
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO CONTRACTORS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that electrical
2 contractors are responsible for managing the technical aspects
3 of electrical work. The legislature also finds that electrical
4 work may pose hazards related to public and worker safety.
5 Therefore, individuals and entities applying to be licensed as
6 electrical contractors should demonstrate the necessary level of
7 training and knowledge to possess a trade license to perform
8 electrical work in accordance with chapter 448E, Hawaii Revised
9 Statutes.

10 The purpose of this Act is to protect the public and
11 promote worker safety by requiring electrical contractors to
12 possess a trade license to perform electrical work in Hawaii or
13 an electrical engineering degree from a duly accredited college.

14 SECTION 2. Chapter 444, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
15 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
16 and to read as follows:



1 "§444- Licensing of electrical contractors, pole and
2 line contractors, high voltage electrical contractors, and
3 electronic systems contractors; minimum qualifications. (a)
4 Effective July 1, 2017, any person applying for a license as an
5 electrical contractor, pole and line contractor, or high voltage
6 electrical contractor shall possess, at a minimum, a journey
7 worker electrician license pursuant to chapter 448E, or an
8 electrical engineering degree from a duly accredited college.

9 (b) Effective July 1, 2017, any person applying for a
10 license as an electronic systems contractor shall possess, at a
11 minimum, a journey worker specialty electrician license pursuant
12 to chapter 448E, or an electrical engineering degree from a duly
13 accredited college.

14 (c) All employees employed by a public utility or a
15 community antennae television company shall be exempt from this
16 section; provided that the public utility is located within the
17 state and operating under a franchise or charter granted by the
18 state."

19 SECTION 3. Section 444-11.1, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
20 amended to read as follows:



1 "§444-11.1 Requirements to maintain license. (a) A
2 licensed contractor shall have and maintain in full force and
3 effect the following:

4 (1) Workers' compensation insurance; unless the licensee
5 is authorized to act as a self-insurer under chapter
6 386 or is excluded from the requirements of chapter
7 386;

8 (2) Liability insurance from an insurance company or
9 agency for comprehensive personal injury and property
10 damage liability; and

11 (3) Bond when required by the board, under section 444-
12 16.5.

13 (b) Failure, refusal, or neglect of any licensed
14 contractor to maintain in full force and effect, the applicable
15 workers' compensation insurance, liability insurance, or bond
16 shall cause the automatic forfeiture of the license of the
17 contractor effective as of the date of expiration or
18 cancellation of the contractor's workers' compensation
19 insurance, liability insurance, or bond.



1 (c) The board shall not restore the forfeited license
2 until satisfactory proof of continuous insurance and bond
3 coverages is submitted to the board as required by this section.

4 (d) Failure to restore a license within sixty days after
5 the date of forfeiture shall result in the forfeiture of all
6 fees and shall require the person to apply as a new applicant.

7 (e) The board may assess a fee not to exceed \$1,000,
8 impose a bond, or restrict the license as a condition for the
9 restoration of a license forfeited pursuant to this section.

10 (f) A licensee may, within sixty days after receipt of the
11 notification of the forfeiture, request an administrative
12 hearing to review the forfeiture pursuant to chapter 91.

13 (g) Effective July 1, 2017, in addition to the
14 requirements set forth in this section, electrical contractors,
15 pole and line contractors, high voltage electrical contractors,
16 and electronic systems contractors who are licensed under this
17 chapter shall meet the requirements of section 444- ."

18 SECTION 4. Nothing in this Act shall be construed to
19 prohibit a general contractor from performing customary duct or
20 conduit work as part of site preparation.

21 SECTION 5. New statutory material is underscored.



1 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2017.

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H.B. NO. 976

Report Title:

Contractors; Electrical Work; Licensing Requirements

Description:

Requires any person applying for a license as an electrical contractor, pole and line contractor, high voltage electrical contractor, or electronic systems contractor to possess a trade license or an electrical engineering degree from an accredited college to perform electrical work in the State. Exempts employees of a public utility.

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