Senate Bill 338

Sponsored by Senator GOLDEN, Representative MARSH (Presession filed.)

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure as introduced.

Amends requirements for limited renewable energy technician license.
Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to the limited renewable energy technician license; amending ORS 479.630; and prescribing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

SECTION 1. ORS 479.630 is amended to read:

479.630. If [the] a person pays the applicable application fee required under ORS 479.840 and complies with ORS 479.510 to 479.945 and the rules adopted under ORS 455.117 and 479.510 to 479.945, the Department of Consumer and Business Services shall issue:

(1) An electrical contractor's license to a person engaging in or carrying on a business of making electrical installations.

(2) A general supervising electrician's license to a person who:

(a) Passes a written examination prepared by the Electrical and Elevator Board and administered by the department; and

(b) Submits proof satisfactory to the board that the person has had at least four years of experience as a general journeyman electrician or its equivalent, as determined by the board by rule, in installing, maintaining and repairing electrical wires and equipment.

(3) A limited supervising electrician's license to a person who qualifies under this subsection.

A person licensed under this subsection is authorized to supervise the class of electrical work included in the branch of the electrical trade and for which the person has passed the examination administered by the department. A person qualifies under this subsection if the person:

(a) Passes a written examination prepared by the board and administered by the department; and

(b) Submits proof satisfactory to the board that the person has had at least four years of specialized experience in a recognized branch of the electrical trade on the journeyman level.

(4) A general journeyman electrician's license to a person who:

(a) Passes a written examination prepared by the board and administered by the department; and

(b) Submits proof satisfactory to the board that:

(A) The person has had at least four years of general experience as an apprentice or its equivalent, as determined by the board by rule, in installing, maintaining and repairing electrical wires and equipment, including not fewer than 1,000 hours in wiring on single or multifamily dwelling units; or

(B) If the person is licensed as a limited residential electrician under subsection (14) of this

NOTE: Matter in boldfaced type in an amended section is new; matter [italic and bracketed] is existing law to be omitted.
New sections are in boldfaced type.

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section, subsequent to receiving that license, the person has worked for at least two years as a limited residential electrician and subsequent to those two years has completed an additional two years’ experience as an apprentice or its equivalent, as determined by the board by rule, for that period of apprenticeship time worked exclusively in installing, maintaining and repairing electrical wires and equipment in the commercial and industrial branches of the electrical trade under the supervision of a licensed electrical contractor.

(5) A limited journeyman electrician’s license to a person who qualifies under this subsection. A person licensed under this subsection is authorized to perform the class of electrical work included in the branch of the electrical trade for which the person has passed the examination administered by the department. A person qualifies under this subsection if the person:

(a) Passes a written examination prepared by the board and administered by the department; and

(b)(A) Except as provided in subparagraph (B) of this paragraph, submits proof satisfactory to the board that the person has had at least four years of specialized experience as an apprentice or its equivalent, as determined by the board by rule, in a recognized branch of the electrical trade; or

(B) If applying for licensing as a limited journeyman sign electrician or limited journeyman stage electrician, submits proof satisfactory to the board that the person has had at least two years of specialized experience as an apprentice or its equivalent, as determined by the board by rule, in the sign or stage branch of the electrical trade.

(6) A limited elevator journeyman license to a person who qualifies under this subsection. A person licensed under this subsection is authorized to install, maintain and repair elevators, including all electrical and mechanical systems. A person qualifies under this subsection if the person has completed an elevator apprenticeship program, including both electrical and mechanical training components, approved by the board by rule and the person submits an application for licensure to the board in writing. A person issued a license under this subsection is exempt from continuing education requirements established under ORS 455.117 and 479.680.

(7) An electrical apprentice’s license to a person who has complied with ORS 660.002 to 660.210 as an electrical apprentice.

(8) An electrical apprentice’s license to a trainee toward a limited residential electrician’s license who has complied with ORS 660.002 to 660.210 as an electrical apprentice.

