74th OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY - 2007 Regular Session MEASURE: HB 2475 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY CARRIER: Rep. Berger

House Committee on Business and Labor

REVENUE: No revenue impact FISCAL: No fiscal impact

Action: Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed

Vote: 7 - 0 - 0

Yeas: Berger, Edwards C., Esquivel, Holvey, Rosenbaum, Smith P., Schaufler

Nays: 0 Exc.: 0

Prepared By: Theresa Van Winkle, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 2/26, 4/25

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Allows the Department of Consumer and Business Services, in consultation with the Electrical and Elevator Board, to adopt rules regarding the usage of a written request by a licensed supervising electrician as authority to energize electrical installation.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Provisions of the measure
- Reasons for an electrician to energize an electrical installation versus a utility

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Clarifies that the Department of Consumer and Business Services can adopt administrative rules regarding the provisions of the measure.

BACKGROUND: Current statute establishes that an electrical contractor, through their supervising electrician, can order an electric utility to energize a service for an electrical installation when there is no inspection. This frequently occurs when there is a service change on someone's house, restoring electricity after a storm, or in a rural area where the installation needs to be re-energized but there is no time for an inspection. In these cases, the licensed supervising electrician performs the electrical installation and notifies the utility and the municipality about the installation, laying the groundwork for an inspection to take place. However, there are no rules or statutes which regulate this practice, resulting in inconsistencies from one utility to another in regards to temporarily waiving the inspection requirement or inspecting the system after it is re-energized.

HB 2475 A establishes the groundwork for developing a consistent method of handling this issue by giving the Department of Consumer and Business Services the authority to adopt rules which would regulate a licensed supervising electrician as adequate authority for energizing an electrical installation.