



# LAWS OF ALASKA

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Source

HB 625 am S

Chapter No.

83

## AN ACT

Relating to public safety by controlling activity in close proximity to high voltage electric lines and conductors.

### BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

\* Section 1. AS 42.20 is amended by adding new sections to read:

Sec. 42.20.032. PROHIBITION AGAINST PLACEMENT OF EQUIPMENT NEAR ELECTRICAL POWER LINES AND CONDUCTORS. No person individually or through an agent or employee may

(1) place any type of tool, equipment, machinery or material which is capable of lateral, vertical or swinging motion, within 10 feet of a high voltage overhead electrical line or conductor;

(2) store, operate, erect, maintain, move or transport tools, machinery, equipment, supplies, materials, apparatus, buildings or other structures within 10 feet of a high voltage overhead electrical line or conductor.

Sec. 42.20.034. POSTING OF WARNING SIGN BEFORE OPERATION. No person individually or through an agent or employee may operate a crane, derrick, power shovel, drilling rig, hoisting equipment, or similar apparatus, any part of which is capable of vertical, lateral or swinging motion, unless the operator or his employer posts and maintains in plain view of the operator, a durable warning sign legible at 12 feet, which reads as follows: "It is unlawful to operate this equipment within 10 feet of high voltage lines".

Sec. 42.20.036. PLACEMENT OF BARRIERS FOR TEMPORARY WORK. Before a person is going to temporarily engage in work or other activity in closer proximity to a high voltage

line or conductor than is permitted by sec. 32 of this chapter, he shall immediately notify the operator or owner of the high voltage line or conductor of the work to be performed and make appropriate arrangements, with payment satisfactory to the operator, for the installation of temporary mechanical barriers, temporary deenergization and grounding of the conductors, or a temporary raising of the conductors. Costs incurred by an operator or owner of a high voltage line or conductor in providing barriers, deenergization, and grounding as specified in this section shall be paid by the person engaging in the work which requires these protective measures.

Sec. 42.20.037. PENALTIES. (a) A person who violates secs. 32 - 39 of this chapter is guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction is punishable by a fine of not more than \$500, or by imprisonment for not more than six months, or by both.

(b) If a violation of secs. 32 - 39 of this chapter results in physical or electrical contact with an overhead high voltage line or conductor, the violator is liable to the owner or operator of the high voltage line or conductor for all damage to the facilities and for all liability incurred by the owner or operator as a result of the unlawful activities.

(c) Each day on which a person fails to post or maintain a sign as required by sec. 34 of this chapter constitutes a separate and additional violation.

Sec. 42.20.038. NONAPPLICABILITY OF CERTAIN ACTIVITIES. Secs. 32 - 39 of this chapter do not apply to

(1) activities relating to high voltage overhead conductors or their supporting structures conducted by persons authorized by the operator or owner of high voltage overhead conductors or their supporting structures;

(2) work done on telephone or communication circuits or their supporting structures;

(3) the operation or maintenance of equipment traveling or moving upon fixed rails of a railroad; or

(4) emergency situations in which life is endangered.

Sec. 42.20.039. DEFINITIONS. In secs. 32 - 39 of this chapter

(1) "high voltage" means a voltage in excess of 750 volts between conductors or between any single conductor and the ground;

(2) "overhead lines or overhead conductors" means all bare or insulated electrical conductors installed above ground except those that are deenergized and grounded or enclosed in iron pipe or other metal covering of equal strength.