SENATE BILL 6170

State of Washington 66th Legislature 2020 Regular Session

By Senators Keiser and Conway

Prefiled 01/08/20.

AN ACT Relating to plumbing; amending RCW 18.106.010, 18.106.020, 1 2 18.106.030, 18.106.040, 18.106.050, 18.106.070, 18.106.100, 3 18.106.110, 18.106.125, 18.106.150, 18.106.180, 18.106.200, 18.106.220, 18.106.250, 18.106.270, 18.106.320, 18.27.060, 18.27.090, 4 19.28.041, 19.28.191, 19.28.191, and 19.28.051; reenacting and 5 6 amending RCW 19.28.091; adding new sections to chapter 18.106 RCW; 7 prescribing penalties; providing effective dates; and providing an 8 expiration date.

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

10 Sec. 1. RCW 18.106.010 and 2013 c 23 s 14 are each amended to 11 read as follows:

12 The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter 13 unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

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(1) "Advisory board" means the state advisory board of plumbers.

(2) (("Contractor" means any person, corporate or otherwise, who engages in, or offers or advertises to engage in, any work covered by the provisions of this chapter by way of trade or business, or any person, corporate or otherwise, who employs anyone, or offers or advertises to employ anyone, to engage in any work covered by the provisions of this chapter.

21 (3)) "Department" means the department of labor and industries.

1 (((4))) <u>(3)</u> "Director" means the director of department of labor 2 and industries.

3 (((5))) <u>(4)</u> "Journey level plumber" means any person who has been 4 issued a certificate of competency by the department of labor and 5 industries as provided in this chapter.

6 (((6))) <u>(5)</u> "Like-in-kind" means having similar characteristics 7 such as plumbing size, type, and function, and being in the same 8 location.

9 (((7))) <u>(6)</u> "Medical gas piping" means oxygen, nitrous oxide, 10 high pressure nitrogen, medical compressed air, and <u>other medical gas</u> 11 <u>or equipment, including but not limited to</u> medical vacuum systems.

12 (((8))) <u>(7)</u> "Medical gas piping installer" means a journey level 13 plumber who has been issued a medical gas piping installer 14 endorsement.

15 ((-(9))) (8) "Plumbing" means that craft involved in installing, 16 altering, repairing and renovating potable water systems, liquid 17 waste systems, and medical gas piping systems within a building as defined by the plumbing code as adopted and amended by the state 18 building code council, and includes all piping, fixtures, pumps, and 19 plumbing appurtenances that are used for rainwater catchment and 20 reclaimed water systems within a building. ((Installation in a water 21 system of water softening or water treatment equipment is not within 22 23 the meaning of plumbing as used in this chapter.

24 (10))) (9) "Plumbing contractor" means any person, corporate or 25 otherwise, who engages in, or offers or advertises to engage in, any plumbing work covered by the provisions of this chapter by way of 26 27 trade or business, or any person, corporate or otherwise, who employs 28 anyone, or offers or advertises to employ anyone, to engage in any plumbing work as defined in this section. The plumbing contractor is 29 30 responsible for ensuring the plumbing business is operated in accordance with rules adopted under this chapter. 31

32 (10) "Plumber trainee" or "trainee" means any person who has been 33 issued a plumbing training certificate under this chapter but has not 34 been issued an appropriate certificate of competency for work being 35 performed. A trainee may perform plumbing work if that person is 36 under the appropriate level of supervision.

37 <u>(11) "Residential service plumber" means anyone who has been</u> 38 issued a certificate of competency limited to performing residential 39 service plumbing in an existing residential structure.

(a) In single-family dwellings and duplexes only, a residential 1 service plumber may service, repair, or replace previously existing 2 fixtures, piping, and fittings that are outside the interior wall or 3 above the floor, often, but not necessarily in a like-in-kind manner. 4 In any residential structure, a residential service plumber may 5 6 perform plumbing work as needed to perform drain cleaning and may 7 perform leak repairs on any pipe, fitting, or fixture from the leak to the next serviceable connection. 8

9 (b) A residential service plumber may directly supervise plumber 10 trainees provided the trainees have been supervised by an appropriate 11 journey level or specialty plumber for the trainees' first two 12 thousand hours of training.

13 (c) A residential service plumber may not perform plumbing for 14 <u>new construction of any kind.</u>

15 (12) "Residential structures" means single-family dwellings,
 16 duplexes, and multiunit buildings that do not exceed three stories.

17 (13) "Service plumbing" means plumbing work in which previously 18 existing fixtures, fittings, and piping is repaired or replaced 19 often, but not necessarily, in a like-in-kind manner, or plumbing 20 work being performed as necessary for drain cleaning.

21 <u>(14)</u> "Specialty plumber" means anyone who has been issued a 22 specialty certificate of competency limited to:

(a) Installation, maintenance, and repair of the plumbing of single-family dwellings, duplexes, and apartment buildings that do not exceed three stories;

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(b) Maintenance and repair of backflow prevention assemblies; or

(c) A domestic water pumping system consisting of the installation, maintenance, and repair of the pressurization, treatment, and filtration components of a domestic water system consisting of: One or more pumps; pressure, storage, and other tanks; filtration and treatment equipment; if appropriate, a pitless adapter; along with valves, transducers, and other plumbing components that:

(i) Are used to acquire, treat, store, or move water suitable for
either drinking or other domestic purposes, including irrigation, to:
(A) A single-family dwelling, duplex, or other similar place of
residence; (B) a public water system, as defined in RCW 70.119.020
and as limited under RCW 70.119.040; or (C) a farm owned and operated
by a person whose primary residence is located within thirty miles of
any part of the farm;

1 (ii) Are located within the interior space, including but not 2 limited to an attic, basement, crawl space, or garage, of a 3 residential structure, which space is separated from the living area 4 of the residence by a lockable entrance and fixed walls, ceiling, or 5 floor;

(iii) If located within the interior space of a residential 6 7 structure, are connected to a plumbing distribution system supplied and installed into the interior space by either: (A) A person who, 8 pursuant to RCW 18.106.070 or 18.106.090, possesses a valid temporary 9 permit or certificate of competency as a journey level plumber, 10 specialty plumber, or trainee, as defined in this chapter; or (B) a 11 12 person exempt from the requirement to obtain a certified plumber to do such plumbing work under RCW 18.106.150. 13

14 <u>(15) "Unsatisfied final judgment" means a judgment or final tax</u> 15 <u>warrant that has not been satisfied either through payment, court-</u> 16 <u>approved settlement, discharge in bankruptcy, or assignment under RCW</u> 17 <u>19.72.070.</u>

18 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 2. A new section is added to chapter 18.106
19 RCW to read as follows:

(1) Except as provided in this chapter, as of July 1, 2021, it is 20 21 unlawful for any person, firm, partnership, corporation, or other 22 entity to advertise, offer to do work, submit a bid, or perform any work under this chapter without being licensed as a plumbing 23 24 contractor under this chapter. A plumbing contractor license expires 25 twenty-four calendar months following the day of its issuance. An application for a plumbing contractor license must be made in writing 26 to the department, accompanied by the required fee. The application 27 28 shall state:

(a) The name and address of the applicant. In the case of firms or partnerships, the application must state the names of the individuals comprising the firm or partnership. In the case of corporations, the application must state the names of the corporation's managing officials;

34 (b) The location of the place of business of the applicant and35 the name under which the business is conducted;

36 (c) The employer social security number or tax identification 37 number;

38 (d) Evidence of workers' compensation coverage for the 39 applicant's employees working in Washington, as follows:

(i) The applicant's industrial insurance account number issued by
 the department;

3 (ii) The applicant's self-insurer number issued by the 4 department;

5 (iii) For applicants domiciled in another state or a province of 6 Canada subject to an agreement entered into under RCW 51.12.120(7), 7 filing a certificate of coverage issued by the agency that 8 administers workers' compensation law in the applicant's state or 9 province of domicile certifying that the applicant has secured the 10 payment of compensation under the other state's or province's 11 workers' compensation law.

12 The department may verify the workers' compensation coverage 13 information required by this subsection (1)(d), including information 14 regarding coverage of an individual employee of the applicant. If 15 coverage is provided under the laws of another state, the department 16 may notify the other state that the applicant is employing employees 17 in Washington;

18 19 (e) The employment security department number; and

(f) The state excise tax registration number.

20 (2) The unified business identifier account number may be 21 substituted for the information required by subsection (1)(d), (e), 22 and (f) of this section if the applicant will not employ employees in 23 Washington.

(3) Contractors licensed under this chapter are not required tobe registered under chapter 18.27 RCW.

(4) To obtain a plumbing contractor license, the applicant must employ a full-time individual who currently possesses a valid journey level plumber's certificate of competency, or specialty plumber's certificate of competency in the specialty for the scope of work performed. No individual may serve as the certified plumber for any work exceeding the scope of his or her certificate, license, or endorsement.

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(5) A plumbing contractor shall:

34 (a) Ensure that all plumbing work complies with the certification35 laws and rules of the state; and

36 (b) Ensure that all plumbing work is performed by properly 37 licensed and certified plumbing individuals.

(6) As of January 1, 2021, for a contractor who employs specialty
 plumbers as described in RCW 18.106.010(14)(c), and is also required
 to be licensed as an electrical contractor as required in RCW

1 19.28.041, while doing pump and irrigation or domestic pump work 2 described in rule as authorized by RCW 19.28.251, the department 3 shall establish a single licensing document for those who qualify for 4 both plumbing contractor license as defined by this chapter and an 5 electrical contractor license as defined by chapter 19.28 RCW.

6 (7) This section does not apply to: A person who is contracting 7 for plumbing work on his or her own residence, unless the plumbing 8 work is on a building that is for rent, sale, or lease.

9 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 3. A new section is added to chapter 18.106 10 RCW to read as follows:

(1) Each applicant for a plumbing contractor license shall file 11 with the department a surety bond issued by a surety insurer who 12 meets the requirements of chapter 48.28 RCW in the sum of six 13 thousand dollars. If no valid bond is already on file with the 14 15 department at the time the application is filed, a bond must 16 accompany the license application. The bond must have the state of 17 Washington named as obligee with good and sufficient surety in a form to be approved by the department. The bond must be continuous and may 18 be canceled by the surety upon the surety giving written notice to 19 20 the director. A cancellation or revocation of the bond or withdrawal 21 of the surety from the bond automatically suspends the license issued to the contractor until a new bond or reinstatement notice has been 22 filed and approved as provided in this section. The bond must be 23 24 conditioned that the applicant will pay all persons performing labor, 25 including employee benefits, for the contractor, will pay all taxes and contributions due to the state of Washington, and will pay all 26 27 persons furnishing material or renting or supplying equipment to the 28 contractor and will pay all amounts that may be adjudged against the contractor by reason of breach of contract including improper work in 29 30 the conduct of the contracting business. A change in the name of a 31 business or a change in the type of business entity does not impair a bond for the purposes of this section so long as one of the original 32 applicants for such bond maintains partial ownership in the business 33 34 covered by the bond.

35 (2) At the time of initial license or renewal, the contractor 36 shall provide a bond or other security deposit as required by this 37 chapter and comply with all of the other provisions of this chapter 38 before the department may issue or renew the contractor's license.