(9) An electrical apprentice’s license to a trainee toward a limited journeyman’s license in a recognized branch of the electrical trade who is employed by an employer who also:

(a) Employs a holder of either a general journeyman electrician’s license or a limited journeyman electrician’s license; and

(b) Conducts an electrical training program in a recognized branch of the electrical trade approved by the board as being a training program that will adequately prepare the trainee for the limited journeyman’s license.

(10) A limited maintenance electrician’s license to a person who qualifies under this subsection. A person licensed under this subsection is authorized to maintain, repair and replace electrical installations, including electrical components, required on the premises of industrial plants, and maintain, repair and replace electrical installations on systems that are less than 600 volts phase to phase, including electrical components, required on the premises of commercial office buildings, buildings occupied by the state or a local government entity or facilities designated by the board. The following apply to this subsection:

(a) A person qualifies under this subsection if the person:
(A) Passes a written examination prepared by the board and administered by the department on repair, replacement and maintenance of equipment of the type and nature normally used in an industrial plant, commercial office building or government building and on the use of testing equipment; and

(B)(i) Completes a two-year training program approved by the board that provides for training and supervision of the trainee or apprentice; or

(ii) Submits proof satisfactory to the board that the person has had sufficient experience and related educational training in the repair, replacement and maintenance of electrical wiring and equipment of the type and nature used in an industrial plant, commercial office building or government building, as determined by the board or by an appropriate local apprenticeship committee recognized by the State Apprenticeship and Training Council.

(b) An annual inspection of the premises upon which electrical work is performed by persons licensed under this subsection [shall] must be made by the electrical inspector for an annual fee determined by the board by rule, based upon the time required for the inspection, payable to the department.

(c) A person licensed under this subsection may be employed directly by the owner, or owner's agent, of any government building or commercial office building. A building owner or owner's agent need not be licensed under this section to supervise a limited maintenance electrician.

(d) The department, in consultation with the board, shall adopt rules defining government buildings and commercial office buildings subject to this subsection.

(11) A limited building maintenance electrician's license to a person who qualifies under this subsection. The following apply to this subsection:

(a) A person licensed under this subsection is authorized to maintain, repair and replace the following electrical installations required on the premises of commercial office buildings, buildings occupied by the state or a local government entity or facilities designated by the board in electrical systems not exceeding 300 volts to ground:

(A) Electrical appliances;
(B) Light switches;
(C) Light fixtures;
(D) Fans;
(E) Receptacles; and
(F) Fluorescent ballasts.

(b) A person qualifies under this subsection if the person:

(A) Passes a written examination prepared by the board and administered by the department on maintenance, repair and replacement of equipment of the type and nature normally used in a commercial office building or government building and on the use of testing equipment; and

(B) Submits proof satisfactory to the board that the person has:

(i) Had sufficient experience in the maintenance, repair and replacement of electrical wiring and equipment of the type and nature normally used in a commercial office building or government building; or

(ii) Completed a one-year training course, with classroom and on-the-job training components approved by the board, on the maintenance, repair and replacement of electrical wiring and equipment of the type and nature normally used in a commercial office building or government building.

(c) An annual inspection of the premises upon which electrical work is performed by persons licensed under this subsection [shall] must be made by the electrical inspector for an annual fee
determined by the board by rule, based upon the time required for the inspection, payable to the
department, or the inspection [shall] must be performed under an electrical master permit program.

(d) Building owners may perform work regulated by this subsection and for which a license is
required under this subsection without obtaining a license.

(e) A person who owns more than 50 percent of a corporation that controls a building is a
building owner.

(f) A person licensed under this subsection may be employed by the owner of a commercial office
building or the owner's agent. A building owner or owner's agent need not be licensed under this
section to supervise a limited building maintenance electrician.

(12) A limited maintenance specialty contractor license to a person who qualifies under this
subsection. A person licensed under this subsection is authorized to engage in the electrical work
related to the repair, service, maintenance, installation or replacement of existing, built-in or per-
manently connected appliances, fluorescent ballasts or similar equipment and to employ individuals
to engage in that work. This subsection does not authorize the installation of appliances, ballasts
or other equipment if there is no existing installation of similar equipment. A person qualifies under
this subsection if the person:

(a) Submits proof satisfactory to the board that the person has had sufficient experience in the
type of work permitted under the license issued under this subsection; and

(b) Maintains with the board a current list of all individuals employed by the person to engage
in work permitted under this subsection.

