

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2025

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Legislative Document

No. 545

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H.P. 364

House of Representatives, February 11, 2025

**An Act to Exempt a Person Making Electrical Installations in the  
Person's Existing Bona Fide Personal Abode from Licensing and  
Permitting Requirements**

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Submitted by the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation pursuant to Joint Rule 204.

Reference to the Committee on Housing and Economic Development suggested and ordered printed.

*Robert B. Hunt*

ROBERT B. HUNT  
Clerk

Presented by Representative ROBERTS of South Berwick.

1 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

2 **Sec. 1. 32 MRSA §1102-C, sub-§5**, as enacted by PL 2017, c. 198, §6, is amended  
3 to read:

4 **5. Exceptions to the permitting requirement.** In addition to the exception for a  
5 newly constructed single-family dwelling set forth in section 1102-D, a permit from the  
6 board is not required for:

7 A. An electrical installation in a single-family dwelling performed by a licensed  
8 electrician qualified under this chapter;

9 A-1. An electrical installation performed by a person making electrical installations in  
10 an existing single-family dwelling occupied by that person or to be occupied by that  
11 person as the person's bona fide personal abode;

12 B. The electrical work and equipment employed in connection with the construction,  
13 installation, operation, repair or maintenance of any utility by a public utility, or by a  
14 contractor working on behalf of a public utility as set forth in section 1102, subsection  
15 1-C, in rendering its authorized service or in any way incidental thereto;

16 C. The electrical work and equipment employed in connection with an aboveground  
17 electric transmission line described in section 1102, subsection 1-B;

18 D. Minor repair work, including the replacement of lamps, fuses, lighting fixtures,  
19 switches and sockets, the installation and repair of outlets, radio and other low-voltage  
20 equipment and the repair of service entrance equipment;

21 E. Electrical installations for which a permit and inspection are required by municipal  
22 resolution or ordinance under Title 30-A, section 4173;

23 F. Any electrical equipment and work, including construction, installation, operation,  
24 maintenance and repair in or about industrial or manufacturing facilities;

25 G. Any electrical equipment and work, including construction, installation, operation,  
26 maintenance and repair in, on or about other properties, equipment or buildings,  
27 residential or of any other kind, owned or operated by a person engaged in industrial  
28 or manufacturing operations provided that the work is done under the supervision of  
29 an electrical engineer or master electrician in the employ of that person;

30 H. Work performed by any person licensed under chapter 139 as an oil burner  
31 technician, subject to the restrictions of the license as issued;

32 I. Work performed by a person licensed under chapter 139 as a propane and natural  
33 gas installer, when installing propane and natural gas utilization equipment, subject to  
34 the restrictions of that person's license;

35 J. Work performed by a person licensed under chapter 49 as a plumber, except that  
36 this exception applies only to disconnection and connection of electrical conductors  
37 required in the replacement of water pumps and water heaters of the same or smaller  
38 size in residential properties; or

39 K. Work performed by a person licensed under chapter 69-C as a pump installer,  
40 except that this exception applies only to disconnection and connection of electrical  
41 conductors required in the replacement of water pumps of the same or smaller size in

1 residential properties and the installation of new water pumps and associated  
2 equipment of 3 horsepower or smaller.

3 **Sec. 2. 32 MRSA §1201-A, sub-§11**, as amended by PL 2011, c. 691, Pt. A, §34,  
4 is further amended to read:

5 **11. Wastewater treatment plants.** Wastewater treatment plants, as defined in section  
6 4171, and regular employees of wastewater treatment plants making electrical installations  
7 in or about wastewater treatment plants; or

8 **Sec. 3. 32 MRSA §1201-A, sub-§12**, as enacted by PL 2011, c. 691, Pt. A, §35, is  
9 amended to read:

10 **12. Incidental work.** Regular employees of an owner or a lessee of real property  
11 doing incidental electrical work on that property or incidental electrical work by a person  
12 whose occupation involves miscellaneous jobs of manual labor. For purposes of this  
13 subsection, "incidental electrical work" means minor electrical work, limited to light  
14 fixtures and switches, that occurs by chance and that does not require electrical installation  
15 calculations; or

16 **Sec. 4. 32 MRSA §1201-A, sub-§13** is enacted to read:

17 **13. Personal abode.** Notwithstanding the requirements set forth in section 1102-D  
18 for electrical installations in newly constructed single-family dwellings, a person making  
19 electrical installations in an existing single-family dwelling occupied by that person or to  
20 be occupied by that person as the person's bona fide personal abode, as long as the  
21 installation conforms with the standards of the National Electrical Code or other standards  
22 approved by the board.

23 **SUMMARY**

24 This bill reinstates the exception, inadvertently omitted from Public Law 2017, chapter  
25 198, allowing a person, without first obtaining a license or a permit from the Electricians'  
26 Examining Board, to make electrical installations in an existing single-family residence  
27 occupied by that person or to be occupied by that person as that person's personal abode  
28 that previously existed in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 32, section 1105, former  
29 subsection 5. The installation must conform with the National Electrical Code and other  
30 standards adopted by the board.