

2022 -- S 2979

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2022

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A N A C T

RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- ELECTRICIANS

Introduced By: Senator Michael J. McCaffrey

Date Introduced: May 19, 2022

Referred To: Senate Labor

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 5-6-2.1 of the General Laws in Chapter 5-6 entitled "Electricians" is  
2 hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **5-6-2.1. Inspection and right of entry.**

4 (a) The division of professional regulation by and through its electrical investigators or  
5 designees has the right and authority to enter, during times at which electrical work is actually being  
6 performed on any commercial building, structure, or premises where electrical work is being done,  
7 except any building, structure, or premises exempt by law, for the purpose of ascertaining  
8 compliance with this chapter.

9 (b) If any owner, occupant, or other person refuses, impedes, inhibits, interferes with,  
10 restricts, or otherwise obstructs entry and free access to any part of the building, structure, or  
11 premises by an authorized investigating official of the division of professional regulation,  
12 department of labor and training/board of examiners, the chief administrator of the division may:

13 (1) Seek from any judge of the district court a search warrant in accordance with chapter 5  
14 of title 12;

15 (2) Revoke or suspend any license, permit, or other permission regulated by local and state  
16 codes, and applicable to this chapter; notwithstanding any other provisions of this chapter; and

17 (3) Seek any other remedy as provided by this chapter.

1 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 provide that any owner, occupant or other person that interferes in any way  
2 with an electrical investigator or designee's right of entry for inspection of a building, structure, or  
3 premises may have their regulated license, permit or permission revoked, and would provide the  
4 chief administrator of the division of professional regulation the option of obtaining a search  
5 warrant from the district court to gain access to the building, structure or premises.

6           This act would take effect upon passage.

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