1 (3) Any person, firm, or corporation having a claim against the contractor for any of the items referred to in this section may bring 2 suit against the contractor and the bond or deposit in the superior 3 court of the county in which the work was done or of any county in 4 which jurisdiction of the contractor may be had. The surety issuing 5 6 the bond must be named as a party to any suit upon the bond. Action upon the bond or deposit brought by a residential homeowner for 7 breach of contract by a party to the construction contract must be 8 commenced by filing the summons and complaint with the clerk of the 9 appropriate superior court within two years from the date the claimed 10 11 contract work was substantially completed or abandoned, whichever 12 occurred first. Action upon the bond or deposit brought by any other authorized party must be commenced by filing the summons and 13 complaint with the clerk of the appropriate superior court within one 14 year from the date the claimed labor was performed and benefits 15 16 accrued, taxes and contributions owing the state of Washington became 17 due, materials and equipment were furnished, or the claimed contract work was substantially completed or abandoned, whichever occurred 18 first. Service of process in an action filed under this chapter 19 against the contractor and the contractor's bond or the deposit must 20 21 be exclusively by service upon the department. Three copies of the summons and complaint and a fee adopted by rule of not less than 22 23 fifty dollars to cover the costs must be served by registered or certified mail, or other delivery service requiring notice 24 of 25 receipt, upon the department at the time suit is started and the department shall maintain a record, available for public inspection, 26 27 of all suits so commenced. Service is not complete until the 28 department receives the fee and three copies of the summons and complaint. This service constitutes service and confers personal 29 jurisdiction on the contractor and the surety for suit on claimant's 30 31 claim against the contractor and the bond or deposit and the 32 department shall transmit the summons and complaint or a copy thereof to the contractor at the address listed in the contractor's 33 application and to the surety within two days after it has been 34 received. 35

36 (4) The surety upon the bond is not liable in an aggregate amount 37 in excess of the amount named in the bond nor for any monetary 38 penalty assessed pursuant to this chapter for an infraction. The 39 liability of the surety does not cumulate where the bond has been 40 renewed, continued, reinstated, reissued, or otherwise extended. The

1 surety upon the bond may, upon notice to the department and the parties, tender to the clerk of the court having jurisdiction of the 2 action an amount equal to the claims thereunder or the amount of the 3 bond less the amount of judgments, if any, previously satisfied 4 therefrom and to the extent of such tender the surety upon the bond 5 6 is exonerated but if the actions commenced and pending and provided to the department as required in subsection (3) of this section, at 7 any one time exceed the amount of the bond then unimpaired, claims 8 must be satisfied from the bond in the following order: 9

10 (a) Employee labor and claims of laborers, including employee 11 benefits;

12 (b) Claims for breach of contract by a party to the construction 13 contract;

14 (c) Registered or licensed subcontractors, material, and 15 equipment;

(d) Taxes and contributions due the state of Washington;

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17 (e) Any court costs, interest, and attorneys' fees plaintiff may 18 be entitled to recover.

The surety is not liable for any amount in excess of the penal limit of its bond. A payment made by the surety in good faith exonerates the bond to the extent of any payment made by the surety.

(5) The total amount paid from a bond or deposit required of a plumbing contractor by this section to claimants other than residential homeowners must not exceed one-half of the bond amount.

25 (6) The prevailing party in an action filed under this section 26 against the contractor and contractor's bond or deposit, for breach of contract by a party to the construction contract involving a 27 28 residential homeowner, is entitled to costs, interest, and reasonable 29 attorneys' fees. The surety upon the bond or deposit is not liable in an aggregate amount in excess of the amount named in the bond or 30 31 deposit nor for any monetary penalty assessed pursuant to this 32 chapter for an infraction.

(7) If a final judgment impairs the liability of the surety upon the bond or deposit so furnished that there is not in effect a bond or deposit in the full amount prescribed in this section, the contractor license is automatically suspended until the bond or deposit liability in the required amount unimpaired by unsatisfied judgment claims is furnished.

(8) In lieu of the surety bond required by this section the
 contractor may file with the department an assigned savings account,
 upon forms provided by the department.

(9) Any person having filed and served a summons and complaint as 4 required by this section having an unsatisfied final judgment against 5 6 the registrant for any items referred to in this section may execute upon the security held by the department by serving a certified copy 7 of the unsatisfied final judgment by registered or certified mail 8 upon the department within one year of the date of entry of such 9 judgment. Upon the receipt of service of such certified copy the 10 department shall pay or order paid from the deposit, through the 11 12 registry of the superior court which rendered judgment, towards the amount of the unsatisfied judgment. The priority of payment by the 13 department must be the order of receipt by the department, but the 14 department has no liability for payment in excess of the amount of 15 16 the deposit.

17 (10) Within ten days after resolution of the case, a certified copy of the final judgment and order, or any settlement documents 18 where a case is not disposed of by a court trial, a certified copy of 19 the dispositive settlement documents must be provided to the 20 21 department by the prevailing party. Failure to provide a copy of the final judgment and order or the dispositive settlement documents to 22 the department within ten days of entry of such an order constitutes 23 a violation of this chapter and a penalty adopted by rule of not less 24 25 than two hundred fifty dollars may be assessed against the prevailing 26 party.

(11) If the director determines that an applicant, or a previous 27 license of a corporate officer, owner, or partner of a current 28 29 applicant, has had in the past five years a final judgment in actions under this chapter involving a residential structure, the director 30 31 may require an applicant applying to renew or reinstate a plumbing contractor's license or applying for a new plumbing contractor's 32 33 license to file a bond of up to three times the normally required 34 amount.

35 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 4. A new section is added to chapter 18.106 36 RCW to read as follows:

37 (1) At the time of plumbing contractor licensing and subsequent 38 license renewal, the applicant shall furnish insurance or financial 39 responsibility in the form of an assigned account in the amount of

1 fifty thousand dollars for injury or damages to property, and one 2 hundred thousand dollars for injury or damage including death to any 3 one person, and two hundred thousand dollars for injury or damage 4 including death to more than one person.

5 (2) An expiration, cancellation, or revocation of the insurance 6 policy or withdrawal of the insurer from the insurance policy 7 automatically suspends the license issued to the registrant until a 8 new insurance policy or reinstatement notice has been filed and 9 approved as provided in this section.

(3) (a) Proof of financial responsibility authorized in this 10 11 section may be given by providing, in the amount required by 12 subsection (1) of this section, an assigned account acceptable to the department. The assigned account shall be held by the department to 13 satisfy any execution on a judgment issued against the contractor for 14 damage to property or injury or death to any person occurring in the 15 16 contractor's contracting operations, according to the provisions of 17 the assigned account agreement. The department has no liability for 18 payment in excess of the amount of the assigned account.

(b) The assigned account filed with the director as proof of financial responsibility must be canceled at the expiration of three years after:

22 (i) The contractor's license has expired or been revoked; or

23 (ii) The contractor has furnished proof of insurance as required 24 by subsection (1) of this section;

If, in either case, no legal action has been instituted against the contractor or on the account at the expiration of the three-year period.

28 (c) If a contractor chooses to file an assigned account as 29 authorized in this section, the contractor shall, on any contracting project, notify each person with whom the contractor enters into a 30 31 contract or to whom the contractor submits a bid that the contractor 32 has filed an assigned account in lieu of insurance and that recovery 33 from the account for any claim against the contractor for property damage or personal injury or death occurring in the project requires 34 35 the claimant to obtain a court judgment.

36 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 5. A new section is added to chapter 18.106 37 RCW to read as follows:

(1) A certificate, license, or endorsement issued under thischapter may be suspended, revoked, or subject to civil penalty by the

1 department upon determination that any one or more of the following 2 exist:

3 (a) A false statement as to a material matter in the application4 for a certificate, license, or endorsement;

5 (b) Fraud, misrepresentation, or bribery in securing a 6 certificate, license, or endorsement;

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(c) A violation of any provision of this chapter; or

8 (d) If the plumbing contractor does not employ a full-time 9 individual who currently possesses a valid journey level plumber's 10 certificate of competency or specialty plumber's certificate of 11 competency in the specialty for the scope of work performed.

12 (2) If the department has suspended or revoked a certificate, 13 license, or endorsement, because of fraud or error and a hearing is 14 requested, the suspension or revocation must be stayed until the 15 hearing is concluded and a decision is issued.

16 (3) The department must remove a suspension or reinstate a 17 revoked certificate, license, or endorsement, if the licensee pays 18 all assessed civil penalties and is able to demonstrate to the 19 department that the licensee has met all the qualifications 20 established by this chapter.

21 Sec. 6. RCW 18.106.020 and 2013 c 23 s 15 are each amended to 22 read as follows:

23 (1) No person may engage in or offer to engage in the trade of 24 plumbing without having a journey level certificate, specialty certificate, residential service certificate, temporary permit, or 25 26 trainee certificate and photo identification in his or her 27 possession. The department ((may)) must establish by rule a requirement that the person also wear and visibly display his or her 28 29 certificate or permit. A trainee must be supervised by a person who 30 has a journey level certificate, specialty certificate, residential 31 service certificate, or temporary permit, as specified in RCW 18.106.070. Until January 1, 2021, no contractor may employ a person 32 to engage in or offer to engage in the trade of plumbing unless the 33 ((person employed has a)) contractor is a registered plumbing 34 contractor under chapter 18.27 RCW and the person performing the 35 plumbing work has a journey level certificate, specialty certificate, 36 temporary permit, or trainee certificate. ((This section does not 37 38 apply to a contractor who is contracting for work on his or her own 39 residence. Until July 1, 2007, the department shall issue a written

1 warning to any specialty plumber defined by RCW 18.106.010(10)(c) not having a valid plumber certification. The warning will state that the 2 individual must apply for a plumber training certificate or be 3 qualified for and apply for plumber certification under the 4 requirements in RCW 18.106.040 within thirty calendar days of the 5 6 warning. Only one warning will be issued to any individual. If the individual fails to comply with this section, the department shall 7 issue a penalty or penalties as authorized by this chapter.)) After 8 January 1, 2021, no contractor may employ a person to engage in or 9 10 offer to engage in the trade of plumbing unless the contractor is a licensed plumbing contractor under this chapter and the person 11 performing the plumbing work has a journey level certificate, 12 specialty certificate, residential service certificate, temporary 13 permit, or training certificate. 14

15 (2) <u>Without exception</u>, no person may engage in or offer to engage in medical gas piping installation without having a certificate of 16 17 competency as a journey level plumber and a medical gas piping installer endorsement and photo identification in his or her 18 19 possession. The department ((may)) must establish by rule a requirement that the person also wear and visibly display his or her 20 endorsement. A trainee may engage in medical gas piping installation 21 if he or she has a training certificate and is supervised by a person 22 23 with a medical gas piping installer endorsement. No plumbing contractor may employ a person to engage in or offer to engage in 24 25 medical gas piping installation unless the person employed has a certificate of competency as a journey level plumber and a medical 26 27 gas piping installer endorsement.

(3) ((No contractor may advertise, offer to do work, submit a bid, or perform any work under this chapter without being registered as a contractor under chapter 18.27 RCW.

31 (4))) Violation of this ((section)) chapter is an infraction. 32 Each day in which a person ((engages)), firm, or corporation advertises, offers to do work, submits a bid, or performs any work in 33 the trade of plumbing in violation of this ((section)) chapter or 34 employs a person in violation of this ((section)) chapter is a 35 separate infraction. Each worksite at which a person engages in the 36 trade of plumbing in violation of this ((section)) chapter or at 37 which a person is employed in violation of this ((section)) chapter 38 39 is a separate infraction.

1 (((5))) <u>(4)</u> Notices of infractions for violations of this 2 ((section)) chapter may be issued to:

3 (a) The person engaging in or offering to engage in the trade of
4 plumbing in violation of this ((section)) chapter;

(b) The contractor in violation of this ((section)) <u>chapter</u>; and

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6 (c) The contractor's employee who authorized the work assignment 7 of the person employed in violation of this ((section)) chapter.

8 (5) It is unlawful for anyone required to be licensed under this 9 chapter or registered under chapter 18.27 RCW to subcontract to or 10 use anyone not licensed under this chapter for work covered by the 11 provisions of this chapter.

