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**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2686**

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**State of Washington                      52nd Legislature                      1992 Regular Session**

**By** House Committee on Commerce & Labor (originally sponsored by Representatives Kremen, Heavey and Fuhrman)

Read first time 02/03/92.

1            AN ACT Relating to contractor registration and licensing  
2 requirements; and amending RCW 18.27.030 and 19.28.120.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4            **Sec. 1.** RCW 18.27.030 and 1988 c 285 s 1 are each amended to read  
5 as follows:

6            (1) An applicant for registration as a contractor shall submit an  
7 application under oath upon a form to be prescribed by the director and  
8 which shall include the following information pertaining to the  
9 applicant:

10            ~~((1))~~ (a) Employer social security number.

11            ~~((2) Industrial insurance number.~~

12            ~~(3))~~ (b) As applicable: (i) The industrial insurance account  
13 number covering employees domiciled in Washington; and (ii) evidence of  
14 workers' compensation coverage in the applicant's state of domicile for

1 the applicant's employees working in Washington who are not domiciled  
2 in Washington.

3 (c) Employment security department number.

4 ~~((4))~~ (d) State excise tax registration number.

5 ~~((5))~~ (e) Unified business identifier (UBI) account number may be  
6 substituted for the information required by ~~((subsections (2), (3), and~~  
7 ~~(4))~~ (b), (c), and (d) of this ~~((section))~~ subsection.

8 ~~((6))~~ (f) Type of contracting activity, whether a general or a  
9 specialty contractor and if the latter, the type of specialty.

10 ~~((7))~~ (g) The name and address of each partner if the applicant  
11 be a firm or partnership, or the name and address of the owner if the  
12 applicant be an individual proprietorship, or the name and address of  
13 the corporate officers and statutory agent, if any, if the applicant be  
14 a corporation. The information contained in such application shall be  
15 a matter of public record and open to public inspection.

16 (2) The department may verify the workers' compensation coverage  
17 information provided by the applicant under subsection (1)(b) of this  
18 section, including but not limited to information regarding the  
19 coverage of an individual employee of the applicant. If coverage is  
20 provided under the laws of another state, the department shall notify  
21 the other state that the applicant is employing employees in  
22 Washington.

23 (3) Registration shall be denied if the applicant has been  
24 previously registered as a sole proprietor, partnership or corporation,  
25 and was a principal or officer of the corporation, and if the applicant  
26 has an unsatisfied final judgment in an action based on RCW 18.27.040  
27 that incurred during a previous registration under this chapter.

28 **Sec. 2.** RCW 19.28.120 and 1986 c 156 s 5 are each amended to read  
29 as follows:

1 (1) It is unlawful for any person, firm, partnership, corporation,  
2 or other entity to engage in, conduct, or carry on the business of  
3 installing or maintaining wires or equipment to convey electric  
4 current, or installing or maintaining equipment to be operated by  
5 electric current as it pertains to the electrical industry, without  
6 having an unrevoked, unsuspended, and unexpired electrical contractor  
7 license, issued by the department in accordance with this chapter. All  
8 electrical contractor licenses expire twenty-four calendar months  
9 following the day of their issue. The department may issue an  
10 electrical contractors license for a period of less than twenty-four  
11 months only for the purpose of equalizing the number of electrical  
12 contractor licenses which expire each month. Application for an  
13 electrical contractor license shall be made in writing to the  
14 department, accompanied by the required fee. The application shall  
15 state:

16 (a) The name and address of the applicant; in case of firms or  
17 partnerships, the names of the individuals composing the firm or  
18 partnership; in case of corporations, the names of the managing  
19 officials thereof;

20 (b) The location of the place of business of the applicant and the  
21 name under which the business is conducted; ((and))

22 (c) Employer social security number;

23 (d) As applicable: (i) The industrial insurance account number  
24 covering employees domiciled in Washington; and (ii) evidence of  
25 workers' compensation coverage in the applicant's state of domicile for  
26 the applicant's employees working in Washington who are not domiciled  
27 in Washington;

28 (e) Employment security department number;

29 (f) State excise tax registration number;

1       (g) Unified business identifier (UBI) account number may be  
2 substituted for the information required by (d), (e), and (f) of this  
3 subsection; and

4       (h) Whether a general or specialty electrical contractor license is  
5 sought and, if the latter, the type of specialty. Electrical  
6 contractor specialties include, but are not limited to: Residential,  
7 domestic appliances, pump and irrigation, limited energy system, signs,  
8 nonresidential maintenance, and a combination specialty. A general  
9 electrical contractor license shall grant to the holder the right to  
10 engage in, conduct, or carry on the business of installing or  
11 maintaining wires or equipment to carry electric current, and  
12 installing or maintaining equipment, or installing or maintaining  
13 material to fasten or insulate such wires or equipment to be operated  
14 by electric current, in the state of Washington. A specialty  
15 electrical contractor license shall grant to the holder a limited right  
16 to engage in, conduct, or carry on the business of installing or  
17 maintaining wires or equipment to carry electrical current, and  
18 installing or maintaining equipment; or installing or maintaining  
19 material to fasten or insulate such wires or equipment to be operated  
20 by electric current in the state of Washington as expressly allowed by  
21 the license.

