

1-1 By: Thompson of Harris (Senate Sponsor - Garcia) H.B. No. 796
 1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 6, 2013;
 1-3 May 7, 2013, read first time and referred to Committee on Business
 1-4 and Commerce; May 16, 2013, reported adversely, with favorable
 1-5 Committee Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 8, Nays 0;
 1-6 May 16, 2013, sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-8				
1-9	X			
1-10			X	
1-11	X			
1-12	X			
1-13	X			
1-14	X			
1-15	X			
1-16	X			
1-17	X			

1-18 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR H.B. No. 796 By: Watson

1-19 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
 1-20 AN ACT

1-21 relating to the licensing of a journeyman lineman.
 1-22 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:
 1-23 SECTION 1. Section 1305.002, Occupations Code, is amended
 1-24 by redesignating existing Subdivision (12) as Subdivision (11-a)
 1-25 and adding a new Subdivision (12) to read as follows:
 1-26 (11-a) [~~(12)~~] "Executive director" means the executive
 1-27 director of the department.
 1-28 (12) "Journeyman lineman" means an individual who
 1-29 engages in electrical work involving the maintenance and operation
 1-30 of equipment associated with the transmission and distribution of
 1-31 electricity from the electricity's original source to a substation
 1-32 for further distribution.
 1-33 SECTION 2. Section 1305.102(a), Occupations Code, is
 1-34 amended to read as follows:
 1-35 (a) The executive director shall adopt rules for the
 1-36 licensing of electricians, sign electricians, electrical sign
 1-37 contractors, electrical contractors, journeyman linemen,
 1-38 residential appliance installers, and residential appliance
 1-39 installation contractors as prescribed by this chapter.
 1-40 SECTION 3. Subchapter D, Chapter 1305, Occupations Code, is
 1-41 amended by adding Section 1305.1605 to read as follows:
 1-42 Sec. 1305.1605. JOURNEYMAN LINEMAN. (a) An applicant for a
 1-43 license as a journeyman lineman must:
 1-44 (1) have at least:
 1-45 (A) 7,000 hours of training in an apprenticeship
 1-46 program approved by the United States Department of Labor; or
 1-47 (B) 3-1/2 years of experience as a journeyman
 1-48 lineman for an electric utility, electric cooperative, municipally
 1-49 owned utility, or electrical contractor in this state; and
 1-50 (2) pass a journeyman lineman examination
 1-51 administered under this chapter.
 1-52 (b) A journeyman lineman license is not required for:
 1-53 (1) a person performing work exempt under Section
 1-54 1305.003(a)(5); or
 1-55 (2) a person who:
 1-56 (A) is performing journeyman lineman work;
 1-57 (B) possesses a journeyman electrician license;
 1-58 and
 1-59 (C) is employed by an institution of higher
 1-60 education, as defined by Section 61.003, Education Code.

2-1 SECTION 4. Section 1305.168(a), Occupations Code, is
2-2 amended to read as follows:

2-3 (a) To renew a master electrician, journeyman electrician,
2-4 master sign electrician, journeyman sign electrician, maintenance
2-5 electrician, journeyman lineman, or residential wireman license,
2-6 the license holder must complete four hours of continuing education
2-7 annually.

2-8 SECTION 5. (a) Not later than January 1, 2014, the
2-9 executive director of the Texas Department of Licensing and
2-10 Regulation shall adopt rules regulating the licensing of a
2-11 journeyman lineman, as required by Section 1305.102, Occupations
2-12 Code, as amended by this Act.

2-13 (b) A person is not required to hold a license as a
2-14 journeyman lineman under Chapter 1305, Occupations Code, as amended
2-15 by this Act, before June 1, 2014.

2-16 SECTION 6. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
2-17 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
2-18 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
2-19 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
2-20 Act takes effect September 1, 2013.

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