
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that Act 35, Session Laws
2 of Hawaii 2010, established new minimum qualification licensing
3 requirements for electricians effective July 1, 2013. The
4 legislature further finds that most in-state electrical workers
5 are experienced in low voltage work, which includes wiring
6 buildings at one hundred twenty/two hundred forty volts. There
7 are not enough electricians, splicers, and linemen in the State
8 who are experienced and qualified to work with high voltage,
9 over four hundred eighty volts, and who could respond in the
10 event of a catastrophic occurrence or complex maintenance work
11 affecting an electric utility.

12 The legislature additionally finds that Act 35 has had
13 inadvertent consequences. In an emergency situation, it could
14 be necessary to engage contractors who use personnel licensed in
15 other states. However, under the licensing requirements
16 established by Act 35, the necessary personnel would not be
17 certified in Hawaii and would be prohibited from offering
18 assistance. The legislature concludes that there are potential



1 impacts to the health and safety of the State and its residents,
2 and a specific exception to the licensing requirements for
3 electrical contractors is therefore needed.

4 The purpose of this Act is to provide an exception to the
5 licensing requirements for electrical contractors in situations
6 when an electric utility must hire contractors licensed in
7 another state to assist with high voltage work.

8 SECTION 2. Section 448E-5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
9 amended to read as follows:

10 "§448E-5 Minimum requirements. (a) Except as otherwise
11 provided in subsection (b), an applicant shall possess the
12 following minimum qualifications:

13 (1) Journey worker electrician: To be eligible for the
14 journey worker electrician examination, an applicant
15 shall be at least eighteen years of age and shall
16 provide satisfactory evidence of experience in
17 residential or commercial wiring of at least five
18 years full-time or its equivalent, but not less than
19 ten thousand hours, in the trade under the supervision
20 of a journey worker or supervising electrician;

21 (2) Journey worker specialty electrician: To be eligible
22 for the journey worker specialty electrician



1 examination, an applicant shall be at least eighteen
2 years of age and shall provide satisfactory evidence
3 of at least five years' experience in the trade;

4 (3) Supervising electrician: To be eligible for the
5 supervising electrician examination, an applicant
6 shall have been registered with the board as a journey
7 worker electrician for at least a period of four years
8 or shall have equivalent experience in the trade;

9 (4) Supervising specialty electrician: To be eligible for
10 the supervising specialty electrician examination, an
11 applicant shall have been registered with the board as
12 a journey worker specialty electrician for at least a
13 period of four years or shall have equivalent
14 experience in the trade;

15 (5) Journey worker plumber: To be eligible for the
16 journey worker plumber examination, an applicant shall
17 provide satisfactory evidence of experience of at
18 least five years' full-time or its equivalent, but not
19 less than ten thousand hours, as a journey worker's or
20 master plumber's helper;

21 (6) Master plumber: To be eligible for the master plumber
22 examination, an applicant shall have been registered



1 with the board as a journey worker plumber for at
2 least two years or shall have equivalent experience in
3 the trade;

4 (7) Maintenance electrician: To be eligible for the
5 maintenance electrician examination, an applicant
6 shall be not less than eighteen years of age and shall
7 provide satisfactory evidence of at least one year of
8 experience in performing electrical maintenance work
9 or two years of schooling in the electrical trade;

10 (8) Journey worker industrial electrician: To be eligible
11 for the journey worker industrial electrician
12 examination, an applicant shall be at least eighteen
13 years of age and shall provide satisfactory evidence
14 of experience in industrial electrical work of at
15 least five years full-time or its equivalent, but not
16 less than ten thousand hours;

17 (9) Supervising industrial electrician: To be eligible
18 for the supervising industrial electrician
19 examination, an applicant shall have been registered
20 with the board as a journey worker industrial
21 electrician for a period of at least four years or
22 shall have equivalent experience in the trade.