22       (2) The department may verify the workers' compensation coverage  
23 information provided by the applicant under subsection (1)(d) of this  
24 section, including but not limited to information regarding the  
25 coverage of an individual employee of the applicant. If coverage is  
26 provided under the laws of another state, the department shall notify  
27 the other state that the applicant is employing employees in  
28 Washington.

29       (3) The application for a contractor license shall be accompanied  
30 by a bond in the sum of four thousand dollars with the state of

1 Washington named as obligee in the bond, with good and sufficient  
2 surety, to be approved by the department. The bond shall at all times  
3 be kept in full force and effect, and any cancellation or revocation  
4 thereof, or withdrawal of the surety therefrom, suspends the license  
5 issued to the principal until a new bond has been filed and approved as  
6 provided in this section. Upon approval of a bond, the department  
7 shall on the next business day deposit the fee accompanying the  
8 application in the electrical license fund and shall file the bond in  
9 the office. The department shall upon request furnish to any person,  
10 firm, partnership, corporation, or other entity a certified copy of the  
11 bond upon the payment of a fee that the department shall set by rule.  
12 The fee shall cover but not exceed the cost of furnishing the certified  
13 copy. The bond shall be conditioned that in any installation or  
14 maintenance of wires or equipment to convey electrical current, and  
15 equipment to be operated by electrical current, the principal will  
16 comply with the provisions of this chapter and with any electrical  
17 ordinance, building code, or regulation of a city or town adopted  
18 pursuant to RCW 19.28.010(2) that is in effect at the time of entering  
19 into a contract. The bond shall be conditioned further that the  
20 principal will pay for all labor, including employee benefits, and  
21 material furnished or used upon the work, taxes and contributions to  
22 the state of Washington, and all damages that may be sustained by any  
23 person, firm, partnership, corporation, or other entity due to a  
24 failure of the principal to make the installation or maintenance in  
25 accordance with this chapter or any applicable ordinance, building  
26 code, or regulation of a city or town adopted pursuant to RCW  
27 19.28.010(2). In lieu of the surety bond required by this section the  
28 license applicant may file with the department a cash deposit or other  
29 negotiable security acceptable to the department. If the license  
30 applicant has filed a cash deposit, the department shall deposit the

1 funds in a special trust savings account in a commercial bank, mutual  
2 savings bank, or savings and loan association and shall pay annually to  
3 the depositor the interest derived from the account.

4 ~~((3))~~ (4) The department shall issue general or specialty  
5 electrical contractor licenses to applicants meeting all of the  
6 requirements of this chapter. The provisions of this chapter relating  
7 to the licensing of any person, firm, partnership, corporation, or  
8 other entity including the requirement of a bond with the state of  
9 Washington named as obligee therein and the collection of a fee  
10 therefor, are exclusive, and no political subdivision of the state of  
11 Washington may require or issue any licenses or bonds or charge any fee  
12 for the same or a similar purpose. No person, firm, partnership,  
13 corporation, or other entity holding more than one specialty contractor  
14 license under this chapter may be required to pay an annual fee for  
15 more than one such license or to post more than one four thousand  
16 dollar bond, equivalent cash deposit, or other negotiable security.

17 ~~((4))~~ (5) To obtain a general or specialty electrical contractor  
18 license the applicant must designate an individual who currently  
19 possesses an administrator's certificate as a general electrical  
20 contractor administrator or as a specialty electrical contractor  
21 administrator in the specialty for which application has been made.  
22 Administrator certificate specialties include but are not limited to:  
23 Residential, domestic, appliance, pump and irrigation, limited energy  
24 system, signs, nonresidential maintenance, and combination specialty.  
25 To obtain an administrator's certificate an individual must pass an  
26 examination as set forth in RCW 19.28.123 unless the applicant was a  
27 licensed electrical contractor at any time during 1974. Applicants who  
28 were electrical contractors licensed by the state of Washington at any  
29 time during 1974 are entitled to receive a general electrical  
30 contractor administrator's certificate without examination if the

1 applicants apply prior to January 1, 1984. The board of electrical  
2 examiners shall certify to the department the names of all persons who  
3 are entitled to either a general or specialty electrical contractor  
4 administrator's certificate.