

**2021 -- H 5437 SUBSTITUTE A**

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LC000718/SUB A  
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**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND**

**IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2021**

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A N A C T

RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- ELECTRICIANS

Introduced By: Representative John G. Edwards

Date Introduced: February 10, 2021

Referred To: House Corporations

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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