

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center
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C.S.H.B. 2029
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Veteran Affairs & Military Installations
5/17/2013
Committee Report (Substituted)

AUTHOR'S / SPONSOR'S STATEMENT OF INTENT

Currently, in order to obtain an electrician's license in the State of Texas, an applicant completes a certain number of on-the-job training hours depending upon the type of license being sought. Other types of electrician licenses require education and experience gained working directly with other licensed electricians. Interested parties contend that experience and education obtained, as well as hours worked, doing electrical work in the military should be credited towards an application for an electrician's license in the State of Texas.

C.S.H.B. 2029 directs the Texas Commission on Licensing and Regulation to credit experience, training, or education in electrical work obtained by a member of the armed forces of the United States, the Texas National Guard, or Texas State Guard while in service toward the requirements needed to obtain an electrician's license in this state.

C.S.H.B. 2029 amends current law relating to the eligibility requirements for electrician licenses issued to applicants with military experience.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

Rulemaking authority is expressly granted to the Texas Commission of Licensing and Regulation in SECTION 1 (Section 1305.1645, Occupations Code) and SECTION 2 of this bill.

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Subchapter D, Chapter 1305, Occupations Code, by adding Section 1305.1645, as follows:

Sec. 1305.1645. LICENSE ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR APPLICANTS WITH MILITARY EXPERIENCE. (a) Requires the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR), notwithstanding any other law, to credit verified military service, training, or education towards the licensing requirements, other than examination requirements, for a license issued under this chapter by TDLR.

(b) Requires TDLR to expedite the issuance of a temporary license or a license by endorsement or reciprocity under this chapter to an applicant who has verified military experience and holds a current license issued by another jurisdiction that has license requirements that are substantially equivalent to the license requirements of this state.

(c) Requires the Texas Commission on Licensing and Regulation (TCLR) to adopt rules necessary to implement this section.

SECTION 2. (a) Provides that Section 1305.1645, Occupations Code, as added by this Act, applies only to an application for a license filed on or after May 1, 2014. Provides that an application for a license filed before May 1, 2014, is governed by the law in effect on the date the application was filed, and that law is continued in effect for that purpose.

(b) Requires TCLR to adopt rules under Section 1305.1645, Occupations Code, as added by this Act, not later than March 1, 2014.

SECTION 3. Effective date: upon passage or September 1, 2013.