12 Sec. 7. RCW 18.106.030 and 2013 c 23 s 16 are each amended to 13 read as follows:

(1) Any person desiring to be issued a certificate of competency 14 15 as provided in this chapter shall deliver evidence in a form 16 prescribed by the department affirming that said person has had 17 sufficient experience in as well as demonstrated general competency in the trade of plumbing or specialty plumbing so as to qualify him 18 or her to make an application for a certificate of competency as a 19 20 journey level plumber ((or)), specialty plumber, or residential service plumber. Completion of a course of study in the plumbing 21 22 trade in the armed services of the United States or at a school accredited by the workforce training and education coordinating board 23 24 shall constitute sufficient evidence of experience and competency to 25 enable such person to make application for a certificate of competency for a journey level plumber, specialty plumber, or 26 27 residential service plumber.

28 (2) Any person desiring to be issued a medical gas piping 29 installer endorsement shall deliver evidence in a form prescribed by 30 the department affirming that the person has met the requirements 31 established by the department for a medical gas piping installer 32 endorsement.

33 <u>(3)</u> In addition to supplying the evidence as prescribed in this 34 section, each applicant for a certificate of competency shall submit 35 an application for such certificate on such form and in such manner 36 as shall be prescribed by the director of the department.

37 Sec. 8. RCW 18.106.040 and 2013 c 23 s 17 are each amended to 38 read as follows:

1 (1) Upon receipt of the application and evidence set forth in RCW 2 18.106.030, the director shall review the same and make a 3 determination as to whether the applicant is eligible to take an 4 examination for the certificate of competency. To be eligible to take 5 the examination:

6 (a) Each applicant for a journey level plumber's certificate of 7 competency shall furnish written evidence that he or she has 8 completed a course of study in the plumbing trade in the armed 9 services of the United States or at a school ((licensed)) <u>accredited</u> 10 by the workforce training and education coordinating board, or has 11 had four or more years of experience under the direct supervision of 12 a ((licensed)) <u>certified</u> journey level plumber.

(b) Each applicant for a specialty plumber's certificate of 13 competency under RCW 18.106.010((((10))) (14)(a) shall furnish written 14 15 evidence that he or she has completed a course of study in the 16 plumbing trade in the armed services of the United States or at a 17 school licensed by the workforce training and education coordinating board under chapter 28C.10 RCW, or that he or she has had at least 18 19 three years ((practical)) of experience in the specialty under the supervision of a certified journey level plumber or a certified 20 21 plumber.

(c) Each applicant for a residential service plumber's 22 certificate of competency under RCW 18.106.010(11) shall furnish 23 24 written evidence that he or she has completed a course of study in 25 the plumbing trade in the armed services of the United States or at a school accredited by the workforce training and education 26 27 coordinating board, or has had two or more years of experience under 28 the supervision of a certified journey level plumber, certified specialty plumber, or certified residential service plumber. 29

30 (d) Each applicant for a specialty plumber's certificate of 31 competency under RCW 18.106.010(((10))) (14) (b) or (c) shall furnish written evidence that he or she is eligible to take the examination. 32 These eligibility requirements for the specialty plumbers defined by 33 34 RCW 18.106.010(((10))) (14)(c) shall be one year of practical experience working on pumping systems not exceeding one hundred 35 gallons per minute, and two years of practical experience working on 36 pumping systems exceeding one hundred gallons per 37 minute, or equivalent as determined by rule by the department in consultation 38 39 with the advisory board, and that experience may be obtained at the 40 same time the individual is meeting the experience required by RCW

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19.28.191. The eligibility requirements for other specialty plumbers
 shall be established by rule by the director pursuant to subsection
 (2) (b) of this section.

4 (2)(a) The director shall establish reasonable rules for the
5 examinations to be given applicants for certificates of competency.
6 In establishing the rules, the director shall consult with the state
7 advisory board of plumbers as established in RCW 18.106.110.

8 (b) The director shall establish reasonable criteria by rule for 9 determining an applicant's eligibility to take an examination for the 10 certificate of competency for specialty plumbers under subsection (1) 11 (((-))) (d) of this section. In establishing the criteria, the 12 director shall consult with the state advisory board of plumbers as 13 established in RCW 18.106.110. These rules must take effect by 14 December 31, 2006.

(3) Upon determination that the applicant is eligible to take the examination, the director shall so notify the applicant, indicating the time and place for taking the same.

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(4) No other requirement for eligibility may be imposed.

19 Sec. 9. RCW 18.106.050 and 2013 c 23 s 18 are each amended to 20 read as follows:

(1) The department, with the advice of the advisory board, shall prepare a written examination to be administered to applicants for certificates of competency for journey level plumber ((and)), specialty plumber, and residential service plumber. The examination shall be constructed to determine:

(a) Whether the applicant possesses varied general knowledge of
the technical information and practical procedures that are
identified with the trade of journey level plumber ((or)), specialty
plumber, or residential service plumber; and

30 (b) Whether the applicant is familiar with the applicable 31 plumbing codes and the administrative rules of the department 32 pertaining to plumbing and plumbers.

33 (2) The department, with the consent of the advisory board, may 34 enter into a contract with a nationally recognized testing agency to 35 develop, administer, and score any examinations required by this 36 chapter. All applicants shall, before taking an examination, pay the 37 required examination fee. The department shall set the examination 38 fee by contract with a nationally recognized testing agency. The fee 39 shall cover but not exceed the costs of preparing and administering

the examination and the materials necessary to conduct the practical elements of the examination. The department shall approve training courses and set the fees for training courses for examinations provided by this chapter.

(3) An examination to determine the competency of an applicant 5 6 for a domestic water pumping system specialty plumbing certificate as defined by RCW 18.106.010(((10))) (14)(c) must be established by the 7 department in consultation with the advisory board by December 31, 8 2006. The department may include an examination for appropriate 9 electrical safety and technical requirements as required by RCW 10 11 19.28.191 with the examination required by this section. The department, in consultation with the advisory board, may accept the 12 certification by a professional or trade association or other 13 acceptable entity as meeting the examination requirement of this 14 15 section. ((Individuals who can provide evidence to the department 16 prior to January 1, 2007, that they have been employed in the pump 17 and irrigation business as defined by RCW 18.106.010(10)(c) for not less than four thousand hours in the most recent four calendar years 18 shall be issued the appropriate certificate by the department upon 19 receiving such documentation and applicable fees.)) The department 20 21 shall establish a single document for those who have received both the plumbing specialty certification defined by this subsection and 22 23 have also met the certification requirements for a pump and irrigation or domestic pump specialty electrician, showing that the 24 25 individual has received both certifications.

(4) The department shall certify the results of the examinations provided by this chapter, and shall notify the applicant in writing whether he or she has passed or failed. Any applicant who has failed the examination may retake the examination, upon the terms and after a period of time that the director shall set by rule. The director may not limit the number of times that a person may take the examination.

33 Sec. 10. RCW 18.106.070 and 2013 c 23 s 19 are each amended to 34 read as follows:

35 (1) The department shall issue a certificate of competency to all 36 applicants who have passed the examination and have paid the fee for 37 the certificate. The certificate may include a photograph of the 38 holder. The certificate shall bear the date of issuance, and ((shall 39 expire on the birthdate of the holder immediately following the date

1 of issuance. The certificate shall)) be ((renewable)) renewed every ((other year)) three years, upon application, on or before the 2 birthdate of the holder((, except for specialty plumbers defined by 3 RCW 18.106.010(10)(c) who also have an electrical certification 4 issued jointly as provided by RCW 18.106.050(3) in which case their 5 6 certificate shall be renewable every three years on or before the birthdate of the holder)). The department shall renew a certificate 7 of competency if the applicant: (a) Pays the renewal fee assessed by 8 the department; and (b) during the past ((two)) three years has 9 10 completed ((sixteen)) twenty-four hours of continuing education approved by the department with the advice of the advisory board, 11 12 including four hours related to electrical safety. For holders of the specialty plumber certificate under RCW 18.106.010((((10))) (14)(c), 13 the continuing education may comprise both electrical and plumbing 14 15 education with a minimum of twelve of the required twenty-four hours 16 of continuing education in plumbing. If a person fails to renew the 17 certificate by the renewal date, he or she must pay a doubled fee. If 18 the person does not renew the certificate within ninety days of the 19 renewal date, he or she must retake the examination and pay the examination fee. 20

21 The journey level plumber ((and)), specialty plumber, and residential service plumber certificates of competency, the medical 22 23 gas piping installer endorsement, and the temporary permit provided for in this chapter grant the holder the right to engage in the work 24 25 of plumbing as a journey level plumber, specialty plumber, residential service plumber, or medical gas piping installer, in 26 27 accordance with their provisions throughout the state and within any 28 of its political subdivisions on any job or any employment without additional proof of competency or any other license or permit or fee 29 to engage in the work. This section does not preclude employees from 30 31 adhering to a union security clause in any employment where such a 32 requirement exists.

33 (2) A person who is indentured ((in)) to an apprenticeship program approved under chapter 49.04 RCW for 34 the plumbing construction trade or who is learning the plumbing construction trade 35 may work in the plumbing construction trade if supervised by a 36 certified journey level plumber or a certified specialty plumber in 37 that plumber's specialty. All apprentices and individuals learning 38 39 the plumbing construction trade shall obtain a plumbing training certificate from the department. The certificate shall authorize the 40

1 holder to learn the plumbing construction trade while under the direct supervision of a journey level plumber or a specialty plumber 2 working in his or her specialty. The certificate may include a 3 photograph of the holder. The holder of the plumbing training 4 certificate shall renew the certificate annually. At the time of 5 6 renewal, the holder shall provide the department with an accurate list of the holder's employers in the plumbing construction industry 7 for the previous year and the number of hours worked for each 8 employer. ((An annual)) Failure to provide plumbing hours worked for 9 10 each employer is a violation of this chapter, subject to an infraction under RCW 18.106.320, and must result in nonrenewal of the 11 trainee <u>certificate. A</u> fee shall be charged for the issuance or 12 renewal of the certificate. The department shall set the fee by rule. 13 The fee shall cover but not exceed the cost of administering and 14 15 enforcing the trainee certification and supervision requirements of 16 this chapter.

(3) ((Any person who has been issued a plumbing training 17 certificate under this chapter may work if that person is under 18 19 supervision.)) (a) Trainee supervision shall consist of a ((person)) trainee being on the same job site and under the control of either a 20 21 journey level plumber, residential service plumber, or an appropriate specialty plumber who has an applicable certificate of competency 22 23 issued under this chapter. Either a journey level plumber 24 residential service plumber, or an appropriate specialty plumber 25 shall be:

26 (i) On the same job site as the ((noncertified individual)) 27 trainee for a minimum of seventy-five percent of each working day 28 unless otherwise provided in this chapter. ((The ratio of noncertified individuals to certified journey level or specialty 29 30 plumbers working on a job site shall be: (a) Not more than two 31 noncertified plumbers working on any one job site for every certified 32 specialty plumber or journey level plumber working as a specialty plumber; and (b) not more than one noncertified plumber working on 33 any one job site for every certified journey level plumber working as 34 35 a journey level plumber.))

36 (ii) Available via mobile phone or similar device in a manner 37 that allows both audio and visual direction to the trainee from the 38 supervising plumber. Remote trainee supervision using these types of 39 technology is only permitted in cases that meet the following 40 criteria: 1 (A) The trainee has more than two thousand hours of training;

2 <u>(B) The supervising plumber is no more than forty miles from the</u> 3 job site; and

4 <u>(C) The scope of work on the trainee's job site is service</u> 5 plumbing in a residential structure.

