odd years and
21 all licenses of master electricians, all limited-license electricians, and all journeyperson
22 electricians born in even years shall expire on the birthday of the individual qualifying for the
23 license in even years and all licenses may be renewed on or before their expiration date upon
24 payment of the appropriate, biennial renewal fee.

25 (b) A fee of two hundred forty dollars (\$240) shall be paid by each applicant for an
26 electrical contractor's license Class A; seventy-two dollars (\$72.00) for a journeyperson
27 electrician's license Class B; two hundred forty dollars (\$240) for a limited premises license Class
28 C; two hundred forty dollars (\$240) for ~~an oil~~ a burner contractor's license Class E; seventy-two
29 dollars (\$72.00) for ~~an oil~~ a burnerperson's license Class F; two hundred forty dollars (\$240) for a
30 fire alarm contractor's license Class AF; seventy-two dollars (\$72.00) for a fire alarm installer's
31 license Class BF; two hundred forty dollars (\$240) for an electrical sign contractor's license SCF;
32 seventy-two dollars (\$72.00) for a sign installer's license Class CF; and two hundred forty dollars
33 (\$240) for a limited maintenance license Class D.

34 (c) A fee of two hundred forty dollars (\$240) shall be paid by each applicant for a

1 lightning protection contractor's license Class LPC.

2 (d) A fee of seventy-two dollars (\$72.00) shall be paid by each applicant for a lightning
3 protection installer's license LPI.

4 (e) A fee of seventy-two dollars (\$72.00) shall be paid by each applicant for a sign
5 renovation electrical license.

6 **5-6-19. Display of licenses.** -- (a) Holders of Licenses B, F, BF, CF, [M](#), A, E, AF, SCF,
7 LPC, and LPI shall be furnished by the division of professional regulation with evidence of
8 having been licensed in card form or otherwise, which shall be carried on the person of the
9 licensee and exhibited on request.

10 (b) Any sign, listing, or advertisement of any type of a holder of those licenses shall
11 contain the holder's name, address, and license number; provided, only those persons, firms, or
12 corporations who are holders of a Class A license shall be permitted to advertise for the
13 employment of journeyman or electrical apprentices.

14 **5-6-20.1. Mandatory continuing education.** -- (a) On or before January 1, 1996, the
15 board of examiners of electricians shall, by regulation, establish a mandatory continuing
16 education program for all persons licensed under this chapter. The program is designed to ensure
17 current competency in each licensee's area of certification and/or licensing.

18 (b) On and after January 1, 1997, no license under this chapter shall be renewed unless
19 the licensee demonstrates, in a manner prescribed by the board of examiners of electricians, that
20 he or she has successfully completed at least fifteen (15) clock hours of continuing education
21 pursuant to and in compliance with the mandatory continuing education program established
22 under this section.

23 (c) The course of study to be conducted over the fifteen (15) hour clock period shall be
24 approved by the ~~Rhode Island building commissioner's office~~ [board of examiners of electricians](#).
25 Course providers may include, but not be limited to, vocational schools, association seminars,
26 labor training programs, employee training programs and private instructors or inspectors and
27 must also be approved by the building commissioner's office. Instructors or inspectors shall be
28 Rhode Island licensed electrical contractors employed by or about to be employed by the
29 providers and be board approved. ~~Instructors or inspectors must attend a preparation seminar held~~
30 ~~by the Rhode Island building commissioner's office to be approved. That course shall be paid for~~
31 ~~by individuals attending the course.~~

32 (d) The mandatory continuing education requirement is limited to class A and class B
33 electricians.

34 (e) Out-of-state residents that hold a Rhode Island electrical license are allowed to

1 submit a fifteen (15) hour continuing education credit from their state if it meets the Rhode Island
2 requirements and their state recognizes the Rhode Island continuing education certificates;

3 (f) Upon completion of the fifteen (15) clock hour course, an approved uniform
4 certificate of completion shall be issued. Licensees are required to submit this verification of
5 completion for license renewal. The continuing education credits shall be included in the
6 currently adopted edition of the National Electrical Code and the ~~Building Officials and Code~~
7 ~~Administrators International, Inc. (BOCA)~~ [International Code Council \(ICC\)](#) national codes;

8 (g) Only those approved instructors actually teaching a fifteen (15) clock hour course
9 shall be exempt from attending the fifteen (15) hour course.

