

By: Garcia

S.B. No. 961

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the licensing and regulation of a journeyman lineman.

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

SECTION 1. Section 1305.002(12), Occupations Code, is amended to read as follows:

(12) "Journeyman lineman" means an individual who engages in electrical work involving the installation, maintenance, and operation of equipment associated with the transmission and distribution of electricity from the electricity's original source to a substation and from a substation to the point where the electricity enters a building or structure on a customer's premises for further distribution.

SECTION 2. Section 1305.101(a), Occupations Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) The executive director or commission, as appropriate, shall:

(1) by rule establish the financial responsibility requirements for electrical contractors; ~~and~~

(2) after publication of the National Electrical Code by the National Fire Protection Association every three years, adopt the revised National Electrical Code as the electrical code for the state; and

(3) after publication of the National Electrical Safety Code by the Institute of Electrical and Electronics

1 Engineers every five years, adopt the revised National Electrical  
2 Safety Code for purposes of Section 1305.162(e).

3 SECTION 3. Section 1305.162, Occupations Code, is amended  
4 by adding Subsection (e) to read as follows:

5 (e) In addition to the other requirements of this section,  
6 the department shall accept, develop, or contract for a journeyman  
7 lineman examination that tests an applicant's knowledge of:

8 (1) materials and methods used in the installation,  
9 maintenance, and operation of equipment associated with the  
10 transmission and distribution of electricity from the  
11 electricity's original source to a substation and from a substation  
12 to the point where the electricity enters a building or structure on  
13 a customer's premises for further distribution; and

14 (2) the standards prescribed by the National  
15 Electrical Safety Code as adopted by the commission.

16 SECTION 4. Section 1305.162(e), Occupations Code, as added  
17 by this Act, applies only to an examination for a journeyman lineman  
18 license administered on or after June 1, 2018. An examination for a  
19 journeyman lineman license administered before that date is  
20 governed by the law in effect on the date the examination was  
21 administered, and the former law is continued in effect for that  
22 purpose.

23 SECTION 5. Not later than March 1, 2018, the Texas  
24 Commission of Licensing and Regulation shall adopt rules necessary  
25 to implement Sections 1305.101(a)(3) and 1305.162(e), Occupations  
26 Code, as added by this Act.

27 SECTION 6. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.