6 (b) An individual who has a current training certificate and who 7 has successfully completed or is currently enrolled in an approved 8 apprenticeship program or in a technical school program in the 9 plumbing construction trade in a school approved by the workforce 10 training and education coordinating board, may work without direct 11 on-site supervision during the last six months of meeting the 12 practical experience requirements of this chapter.

13 (4) (a) Until December 31, 2025, the ratio of trainees to 14 certified journey level, residential service, or specialty plumbers 15 working on a job site must be:

16 (i) Not more than three trainees working on any one residential 17 structure job site for every certified specialty plumber or journey 18 level plumber working as a specialty plumber;

19 <u>(ii) Not more than one trainee working on any one job site for</u> 20 <u>every certified journey level plumber working as a journey level</u> 21 <u>plumber; and</u>

22 (iii) Not more than one trainee working on any one job site for
23 every certified residential service plumber.

(b) After December 31, 2025, not more than two trainees may work
 on any residential structure job site for every certified specialty
 plumber or journey level plumber working as a specialty plumber.

27 (5) An individual who has a current training certificate and who 28 has successfully completed or is currently enrolled in a medical gas 29 piping installer training course approved by the department may work 30 on medical gas piping systems if the individual is under the direct 31 supervision of a certified medical gas piping installer who holds a 32 medical gas piping installer endorsement one hundred percent of a 33 working day on a one-to-one ratio.

34 (((5))) <u>(6)</u> The training to become a certified plumber must 35 include not less than sixteen hours of classroom training established 36 by the director with the advice of the advisory board. The classroom 37 training must include, but not be limited to, electrical wiring 38 safety, grounding, bonding, and other related items plumbers need to 39 know to work under ((RCW 19.28.091)) <u>this chapter</u>. 1 (((-6))) (7) All persons who are certified plumbers before January 2 1, 2003, are deemed to have received the classroom training required 3 in subsection ((-5)) (6) of this section.

(8) (a) The department shall instruct the advisory board of 4 plumbers to convene a subgroup that includes the statewide 5 6 association representing plumbing, heating, and cooling contractors; 7 the union representing plumbers and pipefitters; the association representing plumbing contractors who employ union plumbers and 8 pipefitters; and other directly affected stakeholders after the 9 10 completion of the 2023 legislative session, the 2024 legislative session, and every three years thereafter. 11

12 (b) The work group shall evaluate the effects that the trainee ratio changes have had on the industry, including public safety and 13 industry response to public demand for plumbing services. The work 14 15 group shall determine a sustainable plan for maintaining sufficient numbers of plumbers and trainees within the plumbing workforce to 16 17 safely meet the needs of the public. The report is due to the standing labor committees of the legislature before December 1st of 18 19 each year that the work group convenes. The work group shall conclude on receipt of the report by the legislature. Within current funding 20 appropriated to the department, the department must reimburse each 21 22 member of the work group in accordance with the provisions of RCW 23 43.03.050 and 43.03.060 for each day in which the member is actually 24 engaged in attendance of meetings of the advisory board.

25 Sec. 11. RCW 18.106.100 and 2013 c 23 s 23 are each amended to 26 read as follows:

(1) The department may revoke or suspend a certificate of
 competency, license, or endorsement for any of the following reasons:

(a) The certificate, license, or endorsement was obtained through
 error or fraud;

31 (b) The certificate, <u>license</u>, <u>or endorsement</u> holder is judged to 32 be incompetent to carry on the trade of plumbing as a journey level 33 plumber ((or)), specialty plumber, <u>or residential service plumber</u>;

34 (c) The certificate, license, or endorsement holder has violated 35 any provision of this chapter or any rule adopted under this chapter.

36 (2) Before a certificate of competency, license, or endorsement 37 is revoked or suspended, the department shall send written notice 38 using a method by which the mailing can be tracked or the delivery 39 can be confirmed to the certificate holder's last known address. The

notice must list the allegations against the certificate holder and 1 give him or her the opportunity to request a hearing before the 2 advisory board. At the hearing, the department and the certificate 3 holder have opportunity to produce witnesses and give testimony. The 4 hearing must be conducted in accordance with chapter 34.05 RCW. The 5 6 board shall render its decision based upon the testimony and evidence presented and shall notify the parties immediately upon reaching its 7 decision. A majority of the board is necessary to render a decision. 8

The department may deny renewal of a certificate of 9 (3) competency, license, or endorsement issued under this chapter if the 10 applicant owes outstanding penalties for a final judgment under this 11 12 chapter. The department shall notify the applicant of the denial using a method by which the mailing can be tracked or the delivery 13 can be confirmed to the address on the application. The applicant may 14 appeal the denial within twenty days by filing a notice of appeal 15 16 with the department accompanied by a certified check for two hundred 17 dollars which shall be returned to the applicant if the decision of the department is not upheld by the hearings officer. The office of 18 19 administrative hearings shall conduct the hearing under chapter 34.05 RCW. If the hearings officer sustains the decision of the department, 20 21 the two hundred dollars must be applied to the cost of the hearing.

22 Sec. 12. RCW 18.106.110 and 2013 c 23 s 24 are each amended to 23 read as follows:

24 (1) There is created a state advisory board of plumbers, to be 25 composed of ((seven)) <u>nine</u> members appointed by the director. Two members shall be journey level plumbers, one member shall be a 26 27 specialty plumber, three members shall be persons conducting a plumbing business, at least one of which shall be primarily engaged 28 in a specialty plumbing business, one member representing the state-29 approved plumbing code body, one member from the department of 30 31 health, and one member from the general public who is familiar with the business and trade of plumbing. 32

33 (2) The term of one journey level plumber expires July 1, 1995; 34 the term of the second journey level plumber expires July 1, 2000; 35 the term of the specialty plumber expires July 1, 2008; the term of 36 one person conducting a plumbing business expires July 1, 1996; the 37 term of the second person conducting a plumbing business expires July 38 1, 2000; the term of the third person conducting a plumbing business 39 expires July 1, 2007; the terms of the member representing the state-

1 approved plumbing code body and the member from the department of health expire July 1, 2022; and the term of the public member expires 2 July 1, 1997. Thereafter, upon the expiration of said terms, the 3 director shall appoint a new member to serve for a period of three 4 years. However, to ensure that the board can continue to act, a 5 6 member whose term expires shall continue to serve until his or her 7 replacement is appointed. In the case of any vacancy on the board for any reason, the director shall appoint a new member to serve out the 8 9 term of the person whose position has become vacant.

10 (3) The advisory board shall carry out all the functions and 11 duties enumerated in this chapter, as well as generally advise the 12 department on all matters relative to ((this chapter)) the 13 enforcement of this chapter including plumbing industry promotion, 14 standards of plumbing installations, consumer protection, and 15 standards for the protection of public health.

16 (4) Each member of the advisory board shall receive travel 17 expenses in accordance with the provisions of RCW 43.03.050 and 18 43.03.060 as now existing or hereafter amended for each day in which 19 such member is actually engaged in attendance upon the meetings of 20 the advisory board.

21 Sec. 13. RCW 18.106.125 and 1983 c 124 s 17 are each amended to 22 read as follows:

The department shall charge fees for issuance, renewal, and reinstatement of all certificates<u>, endorsements</u>, <u>licenses</u>, and permits and for examinations required by this chapter. The department shall set the fees by rule.

The fees shall cover the full cost of issuing the certificates and permits, devising and administering the examinations, and administering and enforcing this chapter. The costs shall include travel, per diem, and administrative support costs.

31 Sec. 14. RCW 18.106.150 and 2013 c 23 s 25 are each amended to 32 read as follows:

(1) Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to require that a person obtain a license ((or a certified plumber)) in order to do plumbing work at his or her residence or farm or place of business or on other property owned by him or her.

37 (2) A current certificate of competency or apprentice permit is38 not required for:

- 1
- (a) Persons performing plumbing work on a farm; or

(i) RCW 18.27.090(18) until January 1, 2021;

2 (b) Certified journey level electricians, certified residential 3 specialty electricians, or electrical trainees working for an 4 electrical contractor and performing exempt work under:

5 6

(ii) After January 1, 2021, under subsection (8) of this section.

7 (3) Nothing in this chapter shall be intended to derogate from or 8 dispense with the requirements of any valid plumbing code enacted by 9 a political subdivision of the state, except that no code shall 10 require the holder of a certificate of competency to demonstrate any 11 additional proof of competency or obtain any other license or pay any 12 fee in order to engage in the trade of plumbing.

13 (4) This chapter shall not apply to common carriers subject to 14 Part I of the Interstate Commerce Act, nor to their officers and 15 employees.

16 (5) Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to apply to any 17 farm, business, industrial plant, or corporation doing plumbing work 18 on premises it owns or operates.

19 (6) Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to restrict the 20 right of any householder to assist or receive assistance from a 21 friend, neighbor, relative, or other person when none of the 22 individuals doing such plumbing hold themselves out as engaged in the 23 trade or business of plumbing.

(7) This section does not apply to anyone installing, altering,
 repairing, or renovating medical gas systems.

(8) As of January 1, 2021, nothing in this chapter shall be 26 27 construed to apply to an entity who holds a valid electrical 28 contractor's license under chapter 19.28 RCW that employs a certified journey level electrician, a certified residential specialty 29 electrician, or an electrical trainee meeting the requirements of 30 31 chapter 19.28 RCW to perform plumbing work that is incidentally, 32 directly, and immediately appropriate to the like-in-kind replacement of a household appliance or other small household utilization 33 equipment that requires limited electrical power and limited waste, 34 water connections, or both. An electrical trainee must be supervised 35 36 by a certified electrician while performing plumbing work.

37 Sec. 15. RCW 18.106.180 and 2011 c 301 s 5 are each amended to 38 read as follows:

1 (1) An authorized representative of the department may issue a 2 notice of infraction as specified in RCW 18.106.020 if:

3 (a) A person who is doing plumbing work or who is offering to do4 plumbing work fails to produce evidence of:

5 (i) Having a certificate or permit issued by the department in 6 accordance with this chapter, or being supervised by a person who has 7 such a certificate or permit; and

8 (ii) <u>Until January 1, 2021, b</u>eing registered as a contractor as 9 required under chapter 18.27 RCW ((or this chapter)), or being 10 employed by a person who is registered as a contractor <u>as required</u> 11 <u>under chapter 18.27 RCW</u>;

(b) <u>Until January 1, 2021, a</u> person who employs anyone, or offers or advertises to employ anyone, to do plumbing work fails to produce evidence of being registered as a contractor as required under chapter 18.27 RCW ((or this chapter)); ((or))

16 (c) After January 1, 2021, a person who employs anyone, or offers 17 or advertises to employ anyone, to do plumbing work fails to produce 18 evidence of being licensed as a plumbing contractor as required under 19 this chapter; or

20

(d) A contractor violates RCW 18.106.320.

(2) A notice of infraction issued under this section shall be personally served on the person <u>or contractor</u> named in the notice by an authorized representative of the department or sent using a method by which the mailing can be tracked or the delivery can be confirmed to the last known address provided to the department of the person named in the notice.

27 Sec. 16. RCW 18.106.200 and 1996 c 147 s 5 are each amended to 28 read as follows:

A violation designated as an infraction under this chapter shall 29 30 be heard and determined by an administrative law judge of the office 31 of administrative hearings. If a party desires to contest the notice of infraction, the party shall file a notice of appeal with the 32 department ((within twenty days of issuance of the infraction)) 33 specifying the grounds of the appeal within twenty days of service of 34 35 the infraction in a manner provided by this chapter. The appeal must be accompanied by a certified check for two hundred dollars, which 36 must be returned to the assessed party if the decision of the 37 38 department is not sustained following the final decision in the 39 appeal. If the final decision sustains the decision of the

department, the department must apply the two hundred dollars to the payment of the expenses of the appeal, including costs charged by the office of administrative hearings. The administrative law judge shall conduct hearings in these cases at locations in the county where the infraction is alleged to have occurred.