10 **5-6-24. Apprentices -- Registration fee.** -- (a) This chapter does not forbid the
11 employment of one properly limited registered apprentice electrician working with and under the
12 direct personal supervision of a licensed journeyman electrician. Additionally, this chapter does
13 not forbid the employment of: (1) one properly registered apprentice ~~ei~~ burnerperson working
14 with and under the direct personal supervision of a licensed ~~ei~~ burnerperson; (2) one properly
15 registered apprentice fire alarm installer working with and under the direct personal supervision
16 of a licensed fire alarm installer; or (3) two (2) properly registered apprentice electrical sign
17 installer working with and under the direct personal supervision of a licensed electrical sign
18 installer; (4) one properly registered apprentice maintenance electrician working with and under
19 the direct personal supervision of a valid Class C or Class D license holder; or (5) one properly
20 registered apprentice lightning protection installer working with and under the direct personal
21 supervision of a licensed lightning protection installer (LPI). Apprentices are required to register
22 with the division of professional regulation initially upon payment of a fee of twenty dollars
23 (\$20.00) per year. Apprentices are required to register with the division of professional regulation
24 immediately upon employment with a properly licensed electrical contractor or lightning
25 protection contractor.

26 (b) Indentured apprentice electricians are required to work a minimum of eight thousand
27 (8,000) hours over a period of time of not less than four (4) years and successfully complete one
28 hundred forty-four (144) hours of related instruction per year in an indentured apprenticeship
29 program approved by the Rhode Island department of labor and training, to qualify for the
30 journeyman "B" electrician examination; provided, however, apprentices may receive credit for
31 one hundred forty-four (144) hours of classroom training gained in a vocational school authorized
32 by the board of regents for elementary and secondary education and approved by the Rhode
33 Island department of labor and training apprenticeship council. Provided, that the test applicant
34 has possessed for at least four (4) years prior to the filing of the application a certificate of

1 registration in full force and effect from the department of labor and training of Rhode Island
2 specifying the person as an indentured apprentice, and the application of an applicant is
3 accompanied by an affidavit or affidavits of his or her employer or former employers or other
4 reasonably satisfactory evidence showing that the applicant has been actually engaged in
5 electrical work as an apprentice in Rhode Island during those four (4) years, or the application is
6 accompanied by an affidavit or other reasonably satisfactory evidence showing that the applicant
7 has successfully completed a course of study in a recognized college or university and has
8 pursued a course of electrical technology for at least two (2) academic years or is the recipient of
9 an associate degree in electrical technology, and has thereafter been indentured by the department
10 of labor and training as an apprentice for at least two (2) years and employed as an indentured
11 apprentice by a duly licensed electrician master in this state for a period of two (2) years, or a
12 showing that the applicant possesses a certificate of license issued under the laws of another state,
13 based on training equal to that required by the state of Rhode Island. Limited registered
14 apprentice electricians shall be required to work a minimum of four thousand (4,000) hours over a
15 period of time of not less than two (2) years.

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

30 (d) Apprentice lightning protection installers are required to work a minimum of four
31 thousand (4,000) hours over a period of time of not less than two (2) years to qualify for the
32 lightning protection installer (LPI) examination. Provided, that the test applicant has possessed
33 for at least two (2) years prior to the filing of the application a certificate of registration in full
34 force and effect from the department of labor and training of Rhode Island specifying the person

1 as an apprentice lightning protection installer, and the application of an applicant is accompanied
2 by an affidavit or affidavits of his or her employer or former employers or other reasonably
3 satisfactory evidence showing that the applicant has been actually engaged in lightning protection
4 work as an apprentice during those two (2) years.

5 **5-6-26. Compliance with requirements of division or of electric company.** -- All
6 electrical work ~~which is done in cities and towns not having their own rules and requirements~~
7 shall be done in accordance with any rules and requirements that are specified by the division of
8 professional regulation, or subject to its approval, by the public utilities having authority to
9 supply electricity in the place where the work is done. Any rules made or approved, shall be
10 based upon ~~some definite~~ the current adopted edition of the "National Electrical Code" with any
11 changes or additions that are deemed required. Failure of any licensee to do the work in that
12 manner shall be considered grounds for suspension or revocation of the license, in the discretion
13 of the division, after notice and a hearing before the board of examiners of electricians, and upon
14 recommendation to the director of labor and training.

