

HB 2544 -1 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Business and Labor

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Meeting Dates: 2/15

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Allows issuance of electrical permit to electrical contractor contracting for services of general supervising electrician. Allows part-time employment of general supervising electrician by electrical contractor. Allows general supervising contractor to provide services under contract to electrical contractor.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-1 Specifies the licensed general supervising electrician must be employed on a continuous basis by the electrical contractor or under contract for continuous services to the electrical contractor.

BACKGROUND:

The purpose of the Electrical Safety Law is to protect the health and safety of Oregonians from the danger of electrically caused shocks, fires and explosions and to protect property from the hazard of electrically caused fires and explosions. The Electrical Safety Law (ORS 479.510 to 470.945) is intended to provide procedures to determine where and by whom electrical installations are made and where electrical products are sold, to assure the public that persons making electrical installations in this state are experienced and trained, and to assure the public that electrical installations meet minimum safety standards and that electrical products meet electrical product safety standards. The Department of Consumer and Business Services and the Electrical and Elevator Board are responsible for administering and enforcing the Electrical Safety Law. Fees collected in connection with issuance of permits and electrical licenses and collection of civil penalties defray the cost of administration and enforcement.

Under current law, an electrical permit can be issued to a licensed electrical contractor or the contractor's designated agent. The permit application must include a signed statement that the electrical contractor's general supervising electrician will sign the permit before an inspection is requested. The permit becomes void if the supervising electrician's employment ends before the electrical installation is completed.