1 (b) Effective July 1, 2013, an applicant for licensing
2 pursuant to this chapter shall possess the following minimum
3 qualifications:

4 (1) Journey worker electrician: To be eligible for the
5 journey worker electrician examination, an applicant
6 shall be at least eighteen years of age and shall
7 provide satisfactory evidence of:

8 (A) Experience in residential or commercial wiring of
9 at least five years full-time or its equivalent,
10 but not less than ten thousand hours, in the
11 trade under the supervision of a journey worker
12 or supervising electrician; and

13 (B) Satisfactory completion, accepted by a University
14 of Hawaii community college offering an
15 appropriate program of study, of two hundred
16 forty hours of electrical academic coursework;

17 (2) Journey worker specialty electrician: To be eligible
18 for the journey worker specialty electrician
19 examination, an applicant shall be at least eighteen
20 years of age and shall provide satisfactory evidence
21 of:



1 (A) Experience of at least three years full-time or
2 its equivalent, but not less than six thousand
3 hours, in the trade under the supervision of a
4 journey worker electrician, supervising
5 electrician, journey worker specialty
6 electrician, or supervising specialty
7 electrician; and

8 (B) Satisfactory completion, accepted by a University
9 of Hawaii community college offering an
10 appropriate program of study, of one hundred
11 twenty hours of electrical academic coursework;

12 (3) Supervising electrician: To be eligible for the
13 supervising electrician examination, an applicant
14 shall have been registered with the board as a journey
15 worker electrician for at least a period of four years
16 or shall have equivalent experience in the trade;

17 (4) Supervising specialty electrician: To be eligible for
18 the supervising specialty electrician examination, an
19 applicant shall have been registered with the board as
20 a journey worker specialty electrician for at least a
21 period of two years or shall have equivalent
22 experience in the trade;



1 (5) Journey worker plumber: To be eligible for the
2 journey worker plumber examination, an applicant shall
3 provide satisfactory evidence of experience of at
4 least five years' full-time or its equivalent, but not
5 less than ten thousand hours, as a journey worker's or
6 master plumber's helper;

7 (6) Master plumber: To be eligible for the master plumber
8 examination, an applicant shall have been registered
9 with the board as a journey worker plumber for at
10 least two years or shall have equivalent experience in
11 the trade;

12 (7) Maintenance electrician: To be eligible for the
13 maintenance electrician examination, an applicant
14 shall be not less than eighteen years of age and shall
15 provide satisfactory evidence of:

16 (A) At least one year of experience in performing
17 electrical maintenance work plus satisfactory
18 completion, accepted by a University of Hawaii
19 community college offering an appropriate program
20 of study, of at least eighty hours of electrical
21 academic coursework; or

1 (B) Two years of schooling in the electrical trade
2 with not less than one thousand hours of hands-on
3 lab exercises;

4 (8) Journey worker industrial electrician: To be eligible
5 for the journey worker industrial electrician
6 examination, an applicant shall be at least eighteen
7 years of age and shall provide satisfactory evidence
8 of:

9 (A) Experience in industrial electrical work of at
10 least four years full-time or its equivalent, but
11 not less than eight thousand hours; and

12 (B) Satisfactory completion, as accepted by a
13 University of Hawaii community college offering
14 an appropriate program of study, of two hundred
15 hours of electrical academic coursework; and

16 (9) Supervising industrial electrician: To be eligible
17 for the supervising industrial electrician
18 examination, an applicant shall have been registered
19 with the board as a journey worker industrial
20 electrician for a period of at least three years or
21 shall have equivalent experience in the trade.

22 (c) Electrical contractors who are:

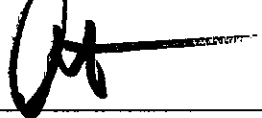
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- 1 (1) Licensed and deemed qualified by municipal or state
- 2 licensing authorities in other jurisdictions of the
- 3 United States to perform electrical utility work of
- 4 identical or fundamentally indistinguishable
- 5 classification;
- 6 (2) In good standing and whose license has not been
- 7 revoked or suspended for cause; and
- 8 (3) Retained by a public utility that is operating within
- 9 the State under a franchise or charter granted by the
- 10 State and regulated by the public utilities commission
- 11 under chapter 269 to perform high voltage (four
- 12 hundred eighty volts or higher, single-phase, and
- 13 three-phase) electrical work for the public utility,
- 14 including emergency repair or maintenance work;
- 15 shall be exempt from the requirements of this chapter and
- 16 section 444-9.5."

17 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

18 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

19

INTRODUCED BY:  _____

JAN 23 2013

H.B. NO. 1129

Report Title:

Electrical Contractors; Licensing; Exception

Description:

Provides an exception to the licensing requirements for electrical contractors in situations when an electric utility must hire contractors licensed in another state to assist with high voltage work.

The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.