6 Sec. 17. RCW 18.106.220 and 1994 c 174 s 6 are each amended to 7 read as follows:

8 (1) ((A person who receives a notice of infraction shall respond
9 to the notice as provided in this section within fourteen days of the
10 date the notice was served.

11 (2)) If the person <u>or contractor</u> named in the notice of 12 infraction does not wish to contest the notice of infraction, the 13 person <u>or contractor</u> shall pay to the department, by check or money 14 order, the amount of the penalty prescribed for the infraction. When 15 a response which does not contest the determination is received by 16 the department with the appropriate payment, the department shall 17 make the appropriate entry in its records.

18 (((3))) (2) If the person <u>or contractor</u> named in the notice of 19 infraction wishes to contest the notice of infraction, the person <u>or</u> 20 <u>contractor</u> shall respond by filing an answer of protest with the 21 department specifying the grounds of protest.

22 (((4))) <u>(3)</u> If any person <u>or contractor</u> issued a notice of 23 infraction:

24 (a) Fails to respond to the notice of infraction as provided in 25 subsection ((-2)) (1) of this section; or

26 (b) Fails to appear at a hearing requested pursuant to subsection 27 ((-(3))) (2) of this section;

the administrative law judge shall enter an appropriate order assessing the monetary penalty prescribed for the infraction and shall notify the department of the failure to respond to the notice of infraction or to appear at a requested hearing.

32 Sec. 18. RCW 18.106.250 and 2002 c 82 s 4 are each amended to 33 read as follows:

34 (1) The administrative law judge shall conduct notice of 35 infraction cases under this chapter pursuant to chapter 34.05 RCW.

36 (2) The burden of proof is on the department to establish the 37 commission of the infraction by a preponderance of the evidence. The 1 notice of infraction shall be dismissed if the defendant establishes
2 that, at the time the notice was issued:

3 (((a) The defendant who was issued a notice of infraction 4 authorized by RCW 18.106.020(5)(a) had a certificate or permit issued 5 by the department in accordance with this chapter, was supervised by 6 a person who has such a certificate or permit, or was exempt from 7 this chapter under RCW 18.106.150; or

(b)) For the defendant who was issued a notice of infraction 8 authorized by RCW 18.106.020((((5) (b) or)) (4)(a) through (c), the 9 person employed or supervised by the defendant has a certificate 10 11 <u>license</u>, <u>endorsement</u>, ((or permit)) <u>temporary permit</u>, <u>or registration</u> 12 issued by the department in accordance with this chapter, was supervised by a person who had such a certificate, license, ((or 13 14 permit)) temporary permit, or endorsement, was exempt from this chapter under RCW 18.106.150, or was registered as a plumbing 15 16 contractor under this chapter and registered as a contractor under 17 chapter 18.27 RCW.

(3) After consideration of the evidence and argument, the 18 19 administrative law judge shall determine whether the infraction was committed. If it has not been established that the infraction was 20 21 committed, an order dismissing the notice shall be entered in the record of the proceedings. If it has been established that the 22 23 infraction was committed, the administrative law judge shall issue findings of fact and conclusions of law in its decision and order 24 25 determining whether the infraction was committed.

(4) An appeal from the administrative law judge's determination
or order shall be to the superior court. The decision of the superior
court is subject only to discretionary review pursuant to Rule 2.3 of
the Rules of Appellate Procedure.

30 Sec. 19. RCW 18.106.270 and 1994 c 174 s 8 are each amended to 31 read as follows:

(1) A person found to have committed an infraction under RCW 32 18.106.020 shall be assessed a <u>minimum</u> monetary penalty of ((two)) 33 one hundred ((fifty)) dollars for the first infraction((, and not 34 more than one thousand dollars for a second or subsequent 35 infraction)). A contractor found to have committed an infraction 36 under RCW 18.106.020 must be assessed a minimum monetary penalty of 37 38 five hundred dollars for the first infraction. The maximum penalty 39 for an infraction under RCW 18.106.020 must not exceed five thousand 1 <u>dollars for a second or subsequent infraction.</u> The department shall 2 set by rule a schedule of penalties for infractions imposed under 3 this chapter.

4 (2) The administrative law judge may <u>not</u> waive, reduce, or
5 suspend the monetary penalty imposed for the infraction ((for good
6 cause shown)).

7 (3) <u>The director may waive or reduce collection of payment for</u>
8 <u>good cause.</u>

9 <u>(4) Any individual or plumbing contractor who acquires three</u> 10 <u>infractions within a thirty-six month period may have his or her</u> 11 <u>certificate, license, endorsement, or registration suspended for a</u> 12 <u>period of up to two years upon recommendation of the advisory board</u> 13 <u>of plumbers. For purposes of this subsection, multiple violations</u> 14 <u>created by a single inspection or audit are counted as one violation.</u>

15 <u>(5)</u> Monetary penalties collected under this chapter shall be 16 deposited in the plumbing certificate fund.

17 Sec. 20. RCW 18.106.320 and 2005 c 274 s 229 are each amended to 18 read as follows:

19 (1) ((Contractors shall accurately verify and attest to the 20 trainee hours worked by plumbing trainees on behalf of the contractor and that all training hours were under the supervision of a certified 21 22 plumber and within the proper ratio, and shall provide the supervising plumbers' names and certificate numbers. However, 23 24 contractors are not required to identify which hours a trainee works with a specific certified plumber.)) (a) The plumbing contractor 25 26 shall:

27 (i) Accurately report all plumbing hours worked by plumbing 28 trainees and, effective June 30, 2021, report all plumbing trainee 29 hours worked on a quarterly basis on a form prescribed by the 30 department;

31 (ii) Attest that trainee hours were under the supervision of a 32 certified plumber and within the proper ratio;

33 <u>(iii) Provide the names and certification numbers of the</u> 34 <u>supervising plumbers; and</u>

35 <u>(iv) Upon request, provide the department with trainee hours</u> 36 worked by all trainees within their employment for the past two-year 37 period.

38 (b) Plumbing contractors are not required to identify which hours
 39 a trainee works with a specific certified plumber. Plumbing hours

reported on all payroll reports for audit purposes will be considered work performed by a certified plumber or trainee working within ratio. Plumbing work reported for noncertified plumbers or supervision and ratio requirements is a violation of this chapter and subject to issuance of an infraction.

6 (2) The department may audit the records of a plumbing contractor that has verified the hours of experience submitted by a plumbing 7 trainee to the department under RCW 18.106.030 in the following 8 circumstances: Excessive hours were reported; hours were reported 9 outside the normal course of the plumbing contractor's business; or 10 11 for other similar circumstances in which the department demonstrates 12 a likelihood of excessive or improper hours being reported. The department shall limit the audit to records necessary to verify 13 hours. Failure to have or maintain payroll and other records for each 14 employee performing plumbing work for the company is a violation of 15 16 this chapter and subject to issuance of an infraction. The department may assess a penalty of up to five thousand dollars for failure to 17 maintain adequate records. Records used to document plumbing work 18 19 must be maintained for a minimum of three years. The department shall adopt rules implementing audit procedures. Information obtained from 20 21 a <u>plumbing</u> contractor under the provisions of this section is 22 confidential and is not open to public inspection under chapter 42.56 23 RCW.

24

(3) Violation of this section by a contractor is an infraction.

25 Sec. 21. RCW 18.27.060 and 2011 c 301 s 1 are each amended to 26 read as follows:

(1) A certificate of registration shall be valid for two years and shall be renewed on or before the expiration date. The department shall issue to the applicant a certificate of registration upon compliance with the registration requirements of this chapter.

(2) If the department approves an application, it shall issue acertificate of registration to the applicant.

(3) If a contractor's surety bond or other security has an 33 unsatisfied judgment against it or is canceled, 34 or if the 35 contractor's insurance policy is canceled, the contractor's registration shall be automatically suspended on the effective date 36 of the impairment or cancellation. The department shall mail notice 37 38 of the suspension to the contractor's address on the certificate of registration within two days after suspension using a method by which
 the mailing can be tracked or the delivery can be confirmed.

(4) Renewal of registration is valid on the date the department
receives the required fee and proof of bond and liability insurance,
if sent by certified mail or other means requiring proof of delivery.
The receipt or proof of delivery shall serve as the contractor's
proof of renewed registration until he or she receives verification
from the department.

(5) The department shall immediately suspend the certificate of 9 registration of a contractor who has been certified by the department 10 of social and health services as a person who is not in compliance 11 with a support order or a visitation order as provided in RCW 12 74.20A.320. The certificate of registration shall not be reissued or 13 renewed unless the person provides to the department a release from 14 the department of social and health services stating that he or she 15 16 is in compliance with the order and the person has continued to meet 17 all other requirements for certification during the suspension.

18 (((6) For a contractor who employs plumbers, as described in RCW 18.106.010(10)(c), and is also required to be licensed as an 19 electrical contractor as required in RCW 19.28.041, while doing pump 20 21 and irrigation or domestic pump work described in rule as authorized by RCW 19.28.251, the department shall establish a single 22 registration/licensing document for those who qualify for both 23 general contractor registration as defined by this chapter and an 24 25 electrical contractor license as defined by chapter 19.28 RCW.))

26 Sec. 22. RCW 18.27.090 and 2013 c 23 s 13 are each amended to 27 read as follows:

28

The registration provisions of this chapter do not apply to:

(1) An authorized representative of the United States government,
the state of Washington, or any incorporated city, town, county,
township, irrigation district, reclamation district, or other
municipal or political corporation or subdivision of this state;

33 (2) Officers of a court when they are acting within the scope of 34 their office;

(3) Public utilities operating under the regulations of the
 utilities and transportation commission in construction, maintenance,
 or development work incidental to their own business;

38 (4) Any construction, repair, or operation incidental to the 39 discovering or producing of petroleum or gas, or the drilling,

1 testing, abandoning, or other operation of any petroleum or gas well 2 or any surface or underground mine or mineral deposit when performed 3 by an owner or lessee;

4 (5) The sale of any finished products, materials, or articles of 5 merchandise that are not fabricated into and do not become a part of 6 a structure under the common law of fixtures;

7 (6) Any construction, alteration, improvement, or repair of 8 personal property performed by the registered or legal owner, or by a 9 mobile/manufactured home retail dealer or manufacturer licensed under 10 chapter 46.70 RCW who shall warranty service and repairs under 11 chapter 46.70 RCW;

12 (7) Any construction, alteration, improvement, or repair carried 13 on within the limits and boundaries of any site or reservation under 14 the legal jurisdiction of the federal government;

15 (8) Any person who only furnished materials, supplies, or 16 equipment without fabricating them into, or consuming them in the 17 performance of, the work of the contractor;

(9) Any work or operation on one undertaking or project by one or 18 19 more contracts, the aggregate contract price of which for labor and materials and all other items is less than five hundred dollars, such 20 21 work or operations being considered as of a casual, minor, or 22 inconsequential nature. The exemption prescribed in this subsection does not apply in any instance wherein the work or construction is 23 only a part of a larger or major operation, whether undertaken by the 24 same or a different contractor, or in which a division of the 25 operation is made into contracts of amounts less than five hundred 26 dollars for the purpose of evasion of this chapter or otherwise. The 27 exemption prescribed in this subsection does not apply to a person 28 who advertises or puts out any sign or card or other device which 29 might indicate to the public that he or she is a contractor, or that 30 31 he or she is qualified to engage in the business of contractor;

(10) Any construction or operation incidental to the construction and repair of irrigation and drainage ditches of regularly constituted irrigation districts or reclamation districts; or to farming, dairying, agriculture, viticulture, horticulture, or stock or poultry raising; or to clearing or other work upon land in rural districts for fire prevention purposes; except when any of the above work is performed by a registered contractor;

