

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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M
R. of S.

L.D. 1909

DATE: 3/15/94

(Filing No. H-847)

BUSINESS LEGISLATION

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**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
116TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1400, L.D. 1909, Bill, "An Act to Allow for Reciprocal Licensure for Electricians in the State"

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the title and before the statement of fact and inserting in its place the following:

Emergency preamble. Whereas, Acts of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, there are certain electricians living in Maine who are licensed in other states and unable to obtain a Maine license; and

Whereas, the inability to obtain a license has created a major financial hardship for these electricians; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,

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

Sec. 1. 32 MRSA §1153, as amended by PL 1987, c. 735, §52, is further amended to read:

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

R of S.

§1153. Meetings; rules

The board shall hold regular meetings at least twice a year. Additional meetings shall may be held as necessary to conduct the business of the board, and may be convened at the call of the chairman chair or 4 of the board members. At the first meeting in each calendar year, the 6 appointive members shall choose one appointive member to act as chairman chair. A quorum of the board shall ~~consist~~ consists of not less than 4 members. The board shall keep correct records of all its proceedings and; may adopt, pursuant to the Maine Administrative Procedure Act, Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter II, such rules as it shall ~~deem~~ determines necessary for the holding of examinations and for carrying out this chapter; ~~provide for the licensing requirements of Title 8, section 653;~~ and shall provide for reciprocity of licensing with similar boards of other states which ~~maintain electrical standards at least equal to those of this State~~ as required to implement section 1206. ~~Reciprocal licenses shall not be denied on the basis of current residency.~~

Sec. 2. 32 MRSA §1206 is enacted to read:

§1206. Reciprocity

The board shall issue a license to any person who files a sworn application, who is licensed under the laws of another state or territory of the United States and who has been licensed and actively engaged in an electrician's work for a minimum of 6 years, as long as that state or territory has licensing standards and experience requirements at least equivalent to this State's and as long as that state or territory grants similar privileges to persons licensed under this chapter. Reciprocal licenses may not be denied on the basis of current residency.

Notwithstanding other provisions of this section, the board, upon receiving an application for a reciprocal license, may waive the 576 hours of study required for a journeyman or master license pursuant to section 1202. The board may require the applicant to submit such written evidence, verified by oath, as it determines necessary to support the application.

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this Act takes effect when approved.'

Further amend the bill by inserting at the end before the statement of fact the following:

FISCAL NOTE

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The Electricians' Examining Board will incur some minor additional costs to amend certain rules and administrative processes pertaining to licensure reciprocity. These costs can be absorbed within the board's existing budgeted resources.

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Changes in licensure reciprocity requirements may result in insignificant increases of dedicated revenue to the Electricians' Examining Board from license fees.'

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STATEMENT OF FACT

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Currently, the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 32, section 1153 allows boards to license electricians who are licensed by states with requirements equivalent to this State's.

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The original bill requires the Electricians' Examining Board to license these electricians as long as they have at least 5 years' experience.

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This amendment requires that, for licensure in Maine, an electrician with a license from another state must have at least 6 years' experience, which, with full-time employment, works out to the 12,000 hours of experience required by Maine for a master license. It allows the board, when comparing Maine requirements with another state's, to waive the 576 hours of study that the State requires for a journeyman or master license. It allows the board to recognize a license from another state only if that state recognizes Maine licenses. Finally, the amendment removes a reference to a repealed section of law.

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