

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY FROM 1987 TO 2008

CERTIFICATION OF PERSONS PERFORMING HVAC/R AND RELATED WORK

HB 512 (1987) - Forced air heating, ventilation, and air conditioning.

Creates a 7-member Board of Forced Air Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning; requires the Board to adopt standards for HVAC work at least as stringent as the residential standards of the Sheet Metal and Air Conditioning Contractors National Association; establishes certification and bonding requirements; and for persons with specified experience, provides window for certification without examination.

Died in the House Commerce & Labor Committee.

SB 6049 (1987) - Electricians and electrical installations.

Defines the scope of HVAC work; establishes a licensure requirement; and for individuals with specified experience, provides window for licensure without examination.

Died in the Senate Commerce & Labor Committee.

SB 6212 (2001) - Exempting heating, air conditioning, water heater, and household appliance installation and service from electrical licensing laws.

Exempts work on low-voltage conductors for HVAC or refrigeration equipment, if such conductors only connect to such equipment, from certification requirement.

Died in the Senate Labor, Commerce & Financial Institutions Committee.

ESB 6630 (2002) – Certification of electricians.

Does not change the work experience requirements applicable to the following specialties: residential; pump and irrigation; sign; limited energy; nonresidential maintenance; restricted nonresidential maintenance; and other new nonresidential; authorizes the Department of Labor and Industries to reduce to 2,000 hours the work experience requirements applicable to appliance repair and other specialties; and allows technical or trade school training to be substituted for work experience.

Signed as Chapter 249, Laws of 2002.

HB 1575 (2003) - Expanding membership of the electrical board by appointment of one outside line worker.

Senate Committee amendment (1575 AMS CT S2795.3) - Adds four members to the Electrical Board, including an owner/manager of an HVAC business.

Died in the Senate Rules Committee in 2003.

HB 2900 (2004) and SB 6267 (2004) - Certification of certain specialty electrical administrators and electricians without examination.

For persons with specified experience, provides window for certification without examination as administrators and electricians.

Died in the House Commerce & Labor Committee and the Senate Commerce & Trade Committee.

SB 6547 (2004) - Adding to the electrical board one representative of each of the following: Outside journeyman lineman, industrial electricians, owners or managers of appliance repair contractors, and owners or managers of HVAC contractors.

Adds four members to the Electrical Board, including a member representing HVAC contractors.

Died in the Senate Rules Committee.

SB 6607 (2004) - Directing the Department of Labor and Industries to develop a plan to transfer the regulation of HVAC/R specialty contractors from the Electrical Board.

Requires the Department of Labor and Industries to develop and submit a plan to the Legislature to create a board, separate from the Electrical Board, to advise the Department on the development of a non-duplicative regulatory scheme to define and govern the HVAC/R industry.

Died in the Senate Rules Committee.

Section 103(4) of ESHB 2459 (2004) – Supplemental operating budget.

Appropriates \$25,000 to the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Committee for a study evaluating the licensing and testing requirements for HVAC contractors and installers.

Vetoed by the Governor, but added to the 2003-05 Work Plan by the Committee.

SB 5989 - Changing membership on the electrical board.

Adds an owner or manager of an HVAC business to the Electrical Board.

Died in the Senate Labor, Commerce, Research, & Development Committee.

HB 3177 (2006) and SB 6772 (2006) - Regulation of HVAC/R contractors.

Requires that persons, other than licensed electricians, who are engaged in the HVAC/R trade have an HVAC/R certificate; directs the Department of Labor and Industries, with the advice of the Plumbing and Mechanical Advisory Board, to administer the certification requirements; and increases Advisory Board membership from 5 to 14.

Died in the House Commerce & Labor Committee and the Senate Labor, Commerce, Research, & Development Committee.

SHB 1876 (2007) and SB 5831 (2007) - Certification of mechanics performing HVAC/R and gas piping work.

Requires persons performing HVAC/R work and gas piping work to be certified by the Department of Labor and Industries; establishes a governing board; and creates a dedicated account.

SHB 1876 died in the Senate Rules Committee. SB 5831 died in the Senate Labor, Commerce, and Research & Development Committee in 2007, but passed in 2008.

HB 1917 (2007) and SB 5875 (2007) - Regulation of the HVAC/R profession.

Requires contractors in the business of performing HVAC/R work to employ a certified HVAC/R administrator; and expands an existing advisory board and the purposes of an existing dedicated account.

Died in the House Commerce & Labor Committee and the Senate Labor, Commerce, Research, & Development Committee.

2SHB 2966 (2008) - Certification of mechanics performing HVAC/R and gas piping work.

Establishes requirements for registration of HVAC/R contractors and certification of HVAC/R mechanics and various specialty mechanics; and directs the Department of Labor and Industries to administer and enforce these requirements.

Died in the House Rules Committee.

ESSB 5831 (2008) - Creation of the joint legislative task force on the HVAC/R industry.

Establishes a joint legislative task force on HVAC/R to review issues related to contractor registration and licensing and mechanic certification.

Signed as Chapter 254, Laws of 2008.

Prepared For: Joint Legislative Task Force on the HVAC/R Industry
Meeting on June 10, 2008

Prepared By: Jill Reinmuth, Office of Program Research
360-786-7134 or reinmuth.jill@leg.wa.gov