

By: King of Uvalde

H.B. No. 1141

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to an exemption from licensing requirements for certain electrical work.

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

SECTION 1. Section 1305.003(a), Occupations Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) This chapter does not apply to:

(1) the installation of electrical equipment in a ship, watercraft other than a floating building, railway rolling stock, aircraft, motor vehicle, or recreational vehicle;

(2) the installation of electrical equipment underground in a mine and in self-propelled mobile surface mining machinery and its attendant electrical trailing cable;

(3) the installation of electrical equipment for generation, transformation, transmission, or distribution of power used exclusively to operate railway rolling stock or exclusively for signaling and communications purposes;

(4) the installation, maintenance, alteration, or repair of communications equipment provided by a telecommunications provider;

(5) the installation, maintenance, alteration, or repair of electrical equipment under the exclusive control of an electric utility, power generation company as defined by Sections 31.002(1) and (10), Utilities Code, electric cooperative, or

1 municipally owned utility and used for communications or metering,  
2 or for the generation, control, transformation, transmission, and  
3 distribution of electrical energy, and located:

4 (A) in a building used exclusively by a utility  
5 or power generation company for those purposes;

6 (B) outdoors on property owned or leased by the  
7 utility or power generation company;

8 (C) on public highways, streets, roads, or other  
9 public rights-of-way; or

10 (D) outdoors by established rights in vaults or  
11 on private property;

12 (6) work not specifically regulated by a municipal  
13 ordinance that is performed in or on a dwelling by a person who owns  
14 and resides in the dwelling;

15 (7) work involved in the manufacture of electrical  
16 equipment that includes the on-site and off-site manufacturing,  
17 commissioning, testing, calibrating, coordinating,  
18 troubleshooting, or evaluating of electrical equipment, the  
19 repairing or retrofitting of electrical equipment with components  
20 of the same ampacity, and the maintenance and servicing of  
21 electrical equipment within the equipment's enclosure that is  
22 performed by an authorized employee or authorized representative of  
23 an electrical equipment manufacturer and limited to the type of  
24 products manufactured by the manufacturer;

25 (8) electrical work if:

26 (A) the work is performed by a person who does not  
27 engage in electrical work for the public;

1 (B) the work is performed by a person regularly  
2 employed as a maintenance person or maintenance electrician for a  
3 business; and

4 (C) the electrical work does not involve the  
5 installation of electrical equipment during new construction as  
6 defined by rules adopted under Chapter 151, Tax Code;

7 (9) the installation, maintenance, alteration, or  
8 repair of electrical equipment or associated wiring under the  
9 exclusive control of a gas utility and used for communications or  
10 metering or for the control, transmission, or distribution of  
11 natural gas;

12 (10) thoroughfare lighting, traffic signals,  
13 intelligent transportation systems, and telecommunications  
14 controlled by a governmental entity;

15 (11) electrical connections supplying heating,  
16 ventilation, and cooling and refrigeration equipment, including  
17 any required disconnect exclusively for the equipment, if the  
18 service is performed by a licensed air conditioning and  
19 refrigeration contractor under Chapter 1302;

20 (12) the design, installation, erection, repair, or  
21 alteration of Class 1, Class 2, or Class 3 remote control,  
22 signaling, or power-limited circuits, fire alarm circuits, optical  
23 fiber cables, or communications circuits, including raceways, as  
24 defined by the National Electrical Code, that operate at less than  
25 50 volts and that are not capable of supplying or controlling more  
26 than 50 volt-amperes or 50 watts of power;

27 (13) landscape irrigation installers, as necessary to

1 perform the installation and maintenance of irrigation control  
2 systems, and landscapers, as necessary to perform the installation  
3 and maintenance of low-voltage exterior lighting and holiday  
4 lighting excluding any required power source;

5 (14) electrical work performed at a business that  
6 operates:

7 (A) a chemical plant, petrochemical plant,  
8 refinery, natural gas plant, natural gas treating plant, pipeline,  
9 or oil and gas exploration and production operation by a person who  
10 works solely for and is employed by that business; or

11 (B) a chemical plant, petrochemical plant,  
12 refinery, natural gas plant, or natural gas treatment plant by a  
13 person who under a contract of at least 12 months' duration performs  
14 electrical work for that plant and:

15 (i) the electrical work is not performed  
16 during new construction as defined by rules adopted under Chapter  
17 [151](#), Tax Code; or

18 (ii) the person is not working for a  
19 contractor that has a principal place of business in another state  
20 or territory of the United States or a foreign country;

21 (15) the installation, maintenance, alteration, or  
22 repair of elevators, escalators, or related equipment, excluding  
23 any required power source, regulated under Chapter [754](#), Health and  
24 Safety Code;

25 (16) the installation, maintenance, alteration, or  
26 repair of equipment or network facilities provided or utilized by a  
27 cable operator, as that term is defined by 47 U.S.C. Section 522, as

1 amended;

2 (17) the location, design, construction, extension,  
3 maintenance, and installation of on-site sewage disposal systems in  
4 accordance with Chapter 366, Health and Safety Code, or an on-site  
5 sewage facility installer licensed under Chapter 37, Water Code;

6 (18) electrical work performed on a building,  
7 structure, or equipment in agricultural use as defined by Section  
8 11.002, Water Code, other than the processing of an agricultural  
9 commodity;

10 (19) the installation, maintenance, alteration, or  
11 repair of well pumps and equipment in accordance with Chapter 1902;

12 (20) electrical work required for the construction and  
13 assembly of HUD-code manufactured housing or modular housing and  
14 building units, other than the installation of service entrance  
15 conductors, that is performed by a licensed manufacturer or  
16 installer under Chapter 1201 or 1202, as applicable, if work  
17 performed is within the scope of the license as defined by  
18 applicable statutes and administrative rules;

19 (21) work performed by a plumber who holds a license or  
20 endorsement or is registered under Chapter 1301 that is necessary  
21 to install, service, maintain, repair, or replace any type of  
22 plumbing fixture or appliance, as described by Section 1301.002(7),  
23 including a water heater, food disposer, garbage disposal, water  
24 softener, dishwashing machine, and clothes washing machine on  
25 existing electrical circuits only;

26 (22) the maintenance or repair of a residential  
27 appliance by a residential appliance dealer or manufacturer or a

1 person authorized by a residential appliance dealer or manufacturer  
2 using only components of the same type and ampacity as the original  
3 components; and

4 (23) the maintenance, alteration, or repair of a  
5 pool-related electrical device by, or pool-related electrical  
6 maintenance performed by, an employee of a municipality on a pool  
7 owned or operated by the municipality.

8 SECTION 2. Section 1305.003, Occupations Code, as amended  
9 by this Act, applies only to a design, installation, erection,  
10 repair, or alteration that begins on or after the effective date of  
11 this Act. A design, installation, erection, repair, or alteration  
12 that begins before that date is governed by the law in effect  
13 immediately before the effective date of this Act, and the former  
14 law is continued in effect for that purpose.

15 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.