

## **BILL ANALYSIS**

C.S.H.B. 1029  
By: Goolsby  
Licensing & Administrative Procedures  
Committee Report (Substituted)

### **BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE**

The 78<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature enacted HB 1487, creating a statewide licensing program for electricians. HB 1487 placed this electrical safety and licensing program under the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation. The 79<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature amended Chapter 1305 of the Occupations Code to correct unintended consequences that the original Texas Electrical Safety and Licensing Act created.

CSHB 1029 amends the Texas Electrical Safety and Licensing Act to correct an unintended consequence regarding plumbers that hold a license, registration, or endorsement under the Plumbing License Law (Chapter 1301 of the Occupations Code). CSHB 1029 will exempt licensed plumbers from the Texas Electrical Safety and Licensing Act in order to perform plumbing work (that plumbers have been licensed to do under the Plumbing License Law for 60 years) and requires that any work done must meet the requirements of existing electrical circuits.

### **RULEMAKING AUTHORITY**

It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, department, agency, or institution.

### **ANALYSIS**

CSHB 1029 amends Section 1305.003 of the Occupations Code by adding subsections (a) (21) to specify an exemption category for plumbers that hold a license, endorsement, or registration under the Plumbing License Law, and subsection (f) which states that any installation or replacement of a plumbing fixture or appliance must meet the requirements of existing electrical circuits.

### **EFFECTIVE DATE**

Immediately, or, if the Act does not receive the necessary vote, the Act takes effect September 1, 2007.

### **COMPARISON OF ORIGINAL TO SUBSTITUTE**

CSHB 1029 modifies the original by restoring current language in Section 1305.003(a) (5) relating to the definition of electric utility, power generation company as defined by Sections 31.002(1) and (10) of the Utilities Code, instead of Section 31.002 of the Utilities Code.

The substitute to HB 1029 clarifies that the language in Section 1305.003(a) (21) applies only to work done on existing electrical circuits.