
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5846

State of Washington

64th Legislature

2015 Regular Session

By Senate Commerce & Labor (originally sponsored by Senators Warnick, Braun, and Ericksen)

1 AN ACT Relating to the granting of exemptions to the plumbing and
2 electrical codes; adding a new section to chapter 19.28 RCW; adding a
3 new section to chapter 18.106 RCW; and creating a new section.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that overregulation
6 of plumbing and electrical work adds to consumer costs without
7 contributing to public health or safety. It is the intent of the
8 legislature to provide administrative mechanisms to exempt from the
9 plumbing and electrical codes minor or incidental work that does not
10 require regulation for the protection of public health or safety,
11 without necessitating further legislative review or action.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 19.28
13 RCW to read as follows:

14 (1) The director shall by rule exempt from the requirements of
15 this chapter minor or incidental work that does not require
16 certification in order to protect public health or safety.

17 (2) When making an exemption under subsection (1) of this
18 section, the director may, in addition to public health or safety,
19 consider the following:

20 (a) Consumer health or safety;

- 1 (b) Employee health or safety;
- 2 (c) Changes in technology;
- 3 (d) Practicality and consistency with best practices; and
- 4 (e) Enforceability.

5 (3) For the purposes of this section, "minor or incidental work"
6 includes but is not limited to work for which local governments do
7 not generally require a permit, work for which the manufacturer
8 routinely includes with the appliance instructions for homeowner
9 installation, or the simple disconnection and reconnection of an
10 appliance or fixture in order to move the appliance or fixture in
11 order to accomplish other work.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 18.106
13 RCW to read as follows:

14 (1) The director shall by rule exempt from the requirements of
15 this chapter minor or incidental work that does not require
16 certification in order to protect public health or safety.

17 (2) When making an exemption under subsection (1) of this
18 section, the director may, in addition to public health or safety,
19 consider the following:

- 20 (a) Consumer health or safety;
- 21 (b) Employee health or safety;
- 22 (c) Changes in technology;
- 23 (d) Practicality and consistency with best practices; and
- 24 (e) Enforceability.

25 (3) For the purposes of this section, "minor or incidental work"
26 includes but is not limited to work for which local governments do
27 not generally require a permit, work for which the manufacturer
28 routinely includes with the appliance instructions for homeowner
29 installation, or the simple disconnection and reconnection of an
30 appliance or fixture in order to move the appliance or fixture in
31 order to accomplish other work.

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