



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ACT MEMO

2013 Wisconsin Act 143
[2013 Assembly Bill 683]

Electricians' Licensing

2013 Wisconsin Act 143 relates to licensing for electricians.

The Act revises the structure for licensing the various levels of electricians, which are regulated by the Department of Safety and Professional Services (DSPS). The structure includes licensing of master and journeyman electricians, registration of electrical apprentices, and enrollment of registered electricians, with certain subcategories for residential or industrial work.

The Act also adds specific exemptions from the licensing requirements for work done by an employee in an existing manufacturing or industrial facility, work to replace switches and outlets with a rating up to 20 amperes, and volunteer work for a qualified nonprofit corporation engaged in building homes. The Act also revises the exemption under prior law for work on equipment that does not have a primarily electrical function to include work on ballasts, electric signs, and luminaires.

Additionally, the Act temporarily exempts from the licensing requirements a person who was born before January 1, 1956, and who has at least 15 years of experience in electrical work. The Act requires DSPS to promulgate rules for a licensing option that is specific to this age and experience group. Upon promulgation of this licensing option, the exemption from licensing is eliminated and a person in this age and experience group is required to hold this or another type of valid license for electrical work.

Lastly, the Act specifies that DSPS may enter into a reciprocity agreement with another state to recognize licensing of an electrician who has met comparable credentialing requirements.

This memo provides a brief description of the Act. For more detailed information, consult the text of the law and related legislative documents at the Legislature's Web site at: <http://www.legis.wisconsin.gov>.

One East Main Street, Suite 401 • P.O. Box 2536 • Madison, WI 53701-2536
(608) 266-1304 • Fax: (608) 266-3830 • Email: leg.council@legis.wisconsin.gov
<http://www.legis.wisconsin.gov/lc>

(OVER)

Effective date: The requirements for electricians' licensing under the Act are effective April 1, 2014.

Prepared by: Margit Kelley, Staff Attorney

March 24, 2014

MSK:jb;ty