



ELECTRICAL CONTRACTOR'S ASSOCIATION OF HAWAII

NECA Hawai'i Chapter
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February 4, 2013

To: House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce
The Honorable Representatives Angus L.K. McKelvey and Derek S.K. Kawakami, Chairs

From: Al Itamoto, Executive Director
Electrical Contractors Association of Hawaii
National Electrical Contractors Association, Hawaii Chapter

Subject: H.B. 78, Relating to Contractors

Notice of Hearing

Date: Monday, February 4, 2013
Time: 2:30 PM
Place: Conference Room 325
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

Dear Chairs McKelvey, Kawakami and Committee members:

The Electrical Contractors Association of Hawaii (ECAH) is a non-profit association consisting of electrical contractors doing business in the State of Hawaii. ECAH **strongly supports** the intent and purpose of HB 78.

The enactment of Chapter 444 HRS provides for three classifications of licenses for contractors:

- "A" General Engineering Contractor
- "B" General Building Contractor
- "C" Specialty Contractor

The Contractor License Board via the Administrative Rules determines the various specialty classifications.

All of the various subcontractors' classifications require an examination, qualification via experience and the payment of fees to obtain the specialty license. Currently, the "A" license automatically comes with seventeen (17) additional subcontractor specialty license and the "B" license automatically include ten (10) subcontractors license without examination, proof of experience or additional fees. These rules seem grossly unfair to specialty contractors but when you consider that the general contractors controlled the Contractors' License Board at the time of enactment, one can assume the reasons for these rules would favor the "A" and "B" contractors. At the same time, a specialty contractor must

qualify for by examination, experience and fees for each specialty license. This measure simply corrects an inconsistency that has been in place for so many years. When you look at the automatic specialty licenses that come with the "A" and "B" contractors' licenses, for public safety and consistency in the work product, why would you not require the contractor to provide the proof of experience, examination and fees that is required for any single specialty license. If you examine the list of specialty licenses that come automatically with the general engineering and general building license, anyone would question whether any contractor has the experience and qualification to perform all of the trades. The same requirements for any specialty license should apply to all applicants and license holders.

Any opposition to this measure will argue that the status quo has been in place for so many years that it doesn't require any changes since it hasn't been a problem. At the same time, any one applying for any specialty license must comply with the new requirements in order to obtain a new license and there are no automatics associated with a single specialty license. The same should apply with the general engineering and general building license.

The intent and purpose of H.B. 78 further clarify and correct the inequities presently in place and does affect any rights of those applying before the effective date of this Act.

Based on the above, ECAH **strongly supports** the passage of H.B. 78 and urge the committee to move this bill forward.

A list of the automatic specialty licenses included with the "A" and "B" contractor's licenses is shown below.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this issue.

List of Licenses

"A" License

1. C-3 asphalt, paving and surfacing;
2. C-9 cesspool;
3. C-10 scaffolding;
4. C-17 excavating, grading and trenching;
5. C-24 building, moving and wrecking;
6. C-31 cement concrete;
7. C-32 ornamental guardrail and fencing;
8. C-35 pile driving, pile and caisson drilling and foundation;
9. C-37a sewer and drain line;
10. C-37b irrigation and lawn sprinkler systems;
11. C-38 post tensioning;
12. C-43 sewer, sewage disposal, drain and pipe laying
13. C-49 swimming pool;
14. C-56 welding;
15. C-57a pumps installation;
16. C-57b injection wells;
17. C-61 solar energy systems

"B": License

1. C-5 cabinet, millwork and carpentry remodeling and repairs;
2. C-6 carpentry;
3. C-10 scaffolding;
4. C-12 drywall;
5. C-24 building moving and wrecking;
6. C-25 institutional and commercial equipment;
7. C-31a cement concrete;
8. C-32a wood and vinyl fencing;
9. C-42a aluminum and other metal shingles;
10. C-42b wood shingles and wood stakes

kawakami2 - Rise

LATE

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 4:04 PM
To: CPCtestimony
Cc: suiteness@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB78 on Feb 4, 2013 14:30PM*

HB78

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for CPC on Feb 4, 2013 14:30PM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Annie Suite	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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kawakami2 - Rise

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HB78

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for CPC on Feb 4, 2013 14:30PM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Greg Thielen	Complete Construction Services	Oppose	No

Comments: Please do not pass this bill out of your committee. This bill is designed to enrich a few at the cost of many. This bill will hurt small business and consumers.

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