39 (11) An owner who contracts for a project with a registered 40 contractor, except that this exemption shall not deprive the owner of

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the protections of this chapter against registered and unregistered contractors. The exemption prescribed in this subsection does not apply to a person who performs the activities of a contractor for the purpose of leasing or selling improved property he or she has owned for less than twelve months;

6 (12) Any person working on his or her own property, whether 7 occupied by him or her or not, and any person working on his or her 8 personal residence, whether owned by him or her or not but this 9 exemption shall not apply to any person who performs the activities 10 of a contractor on his or her own property for the purpose of 11 selling, demolishing, or leasing the property;

12 (13) An owner who performs maintenance, repair, and alteration 13 work in or upon his or her own properties, or who uses his or her own 14 employees to do such work;

(14) A licensed architect or civil or professional engineer 15 16 acting solely in his or her professional capacity, an electrician 17 certified under the laws of the state of Washington, or a plumber certified under the laws of the state of Washington or licensed by a 18 political subdivision of the state of Washington while operating 19 within the boundaries of such political subdivision. The exemption 20 provided in this subsection is applicable only when the person 21 22 certified is operating within the scope of his or her certification;

(15) Any person who engages in the activities herein regulated as an employee of a registered contractor with wages as his or her sole compensation or as an employee with wages as his or her sole compensation;

(16) Contractors on highway projects who have been prequalified
 as required by RCW 47.28.070, with the department of transportation
 to perform highway construction, reconstruction, or maintenance work;

30 (17) A mobile/manufactured home dealer or manufacturer who 31 subcontracts the installation, set-up, or repair work to actively 32 registered contractors. This exemption only applies to the 33 installation, set-up, or repair of the mobile/manufactured homes that 34 were manufactured or sold by the mobile/manufactured home dealer or 35 manufacturer((\div

36 (18) An entity who holds a valid electrical contractor's license 37 under chapter 19.28 RCW that employs a certified journey level 38 electrician, a certified residential specialty electrician, or an 39 electrical trainee meeting the requirements of chapter 19.28 RCW to 40 perform plumbing work that is incidentally, directly, and immediately

1 appropriate to the like-in-kind replacement of a household appliance 2 or other small household utilization equipment that requires limited 3 electric power and limited waste and/or water connections. An 4 electrical trainee must be supervised by a certified electrician 5 while performing plumbing work)).

6 Sec. 23. RCW 19.28.091 and 2003 c 399 s 301 and 2003 c 242 s 1 7 are each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

(1) No license under the provision of this chapter shall be 8 9 required from any utility or any person, firm, partnership, corporation, or other entity employed by a utility because of work in 10 11 connection with the installation, repair, or maintenance of lines, wires, apparatus, or equipment owned by or under the control of a 12 utility and used for transmission or distribution of electricity from 13 the source of supply to the point of contact at the premises and/or 14 15 property to be supplied and service connections and meters and other apparatus or appliances used in the measurement of the consumption of 16 17 electricity by the customer.

18 (2) No license under the provisions of this chapter shall be 19 required from any utility because of work in connection with the 20 installation, repair, or maintenance of the following:

(a) Lines, wires, apparatus, or equipment used in the lighting of
 streets, alleys, ways, or public areas or squares;

(b) Lines, wires, apparatus, or equipment owned by a commercial, industrial, or public institution customer that are an integral part of a transmission or distribution system, either overhead or underground, providing service to such customer and located outside the building or structure: PROVIDED, That a utility does not initiate the sale of services to perform such work;

(c) Lines and wires, together with ancillary apparatus, and equipment, owned by a customer that is an independent power producer who has entered into an agreement for the sale of electricity to a utility and that are used in transmitting electricity from an electrical generating unit located on premises used by such customer to the point of interconnection with the utility's system.

(3) Any person, firm, partnership, corporation, or other entity
 licensed under RCW 19.28.041 may enter into a contract with a utility
 for the performance of work under subsection (2) of this section.

38 (4) No license under the provisions of this chapter shall be 39 required from any person, firm, partnership, corporation, or other

entity because of the work of installing and repairing ignition or
 lighting systems for motor vehicles.

3 (5) No license under the provisions of this chapter shall be 4 required from any person, firm, partnership, corporation, or other 5 entity because of work in connection with the installation, repair, 6 or maintenance of wires and equipment, and installations thereof, 7 exempted in RCW 19.28.010.

8 (6) The department may by rule exempt from licensing requirements 9 under this chapter work performed on premanufactured electric power 10 generation equipment assemblies and control gear involving the 11 testing, repair, modification, maintenance, or installation of 12 components internal to the power generation equipment, the control 13 gear, or the transfer switch.

This chapter does not require an electrical contractor 14 (7) 15 license if: (a) An appropriately certified electrician or a properly 16 supervised certified electrical trainee is performing the 17 installation, repair, or maintenance of wires and equipment for a nonprofit corporation that holds a current tax exempt status as 18 provided under 26 U.S.C. Sec. 501(c)(3) or a nonprofit religious 19 organization; (b) the certified electrician or certified electrical 20 trainee is not compensated for the electrical work; and (c) the value 21 22 of the electrical work does not exceed thirty thousand dollars.

23 (8) An entity that currently holds a valid plumbing contractor's license under chapter 18.106 RCW, or, until January 1, 2021, an 24 25 entity that currently holds a valid specialty or general plumbing contractor's registration under chapter 18.27 RCW may employ a 26 certified plumber, a certified residential plumber, or a plumber 27 28 trainee meeting the requirements of chapter 18.106 RCW to perform electrical work that is incidentally, directly, and immediately 29 appropriate to the like-in-kind replacement of a household appliance 30 31 or other small household utilization equipment that requires limited 32 electric power and limited waste and/or water connections. A plumber trainee must be supervised by a certified plumber or a certified 33 residential plumber while performing electrical work. The electrical 34 work is subject to the permitting and inspection requirements of this 35 36 chapter.

37 Sec. 24. RCW 19.28.041 and 2013 c 23 s 28 are each amended to 38 read as follows:

1 (1) It is unlawful for any person, firm, partnership, corporation, or other entity to advertise, offer to do work, submit a 2 bid, engage in, conduct, or carry on the business of installing or 3 maintaining wires or equipment to convey electric current, 4 or installing or maintaining equipment to be operated by electric 5 6 current as it pertains to the electrical industry, without having an unrevoked, unsuspended, and unexpired electrical contractor license, 7 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 contractor license for a period of less than twenty-four 11 12 months only for the purpose of equalizing the number of electrical contractor licenses that expire each month. Application for an 13 electrical contractor license shall be made in writing to the 14 15 department, accompanied by the required fee. The application shall 16 state:

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

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

23 (c) Employer social security number;

24 (d) Evidence of workers' compensation coverage for the 25 applicant's employees working in Washington, as follows:

26 (i) The applicant's industrial insurance account number issued by 27 the department;

28 (ii) The applicant's self-insurer number issued by the 29 department; or

30 (iii) For applicants domiciled in a state or province of Canada 31 subject to an agreement entered into under RCW 51.12.120(7), as 32 permitted by the agreement, filing a certificate of coverage issued 33 by the agency that administers the workers' compensation law in the 34 applicant's state or province of domicile certifying that the 35 applicant has secured the payment of compensation under the other 36 state's or province's workers' compensation law;

37 (e) Employment security department number;

38 (f) State excise tax registration number;

39 (g) Unified business identifier (UBI) account number may be 40 substituted for the information required by (d) of this subsection if 1 the applicant will not employ employees in Washington, and by (e) and 2 (f) of this subsection; and

(h) Whether a general or specialty electrical contractor license 3 is sought and, if the latter, the type of specialty. Electrical 4 contractor specialties include, but are not limited to: Residential, 5 6 pump and irrigation, limited energy system, signs, nonresidential maintenance, restricted nonresidential maintenance, appliance repair, 7 and a combination specialty. A general electrical contractor license 8 shall grant to the holder the right to engage in, conduct, or carry 9 on the business of installing or maintaining wires or equipment to 10 carry electric current, and installing or maintaining equipment, or 11 installing or maintaining material to fasten or insulate such wires 12 or equipment to be operated by electric current, in the state of 13 Washington. A specialty electrical contractor license shall grant to 14 the holder a limited right to engage in, conduct, or carry on the 15 16 business of installing or maintaining wires or equipment to carry 17 electrical current, and installing or maintaining equipment; or installing or maintaining material to fasten or insulate such wires 18 or equipment to be operated by electric current in the state of 19 Washington as expressly allowed by the license. 20

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

28 (3) The application for an electrical contractor license shall be accompanied by a bond in the sum of four thousand dollars with the 29 state of Washington named as obligee in the bond, with good and 30 sufficient surety, to be approved by the department. The bond shall 31 32 at all times be kept in full force and effect, and any cancellation or revocation thereof, or withdrawal of the surety therefrom, 33 suspends the license issued to the principal until a new bond has 34 been filed and approved as provided in this section. Upon approval of 35 a bond, the department shall on the next business day deposit the fee 36 accompanying the application in the electrical license fund and shall 37 file the bond in the office. The department shall upon request 38 39 furnish to any person, firm, partnership, corporation, or other 40 entity a certified copy of the bond upon the payment of a fee that

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the department shall set by rule. The fee shall cover but not exceed 1 the cost of furnishing the certified copy. The bond shall be 2 3 conditioned that in any installation or maintenance of wires or equipment to convey electrical current, and equipment to be operated 4 by electrical current, the principal will comply with the provisions 5 6 of this chapter and with any electrical ordinance, building code, or 7 regulation of a city or town adopted pursuant to RCW 19.28.010(3) that is in effect at the time of entering into a contract. The bond 8 shall be conditioned further that the principal will pay for all 9 labor, including employee benefits, and material furnished or used 10 11 upon the work, taxes and contributions to the state of Washington, 12 and all damages that may be sustained by any person, firm, partnership, corporation, or other entity due to a failure of the 13 principal to make the installation or maintenance in accordance with 14 this chapter or any applicable ordinance, building code, or 15 16 regulation of a city or town adopted pursuant to RCW 19.28.010(3). In 17 lieu of the surety bond required by this section, the license 18 applicant may file with the department a cash deposit or other negotiable security acceptable to the department. If the license 19 applicant has filed a cash deposit, the department shall deposit the 20 21 funds in a special trust savings account in a commercial bank, mutual 22 savings bank, or savings and loan association and shall pay annually 23 to the depositor the interest derived from the account.

(4) The department shall issue general or specialty electrical 24 25 contractor licenses to applicants meeting all of the requirements of this chapter. The provisions of this chapter relating to the 26 licensing of any person, firm, partnership, corporation, or other 27 28 entity including the requirement of a bond with the state of Washington named as obligee therein and the collection of a fee 29 therefor, are exclusive, and no political subdivision of the state of 30 31 Washington may require or issue any licenses or bonds or charge any 32 fee for the same or a similar purpose. No person, firm, partnership, 33 corporation, or other entity holding more than one specialty contractor license under this chapter may be required to pay an 34 annual fee for more than one such license or to post more than one 35 four thousand dollar bond, equivalent cash deposit, or other 36 negotiable security. 37

38 (5) To obtain a general or specialty electrical contractor 39 license, the applicant must designate an individual who currently 40 possesses a valid master journey level electrician's certificate of 1 competency, master specialty electrician's certificate of competency 2 in the specialty for which application has been made, or 3 administrator's certificate as a general electrical contractor 4 administrator or as a specialty electrical contractor administrator 5 in the specialty for which application has been made.