15 **5-6-29. Persons and work exempt.** -- (a) The provisions of this chapter do not apply to:

16 (1) The electrical work and equipment for the generation and primary distribution of
17 electric current, or the secondary distribution system up to and including the meters, where that
18 work and equipment is an integral part of the system owned and operated by an electric light and
19 power company in rendering its authorized service; or to the electrical work and electrical
20 equipment employed in connection with the manufacture and distribution of gas, where that work
21 and equipment is an integral part of the system owned and operated by a gas company in
22 rendering its authorized service.

23 (2) The electrical work and equipment employed in connection with the operation of
24 signals, or the transmission of intelligence, where that work and equipment is an integral part of
25 the communication system owned and operated by a municipality or by a telegraph or telephone
26 company, or any community antenna television system (CATV) subject to regulation under title
27 39 by the division of public utilities or any subcontractor of a CATV system, including the work
28 of a telephone company of installing, repairing or replacing all wiring on the load side of the last
29 fused distribution point, and all of the emergency wiring installed, replaced, or repaired by a
30 telephone company; or any community antenna television system (CATV) subject to regulation
31 under title 39 by the division of public utilities or any subcontractor of such CATV system.

32 (3) The electrical work and equipment in mines, ships, railway rolling stock, or
33 automotive equipment, or devices subject to the provisions of chapter 33 of title 23.

34 (4) Any work involved in the manufacture, test, or repair of electrical equipment in the

1 manufacturer's plant, but not including any electrical wiring other than that required for testing
2 purposes.

3 (b) This chapter does not apply to installations in suitable laboratories of exposed
4 electrical wiring for experimental purposes only.

5 (c) This chapter does not forbid the installation of electrical work in a single-family or
6 two-family dwelling on the immediate premises of the dwelling by the owner of the dwelling if
7 living on, or about to live on, the premises.

8 (d) This chapter does not apply to any person who now holds or subsequently ~~may hold~~
9 holds a hoisting engineer's license issued by the state and who excavates for and installs
10 underground conduits; provided, that hoisting engineers shall be prohibited from installing
11 electrical wiring and/or making the service connection of any such electrical wires and/or cables.
12 A city, town or such other authorized official shall issue a building permit to a licensed hoisting
13 engineer for excavation and installation of such underground conduits upon submission of a
14 completed application to the appropriate building official; provided, that a building permit will
15 not be required if the work is performed for an electric distribution company.

16 (5) This chapter shall not apply to any person, firm, partnership, corporation, limited
17 liability company or other business entity who holds or subsequently holds a certificate of
18 registration as required by the Rhode Island department of environmental management for work
19 in the operation, installation, maintenance, servicing, and testing of onsite wastewater treatment
20 systems and its equipment and related components; provided, however, this shall not permit any
21 electric wiring or equipment maintenance between the electric meter and the onsite wastewater
22 treatment system.

23 **5-6-32. Authority of director to assess penalty.** -- (a) The director may assess an
24 administrative penalty on any person, firm, or corporation for any violation of the provisions of
25 this chapter, after notice and a hearing, before and upon the recommendation of the board of
26 examiners of electricians in the amount of ~~five hundred dollars (\$500)~~ one thousand five hundred
27 dollars (\$1,500) for the first violation and ~~nine hundred fifty dollars (\$950)~~ two thousand dollars
28 (\$2,000) for a subsequent violation. All funds collected by the labor and training department
29 under this section shall be placed in the restricted receipts account created pursuant to § 28-22-
30 1.1. This section is in addition to any other action provided by law for violations of this chapter.

31 (b) The chief of the section shall act as an investigator with respect to the enforcement of
32 all the provisions of law relative to the licensing of electricians and, to this effect, whenever a
33 complaint is made by the chief of the section to the director of the department of labor and
34 training or his or her designee that the provisions of this chapter are being violated, the director of

1 the department of labor and training or his or her designee may issue an order to cease and desist
2 from that violation and may impose the above penalties against the violator and against the
3 contractor.

4 SECTION 2. 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 - ELECTRICIANS

1 This act would include within the licensing and certification process issued and required
2 by the state board of electricians of the division of professional regulation of the department of
3 labor and training, the maintenance, servicing, and testing of certain electrical components, and
4 would amend outdated language and increase the penalties for violators of the chapter.

5 This act would take effect upon passage.

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