

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LAWS
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE

AS PASSED BY THE

ONE HUNDRED AND NINTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

January 3, 1979 to June 15, 1979

PUBLISHED BY THE DIRECTOR OF LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH IN ACCORDANCE WITH MAINE REVISED STATUTES ANNOTATED, TITLE 3, SECTION 164, SUBSECTION 6.

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E. For a candidate for county office, at least ~~150~~ 300 and not more than ~~200~~ 400 voters;

F. For a candidate for the office of State Senator, at least ~~100~~ 200 and not more than ~~150~~ 300 voters; and

G. For a candidate for the office of State Representative, at least ~~25~~ 50 and not more than ~~40~~ 80 voters.

Effective September 14, 1979

CHAPTER 277

H. P. 872 — L. D. 1077

AN ACT to Establish a Voluntary Training and Certification Program for Installers of Solar Energy Equipment in Maine.

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

Sec. 1. 5 MRSA § 5005, sub-§ 1, ¶ 0 is enacted to read:

O. In cooperation with the Plumbers' Examining Board, establish a voluntary training and certification program for installers of solar energy equipment.

Sec. 2. 32 MRSA c. 85 is enacted to read:

CHAPTER 85

TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

FOR INSTALLERS OF SOLAR ENERGY EQUIPMENT

§ 8001. Legislative findings and intent

The Legislature finds that the training and certification of installers of solar energy equipment would be beneficial for the health and safety of the public and would enable the consumer to have confidence in the proper installation of solar energy systems in Maine. The purpose of this chapter, therefore, is to establish a voluntary training and certification program for solar equipment installers in order to assure the quality workmanship necessary to bring about increased utilization of solar energy and the public health and safety thereof.

§ 8002. Installation training

The Office of Energy Resources shall establish a voluntary training program for installers of solar energy equipment.

This training program shall consist of a minimum of 15 hours of instruction in the various aspects of solar energy system installation. The course content for the installation training program shall be developed by the Office of Energy Resources, in cooperation with the Plumbers' Examining Board. The Office of Energy Resources shall, in accordance with the Maine Administrative Procedure Act, Title 5, chapter 375, promulgate all necessary rules pertaining to qualifications, certification and recertification of solar energy and inspection thereof, consistent with this chapter and Title 5, section 5005, subsection 1, paragraph O.

§ 8003. Installer certification

A solar energy installer's certificate, authorized by the Director of the Office of Energy Resources, shall be issued to those individuals who meet the following requirements:

1. Training course and Examination. Attendance of a minimum of 15 hours at an Office of Energy Resources' sponsored installation training course and successful completion of a written examination encompassing solar energy installation techniques;
2. Experience. Proof of at least one year of experience in the installation of solar energy equipment and proof of installation of at least 5 solar energy units, subject to an approved inspection by the Office of Energy Resources; or
3. Competency in installation. Completion of a solar energy installation training course which is determined by the Office of Energy Resources to equip an individual with the skills necessary to achieve competency in the installation of solar energy equipment.

§ 8004. Revocation or suspension of certification

The Office of Energy Resources shall investigate or cause to be investigated all complaints against certified solar energy installers and all cases of violations of this chapter. The Office of Energy Resources shall have the authority pursuant to Title 5, section 10004, to suspend or revoke a certification issued by it, or the Administrative Court may suspend or revoke the certification of a solar energy installer who is found guilty of:

1. Fraud. The practice of any fraud or deceit in obtaining a certification pursuant to this chapter;
2. Negligence. Any gross negligence, incompetence or misconduct in the installation of any solar energy equipment;

3. **Violation.** Violation of any of the provisions of this chapter; or

4. **Conviction of crime.** Any crime for which the maximum term of imprisonment which may be imposed is equal to or exceeds one year.

§ 8005. **Penalty provisions**

Any person who falsely claims to the public to be a certified solar energy installer commits a civil violation for which a forfeiture of not more than \$500 may be adjudged.

Effective September 14, 1979

CHAPTER 278
S. P. 390 — L. D. 1201

AN ACT to Revise the Qualifications for Electricians.

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

32 MRSA § 1202, sub-§ 1, ¶ A, as amended by PL 1975, c. 374, § 2, is further amended to read:

A. For a journeyman electrician's or limited license at least 2 years' service as an apprentice or helper electrician **or at least 2 years' experience in electrical installations as defined in section 1101**, except that the board may give such credit as it deems justified toward such service for satisfactory completion of a course of instruction in the trade in a school approved by the board; provided, however, that any person qualified under Title 20, section 2361, shall be eligible to write the journeyman's examination. For a master electrician's license at least one year's service as a journeyman electrician or at least 3 years' service as an apprentice or helper electrician **or at least 3 years' experience in electrical installations as defined in section 1101**;

Effective September 14, 1979

CHAPTER 279
H. P. 411 — L. D. 528

AN ACT Authorizing the State to Contract with Tufts University School of Veterinary Medicine.