6 (6) Administrator certificate specialties include, but are not 7 limited to: Residential, pump and irrigation or domestic pump, limited energy system, signs, nonresidential maintenance, restricted 8 nonresidential maintenance, appliance repair, and combination 9 10 specialty. To obtain an administrator's certificate, an individual must pass an examination as set forth in RCW 19.28.051 unless the 11 12 applicant was a licensed electrical contractor at any time during 1974. Applicants who were electrical contractors licensed by the 13 state of Washington at any time during 1974 are entitled to receive a 14 15 general electrical contractor administrator's certificate without examination if the applicants apply prior to January 1, 1984. The 16 board of electrical examiners shall certify to the department the 17 18 names of all persons who are entitled to either a general or specialty electrical contractor administrator's certificate. 19

20 (7) For a contractor doing domestic water pumping system work as 21 defined by RCW 18.106.010(((10))) (14)(c), the department shall 22 consider the requirements of subsections (1)(a) through (h), (2), and 23 (3) of this section to have been met to be a pump and irrigation or 24 domestic pump licensed electrical contractor if ((the)):

25 (a) The contractor has met plumbing contractor the ((registration)) licensing requirements of chapter ((18.27)) 18.106 26 27 RCW. The department shall establish a single ((registration/)) 28 licensing document for those who qualify for both ((general)) a 29 plumbing contractor ((registration)) license as defined in chapter 30 ((18.27)) 18.106 RCW and a pump and irrigation or domestic pump 31 electrical contractor license as defined by this chapter; or

32 (b) Until January 1, 2021, the contractor has met the contractor 33 registration requirements of chapter 18.27 RCW. The department shall 34 establish a single registration/licensing document for those who 35 gualify for both a general contractor registration as defined in 36 chapter 18.27 RCW and a pump and irrigation or domestic pump 37 electrical contractor license as defined by this chapter.

38 Sec. 25. RCW 19.28.191 and 2016 c 198 s 2 are each amended to 39 read as follows:

1 (1) Upon receipt of the application, the department shall review 2 the application and determine whether the applicant is eligible to 3 take an examination for the master journey level electrician, journey 4 level electrician, master specialty electrician, or specialty 5 electrician certificate of competency.

6 (a) Before July 1, 2005, an applicant who possesses a valid 7 journey level electrician certificate of competency in effect for the 8 previous four years and a valid general administrator's certificate 9 may apply for a master journey level electrician certificate of 10 competency without examination.

(b) Before July 1, 2005, an applicant who possesses a valid specialty electrician certificate of competency, in the specialty applied for, for the previous two years and a valid specialty administrator's certificate, in the specialty applied for, may apply for a master specialty electrician certificate of competency without examination.

(c) Before December 1, 2003, the following persons may obtain an equipment repair specialty electrician certificate of competency without examination:

(i) A person who has successfully completed an apprenticeship
 program approved under chapter 49.04 RCW for the machinist trade; and

(ii) A person who provides evidence in a form prescribed by the department affirming that: (A) He or she was employed as of April 1, 2003, by a factory-authorized equipment dealer or service company; and (B) he or she has worked in equipment repair for a minimum of four thousand hours.

(d) To be eligible to take the examination for a master journey level electrician certificate of competency, the applicant must have possessed a valid journey level electrician certificate of competency for four years.

31 (e) To be eligible to take the examination for a master specialty 32 electrician certificate of competency, the applicant must have 33 possessed a valid specialty electrician certificate of competency, in 34 the specialty applied for, for two years.

35 (f) To be eligible to take the examination for a journey level 36 certificate of competency, the applicant must have:

(i) Worked in the electrical construction trade for a minimum of eight thousand hours, of which four thousand hours shall be in industrial or commercial electrical installation under the supervision of a master journey level electrician or journey level

electrician and not more than a total of four thousand hours in all 1 specialties under the supervision of a master journey level 2 electrician, journey level electrician, master specialty electrician 3 working in that electrician's specialty, or specialty electrician 4 working in that electrician's specialty. Specialty electricians with 5 6 less than a four thousand hour work experience requirement cannot credit the time required to obtain that specialty towards qualifying 7 to become a journey level electrician; or 8

9 (ii) Successfully completed an apprenticeship program approved 10 under chapter 49.04 RCW for the electrical construction trade.

(g) (i) To be eligible to take the examination for a specialty electrician certificate of competency, the applicant must have:

Worked in the residential (as specified 13 (A) in WAC 296-46B-920(2)(a)), pump and irrigation (as specified in 14 WAC 15 296-46B-920(2)(b)), sign (as specified in WAC 296-46B-920(2)(d)), 16 limited energy (as specified in WAC 296-46B-920(2)(e)), 17 nonresidential maintenance (as specified in WAC 296-46B-920(2)(g)), or other new nonresidential specialties as determined by the 18 department in rule under the supervision of a master journey level 19 electrician, journey level electrician, master specialty electrician 20 working in that electrician's specialty, or specialty electrician 21 working in that electrician's specialty for a minimum of four 22 23 thousand hours;

(B) Worked in the appliance repair specialty as determined by the 24 25 department in rule, restricted nonresidential maintenance as determined by the department in rule, the equipment repair specialty 26 27 as determined by the department in rule, the pump and irrigation 28 specialty other than as defined by (g)(i)(A) of this subsection or 29 domestic pump specialty as determined by the department in rule, or a specialty other than the designated specialties in (g)(i)(A) of this 30 31 subsection for a minimum of the initial ninety days, or longer if set 32 by rule by the department. The restricted nonresidential maintenance specialty is limited to a maximum of 277 volts and 20 amperes for 33 lighting branch circuits and/or a maximum of 250 volts and 60 amperes 34 for other circuits excluding the replacement or repair of circuit 35 breakers. The department may alter the scope of work for the 36 restricted nonresidential maintenance specialty by rule. The initial 37 period must be spent under one hundred percent supervision of a 38 39 master journey level electrician, journey level electrician, master 40 specialty electrician working in that electrician's specialty, or

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1 specialty electrician working in that electrician's specialty. After this initial period, a person may take the specialty examination. If 2 3 the person passes the examination, the person may work unsupervised for the balance of the minimum hours required for certification. A 4 person may not be certified as a specialty electrician in the 5 6 appliance repair specialty or in a specialty other than the designated specialties in (g)(i)(A) of this subsection, however, 7 until the person has worked a minimum of two thousand hours in that 8 specialty, or longer if set by rule by the department; or 9

10 (C) Successfully completed an approved apprenticeship program 11 under chapter 49.04 RCW for the applicant's specialty in the 12 electrical construction trade.

(ii) In meeting the training requirements for the pump and 13 irrigation or domestic pump specialties, the individual shall be 14 allowed to obtain the experience required by this section at the same 15 16 time the individual is meeting the experience required by RCW 17 18.106.040(1)(((c))) <u>(d)</u>. After meeting the training requirements provided in this section, the individual may take the examination and 18 19 passing the examination, meeting additional training upon requirements as may still be required for those seeking a pump and 20 21 irrigation, or a domestic pump specialty certificate as defined by rule, and paying the applicable fees, the individual must be issued 22 23 appropriate certificate. The department may the include an examination for specialty plumbing certificate defined in RCW 24 25 18.106.010((((10)(c))) (14)(c) with the examination required by this section. The department, by rule and in consultation with the 26 electrical board, may establish additional equivalent ways to gain 27 28 the experience requirements required by this subsection. ((Individuals who are able to provide evidence to the department, 29 prior to January 1, 2007, that they have been employed as a pump 30 installer in the pump and irrigation or domestic pump business by an 31 32 appropriately licensed electrical contractor, registered general contractor defined by chapter 18.27 RCW, or appropriate general 33 specialty contractor defined by chapter 18.27 RCW for not less than 34 eight thousand hours in the most recent six calendar years shall be 35 36 issued the appropriate certificate by the department upon receiving such documentation and applicable fees.)) The department shall 37 establish a single document for those who have received both an 38 electrical specialty certification as defined by this subsection and 39 have also met the certification requirements for the specialty 40

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1 plumber as defined by RCW 18.106.010(((10)(c))), showing that the 2 individual has received both certifications. No other experience or 3 training requirements may be imposed.

4 (iii) Before July 1, 2015, an applicant possessing an electrical
5 training certificate issued by the department is eligible to apply
6 one hour of every two hours of unsupervised telecommunications system
7 installation work experience toward eligibility for examination for a
8 limited energy system certificate of competency (as specified in WAC
9 296-46B-920(2)(e)), if:

10 (A) The telecommunications work experience was obtained while 11 employed by a contractor licensed under this chapter as a general 12 electrical contractor (as specified in WAC 296-46B-920(1)) or limited 13 energy system specialty contractor (as specified in WAC 14 296-46B-920(2)(e)); and

(B) Evidence of the telecommunications work experience issubmitted in the form of an affidavit prescribed by the department.

17 (h) Any applicant for a journey level electrician certificate of competency who has successfully completed a two-year program in the 18 19 electrical construction trade at public community or technical colleges, or not-for-profit nationally accredited technical or trade 20 21 schools licensed by the workforce training and education coordinating 22 board under chapter 28C.10 RCW, may substitute up to two years of the 23 technical or trade school program for two years of work experience master journey level electrician or 24 under а journey level 25 electrician. The applicant shall obtain the additional two years of work experience required in industrial or commercial electrical 26 installation prior to the beginning, or after the completion, of the 27 28 technical school program. Any applicant who has received training in the electrical construction trade in the armed service of the United 29 States may be eligible to apply armed service work experience towards 30 31 qualification to take the examination for the journey level 32 electrician certificate of competency.

(i) An applicant for a specialty electrician certificate of 33 competency who, after January 1, 2000, has successfully completed a 34 two-year program in the electrical construction trade at a public 35 community or technical college, or a not-for-profit nationally 36 accredited technical or trade school licensed by the workforce 37 training and education coordinating board under chapter 28C.10 RCW, 38 39 may substitute up to one year of the technical or trade school 40 program for one year of work experience under a master journey level

electrician, journey level electrician, master specialty electrician working in that electrician's specialty, or specialty electrician working in that electrician's specialty. Any applicant who has received training in the electrical construction trade in the armed services of the United States may be eligible to apply armed service work experience towards qualification to take the examination for an appropriate specialty electrician certificate of competency.

8 (j) The department must determine whether hours of training and 9 experience in the armed services or school program are in the 10 electrical construction trade and appropriate as a substitute for 11 hours of work experience. The department must use the following 12 criteria for evaluating the equivalence of classroom electrical 13 training programs and work in the electrical construction trade:

14 (i) A two-year electrical training program must consist of three 15 thousand or more hours.

16 (ii) In a two-year electrical training program, a minimum of two 17 thousand four hundred hours of student/instructor contact time must 18 be technical electrical instruction directly related to the scope of 19 work of the electrical specialty. Student/instructor contact time 20 includes lecture and in-school lab.

(iii) The department may not allow credit for a program that accepts more than one thousand hours transferred from another school's program.

(iv) Electrical specialty training school programs of less than two years will have all of the above student/instructor contact time hours proportionately reduced. Such programs may not apply to more than fifty percent of the work experience required to attain certification.

(v) Electrical training programs of less than two years may not be credited towards qualification for journey level electrician unless the training program is used to gain qualification for a four thousand hour electrical specialty.

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(k) No other requirement for eligibility may be imposed.

(2) The department shall establish reasonable rules for the examinations to be given applicants for certificates of competency. In establishing the rules, the department shall consult with the board. Upon determination that the applicant is eligible to take the examination, the department shall so notify the applicant, indicating the time and place for taking the examination. 1 (3) No noncertified individual may work unsupervised more than 2 one year beyond the date when the trainee would be eligible to test 3 for a certificate of competency if working on a full-time basis after 4 original application for the trainee certificate. For the purposes of 5 this section, "full-time basis" means two thousand hours.

