

SB 1563 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Business and Labor

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Meeting Dates: 2/17, 2/19

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Allows limited renewable energy technician (LRET) to install and repair wiring and electrical products in renewable electrical energy generation system not exceeding 50 kilowatts AC. Allows LRET to make all DC wiring and DC connections up to load side of inverter and all AC wiring and AC connections to termination of factory-provided interconnecting cables outside of distribution panelboard of renewable electrical energy generation system not exceeding 50 kilowatts AC. Takes effect 91st day following adjournment *sine die*.

No fiscal or revenue impacts.

Senate vote: 28-0

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Technological advances in solar energy generation systems

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Current statute prohibits a person from performing work on an electrical installation without holding a proper license issued by the Department of Consumer and Business Services. The department administers a series of individual electrical licenses, each of which grants qualified applicants a specified scope of work. A General Journeyman Electrician (Journeyman) license requires completion of a four-year apprenticeship and allows the holder to perform work on all types of electrical installations. A Limited Renewable Energy Technician (LRET) license requires completion of a two-year apprenticeship and allows the holder to perform work on renewable electrical systems not exceeding 25 kilowatts AC up to the load side of the inverter. A Journeyman or other licensee is required to complete the AC side of a renewable energy installation.

Senate Bill 1563-A increases the maximum size of renewable energy systems on which an LRET may perform work from 25 kilowatts AC to 50 kilowatts AC, including all DC wiring and connections up to the load side of an inverter and all AC wiring and connections to the termination of factory-provided interconnecting cables that are outside of a distribution panelboard.