

A Bill for an Act Relating to Electrical Contractors.

*Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Hawaii:*

SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the construction and maintenance of overhead and underground high voltage power lines with distribution and transmission voltages require the specialized skills of electrical workers, such as journeymen linemen, foremen, and general foreman, who are all trained certified journeyman linemen. To address a need for individuals qualified to work with high voltage power lines, the legislature enacted Act 65, Session Laws of Hawaii 2013 (Act 65). Act 65 provides a limited exemption from electrician licensing requirements for individuals employed by electrical contractors who are retained by a public utility within the State to perform high voltage work for the public utility and who are deemed qualified by the public utility. However, Act 65 sunsets on June 30, 2018. The legislature further finds that as Hawaii continues to experience a shortage of electricians, splicers, and linemen in the State who are experienced and qualified to work with high voltage, it is necessary to extend the sunset date of Act 65.

The purpose of this Act is to:

- (1) Extend the sunset date of Act 65 for an additional five years; and
- (2) Require the board of electricians and plumbers to submit reports to the legislature related to high voltage work.

SECTION 2. Act 65, Session Laws of Hawaii 2013, is amended by amending section 4 to read as follows:

“SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval; provided that on June 30, ~~[2018,]~~ 2023, this Act shall be repealed and section 448E-13, Hawaii Revised Statutes, shall be reenacted in the form in which it read on the day before the effective date of this Act.”

SECTION 3. The board of electricians and plumbers shall submit reports to the legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the regular sessions of 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, and 2023. The reports shall include but not be limited to the following:

- (1) Any programs in the State that offer vocational training for licensed electricians to perform high voltage electrical work;
- (2) Availability of continuing education, training, or both, necessary for licensed electricians to acquire or keep current those skills related to performing high voltage work;
- (3) The number of licensed electricians in the State qualified to perform high voltage electrical work; and
- (4) Opportunities for growth in the high voltage work subspecialty.

SECTION 4. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on June 29, 2018.

(Approved June 27, 2018.)