6 **Sec. 26.** RCW 19.28.191 and 2018 c 249 s 1 are each amended to 7 read as follows:

8 (1) Upon receipt of the application, the department shall review 9 the application and determine whether the applicant is eligible to 10 take an examination for the master journey level electrician, journey 11 level electrician, master specialty electrician, or specialty 12 electrician certificate of competency.

(a) To be eligible to take the examination for a master journey level electrician certificate of competency, the applicant must have possessed a valid journey level electrician certificate of competency for four years.

(b) To be eligible to take the examination for a master specialty electrician certificate of competency, the applicant must have possessed a valid specialty electrician certificate of competency, in the specialty applied for, for two years.

(c) To be eligible to take the examination for a journey level 21 22 certificate of competency, the applicant must have successfully completed an apprenticeship program approved under chapter 49.04 RCW 23 24 or equivalent apprenticeship program approved by the department for 25 the electrical construction trade in which the applicant worked in the electrical construction trade for a minimum of eight thousand 26 27 hours. Four thousand of the hours shall be in industrial or commercial electrical installation under the supervision of a master 28 journey level electrician or journey level electrician and not more 29 30 than a total of four thousand hours in all specialties under the supervision of a master journey level electrician, journey level 31 32 electrician, master specialty electrician working in that electrician's specialty, or specialty electrician working in that 33 electrician's specialty. Specialty electricians with less than a four 34 thousand hour work experience requirement cannot credit the time 35 required to obtain that specialty towards qualifying to become a 36 journey level electrician. The holder of a specialty electrician 37 38 certificate of competency with a four thousand hour work experience requirement shall be allowed to credit the work experience required 39

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1 to obtain that certificate towards apprenticeship requirements for 2 qualifying to take the examination for a journey level electrician 3 certificate of competency.

4 (d) To be eligible to take the examination for a specialty 5 electrician certificate of competency, the applicant must have:

6 (i) Worked in the residential (as specified in WAC 7 296-46B-920(2)(a)), pump and irrigation (as specified in WAC 296-46B-920(2)(b)), sign (as specified in WAC 296-46B-920(2)(d)), 8 energy (as specified in WAC 9 limited 296-46B-920(2)(e)), nonresidential maintenance (as specified in WAC 296-46B-920(2)(g)), 10 or other new nonresidential specialties as determined by the 11 department in rule under the supervision of a master journey level 12 electrician, journey level electrician, master specialty electrician 13 working in that electrician's specialty, or specialty electrician 14 15 working in that electrician's specialty for a minimum of four 16 thousand hours;

17 (ii) Worked in the appliance repair specialty as determined by the department in rule, restricted nonresidential maintenance as 18 19 determined by the department in rule, the equipment repair specialty as determined by the department in rule, the pump and irrigation 20 21 specialty other than as defined by (d)(i) of this subsection or domestic pump specialty as determined by the department in rule, or a 22 23 specialty other than the designated specialties in (d)(i) of this subsection for a minimum of the initial ninety days, or longer if set 24 25 by rule by the department. The restricted nonresidential maintenance specialty is limited to a maximum of 277 volts and 20 amperes for 26 lighting branch circuits and/or a maximum of 250 volts and 60 amperes 27 for other circuits excluding the replacement or repair of circuit 28 breakers. The department may alter the scope of work for the 29 30 restricted nonresidential maintenance specialty by rule. The initial 31 period must be spent under one hundred percent supervision of a 32 master journey level electrician, journey level electrician, master specialty electrician working in that electrician's specialty, or 33 specialty electrician working in that electrician's specialty. After 34 this initial period, a person may take the specialty examination. If 35 the person passes the examination, the person may work unsupervised 36 for the balance of the minimum hours required for certification. A 37 person may not be certified as a specialty electrician in the 38 39 appliance repair specialty or in a specialty other than the 40 designated specialties in (d)(i) of this subsection, however, until

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1 the person has worked a minimum of two thousand hours in that 2 specialty, or longer if set by rule by the department;

3 (iii) Successfully completed an approved apprenticeship program
4 under chapter 49.04 RCW for the applicant's specialty in the
5 electrical construction trade; or

6 (iv) In meeting the training requirements for the pump and irrigation or domestic pump specialties, the individual shall be 7 allowed to obtain the experience required by this section at the same 8 time the individual is meeting the experience required by RCW 9 18.106.040(1)(((c))) <u>(d)</u>. After meeting the training requirements 10 provided in this section, the individual may take the examination and 11 12 the examination, meeting additional training upon passing requirements as may still be required for those seeking a pump and 13 irrigation, or a domestic pump specialty certificate as defined by 14 rule, and paying the applicable fees, the individual must be issued 15 appropriate certificate. 16 the The department may include an 17 examination for specialty plumbing certificate defined in RCW 18.106.010(((10))) <u>(14)</u>(c) with the examination required by this 18 section. The department, by rule and in consultation with the 19 electrical board, may establish additional equivalent ways to gain 20 the experience requirements required by this subsection. 21 The department shall establish a single document for those who have 22 23 received both an electrical specialty certification as defined by this subsection and have also met the certification requirements for 24 25 the specialty plumber as defined by RCW 18.106.010((((10)(c))))that individual 26 (14)(c), showing the has received both 27 certifications. No other experience or training requirements may be 28 imposed.

(e) Any applicant for a journey level electrician certificate of 29 competency who has successfully completed a two-year program in the 30 31 electrical construction trade at public community or technical 32 colleges, or not-for-profit nationally accredited technical or trade 33 schools licensed by the workforce training and education coordinating board under chapter 28C.10 RCW, may substitute up to two years of the 34 technical or trade school program for two years of work experience 35 under a master journey level electrician or journey level electrician 36 required under the apprenticeship program. The applicant shall obtain 37 the additional two years of work experience required in industrial or 38 39 commercial electrical installation prior to the beginning, or after 40 the completion, of the technical school program. Any applicant who

has received training in the electrical construction trade in the armed service of the United States may be eligible to apply armed service work experience towards qualification to complete an apprenticeship and take the examination for the journey level electrician certificate of competency.

6 (f) An applicant for a specialty electrician certificate of competency who, after January 1, 2000, has successfully completed a 7 two-year program in the electrical construction trade at a public 8 community or technical college, or a not-for-profit nationally 9 accredited technical or trade school licensed by the workforce 10 11 training and education coordinating board under chapter 28C.10 RCW, 12 may substitute up to one year of the technical or trade school program for one year of work experience under a master journey level 13 electrician, journey level electrician, master specialty electrician 14 working in that electrician's specialty, or specialty electrician 15 16 working in that electrician's specialty. Any applicant who has 17 received training in the electrical construction trade in the armed services of the United States may be eligible to apply armed service 18 work experience towards qualification to take the examination for an 19 appropriate specialty electrician certificate of competency. 20

(g) The department must determine whether hours of training and experience in the armed services or school program are in the electrical construction trade and appropriate as a substitute for hours of work experience. The department must use the following criteria for evaluating the equivalence of classroom electrical training programs and work in the electrical construction trade:

(i) A two-year electrical training program must consist of threethousand or more hours.

(ii) In a two-year electrical training program, a minimum of two thousand four hundred hours of student/instructor contact time must be technical electrical instruction directly related to the scope of work of the electrical specialty. Student/instructor contact time includes lecture and in-school lab.

34 (iii) The department may not allow credit for a program that 35 accepts more than one thousand hours transferred from another 36 school's program.

(iv) Electrical specialty training school programs of less than two years will have all of the above student/instructor contact time hours proportionately reduced. Such programs may not apply to more 1 than fifty percent of the work experience required to attain 2 certification.

3 (v) Electrical training programs of less than two years may not 4 be credited towards qualification for journey level electrician 5 unless the training program is used to gain qualification for a four 6 thousand hour electrical specialty.

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(h) No other requirement for eligibility may be imposed.

8 (2) The department shall establish reasonable rules for the 9 examinations to be given applicants for certificates of competency. 10 In establishing the rules, the department shall consult with the 11 board. Upon determination that the applicant is eligible to take the 12 examination, the department shall so notify the applicant, indicating 13 instructions for taking the examination.

14 (3) No noncertified individual may work unsupervised more than 15 one year beyond the date when the trainee would be eligible to test 16 for a certificate of competency if working on a full-time basis after 17 original application for the trainee certificate. For the purposes of 18 this section, "full-time basis" means two thousand hours.

19 Sec. 27. RCW 19.28.051 and 2006 c 185 s 8 are each amended to 20 read as follows:

It shall be the purpose and function of the board to establish, 21 22 in addition to a general electrical contractors' license, such classifications of specialty electrical contractors' licenses as it 23 24 deems appropriate with regard to individual sections pertaining to state adopted codes in this chapter. In addition, it shall be the 25 purpose and function of the board to establish and administer written 26 examinations for general electrical administrators' certificates and 27 various specialty electrical administrators' certificates. 28 the 29 Examinations shall be designed to reasonably ensure that general and 30 specialty electrical administrators' certificate holders are 31 competent to engage in and supervise the work covered by this statute and their respective licenses. The examinations shall include 32 questions from the following categories to ensure proper safety and 33 protection for the general public: (1) Safety, (2) state electrical 34 code, and (3) electrical theory. The department with the consent of 35 the board shall be permitted to enter into a contract with a 36 professional testing agency to develop, administer, and score these 37 38 examinations, or accept certifications or other appropriate 39 demonstrations established by independent entities that otherwise

1 fulfill the examination requirements of this section. ((Individuals who can provide evidence to the department, prior to January 1, 2007, 2 that they have been employed as a pump installer in the pump and 3 irrigation or domestic pump business by an appropriately licensed 4 electrical contractor, registered general contractor defined by 5 6 chapter 18.27 RCW, or appropriate general specialty contractor defined by chapter 18.27 RCW for not less than eight thousand hours 7 in the most recent six calendar years shall be issued the appropriate 8 administrator's certificate by the department upon receiving such 9 10 documentation and applicable fees.)) The fee for the examination may 11 be set by the department in its contract with the professional 12 testing agency. The department may direct that the applicant pay the fee to the professional testing agency. The fee shall cover but not 13 exceed the costs of preparing and administering the examination. It 14 15 shall be the further purpose and function of this board to advise the 16 director as to the need of additional electrical inspectors and 17 compliance officers to be utilized by the director on either a fulltime or part-time employment basis and to carry out the duties 18 19 enumerated in RCW 19.28.161 through 19.28.271 as well as generally advise the department on all matters relative to RCW 19.28.161 20 21 through 19.28.271.

22 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 28. A new section is added to chapter 18.106 23 RCW to read as follows:

(1) No city, town, or county shall issue a plumbing permit for 24 25 work which is to be done by any contractor required to be licensed under this chapter without verification that such contractor is 26 27 currently licensed as required by law. When such verification is made, nothing contained in this section is intended to be, nor shall 28 be construed to create, or form the basis for any liability under 29 30 this chapter on the part of any city, town, or county, or its 31 officers, employees, or agents.

32 (2) At the time of issuing the plumbing permit, all cities,33 towns, or counties are responsible for:

34 (a) Printing the plumbing contractor license number on the35 plumbing permit; and

36 (b) Providing a written notice to the plumbing permit applicant 37 informing them of plumbing contractor license laws and the potential 38 risk and monetary liability to the homeowner for using an unlicensed 39 plumbing contractor. 1 (3) If a plumbing permit is obtained by an applicant or 2 contractor who falsifies information to obtain an exemption provided 3 under RCW 18.106.150 the plumbing permit shall be forfeited.

4 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 29. Sections 21, 22, and 28 of this act take 5 effect January 1, 2021.

6 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 30. Section 25 of this act expires July 1, 7 2023.

8 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 31. Section 26 of this act takes effect July 9 1, 2023.

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