

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2020 REGULAR SESSION

Introduced

House Bill 4185

BY DELEGATES FOSTER, WAXMAN, JENNINGS, SYPOLT,

BUTLER, CADLE, BIBBY, HARDY, PORTERFIELD,

KESSINGER AND FAST

[Introduced January 14, 2020; Referred to the
Committee on Government Organization]

1 A BILL to amend and reenact §29-3B-3 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating
 2 to exempting from licensure as an electrician a person who installs low voltage electrical
 3 wiring.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

ARTICLE 3B. SUPERVISION OF ELECTRICIANS.

§29-3B-3. Exemptions; nonapplicability of license requirements; legislative rules for limited reciprocity.

1 (a) This article does not apply to and no license may be required for: (1) A person who
 2 performs electrical work with respect to any property owned or leased by that person; (2) a person
 3 who performs electrical work at any manufacturing plant or other industrial establishment as an
 4 employee of the person, firm or corporation operating the plant or establishment; (3) a person
 5 who performs electrical work while employed by an employer who engages in the business of
 6 selling appliances at retail, so long as such electrical work is performed incident to the installation
 7 or repair of appliances sold by the employer; (4) a person who, while employed by a public utility
 8 or its affiliate, performs electrical work in connection with the furnishing of public utility service; ~~or~~
 9 (5) any government employee performing electrical work on government property; or (6) any
 10 person who installs low voltage electrical (Fire and Burglar Alarm Communication Systems) with
 11 only low voltage wiring, 80 volts or less, and directly related wiring. Wiring is directly related if it:

12 (1) Originates at the load-side terminals of a disconnecting means or junction box that has
 13 been installed, complete with line-side connections by others for the specific purpose of supply to
 14 the low voltage wiring system involved;

15 (2) Is permanently and legibly marked to identify the low voltage wiring system supplied;
 16 and

17 (3) Is not installed in a location considered as hazardous under the National Electrical
 18 Code.

19 (b)(1) Notwithstanding any other provision of this article to the contrary, a journeyman or

20 master electrician license may be issued for a person who is a former resident of this state, who
21 formerly held an electrician's license issued by this state, who has obtained an equivalent
22 electrician license from another state, and who returns to this state as a permanent resident,
23 without requiring the person to meet the application or examination requirements that would
24 otherwise be imposed on the person by the requirements of this article when the issuance of the
25 license is permitted by legislative rules promulgated pursuant to the provisions of this subsection.

26 (2) The State Fire Marshal shall propose rules for legislative approval in accordance with
27 the provisions of article three, chapter twenty-nine-a of this code to provide for the licensing of
28 electricians with equivalent qualifications described in subdivision (1) of this subsection.
29 Notwithstanding any other provision of this code to the contrary, the legislative rules described in
30 this subsection may not be filed as emergency rules.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to exempt from licensure as an electrician a person who only installs low voltage wiring.

Strike-throughs indicate language that would be stricken from a heading or the present law and underscoring indicates new language that would be added.