(13) A limited pump installation specialty contractor license to a person who qualifies under this
subsection. A person licensed under this subsection is authorized to engage in electrical work re-
lated to the testing, repair, service, maintenance, installation or replacement of new or existing
pump equipment for potable or irrigation water systems, sump pumps, effluent pumps and ground
water pumps on residential and agricultural property and to employ individuals to engage in such
work. A person qualifies under this subsection if the person:

(a) Submits proof satisfactory to the board that the person has had sufficient experience in the
type of work permitted under the license issued under this subsection; and

(b) Maintains with the board a current list of all individuals employed by the person to engage
in work permitted under this subsection.

(14) A limited residential electrician's license to a person who qualifies under this subsection.
A person licensed under this subsection is authorized to perform the class of electrical work in-
cluded in the branch of the electrical trade for which the person has passed the examination ad-
ministered by the department and approved by the board. However, a person licensed under this
subsection shall perform the electrical work allowed by the license only on single and multifamily
dwelling units not exceeding three floors above grade. For purposes of this subsection, the first floor
of a building is the floor that is designed for human habitation and that has 50 percent or more of
its perimeter level with or above finished grade of the exterior wall line. A person qualifies under
this subsection if the person:

(a) Has received the same number of hours of electrical safety training as required by rule for
an electrical apprentice or its equivalent and has received training in electrical theory;

(b) Submits documented proof to the board of at least two years of apprenticeship or trainee
experience in residential wiring of single and multifamily dwelling units or its equivalent, as deter-
mined by the board by rule; and

(c) Passes a written examination prepared by the board and administered by the department.
(15) A limited renewable energy contractor license to a person who:
   (a) Employs at least one full-time renewable energy technician; and
   (b) Does not engage in electrical work other than work that may be performed by a limited
       renewable energy technician. A limited renewable energy contractor may not make, direct, supervise
       or control the making of an electrical installation unless the contractor is licensed for that activity.
   (16) A limited renewable energy technician license to a person who qualifies under this sub-
       section. A person qualifies for licensing as a limited renewable energy technician if the person
       completes a two-year apprenticeship program and passes an examination approved by the board. A
       person licensed under this subsection may, while in the employ of a licensed electrical contractor
       or a limited renewable energy contractor:

       [(a) Install, maintain, replace or repair electrical wiring and electrical products that convey or op-
           erate on renewable electrical energy not exceeding 25 kilowatts AC; and]

       [(b) Make electrical installations not exceeding 25 kilowatts AC:]

       [(A) On devices using renewable energy involving wind, solar energy systems, micro-
           hydroelectricity, photovoltaic systems or fuel cells.]

       [(B) Up to the load side of an inverter.]

       [(C) To connect generators that are sized to facilitate the inverter in an off-grid system.]

   (a) Install, maintain, replace or repair electrical wiring and electrical products that con-
       vey energy from or operate on renewable electrical energy generation systems that use wind,
       solar energy systems, microhydroelectricity, photovoltaic systems or fuel cells and that do
       not exceed 50 kilowatts AC; and

   (b) Make, on renewable electrical energy generation systems that use wind, solar energy
       systems, microhydroelectricity, photovoltaic systems or fuel cells and that do not exceed 50
       kilowatts AC, these connections:

       (A) All DC wiring and DC connections to the load side of an inverter;

       (B) All AC wiring and AC connections to the termination of the factory-provided inter-
           connecting cables that are outside of a distribution panelboard; and

       (C) Connections to generators that are sized to facilitate the inverter in an off-grid sys-
           tem.

**SECTION 2.** This 2021 Act takes effect on the 91st day after the date on which the 2021
regular session of the Eighty-first Legislative Assembly adjourns sine die.