

Introduced: 2/11/72
Referred: Commerce and
Judiciary

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY HUBER, BRADNER, ROSE, ORBECK,
HARRIS, KERTTULA, MORAN, RANDOLPH,
SPECKING AND SWANSON

2 HOUSE BILL NO. 625

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 SEVENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to public safety by controlling ac-
7 tivity in close proximity to high voltage electric
8 lines and conductors."

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

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

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

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

17 (2) store, operate, erect, maintain, move or transport
18 tools, machinery, equipment, supplies, materials, apparatus, buildings
19 or other structures within ten feet of a high voltage overhead electri-
20 cal line or conductor.

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

29 Sec. 42.20.036. PLACEMENT OF BARRIERS FOR TEMPORARY WORK. Before

1 a person is going to temporarily engage in work or other activity in
2 closer proximity to a high voltage line or conductor than is permitted
3 by sec. 32 of this chapter, he shall immediately notify the operator
4 or owner of the high voltage line or conductor of the work to be
5 performed and make appropriate arrangements, with payment satisfactory
6 to the operator, for the installation of temporary mechanical barriers,
7 temporary deenergization and grounding of the conductors, or a tem-
8 porary raising of the conductors. Costs incurred by an operator or
9 owner of a high voltage line or conductor in providing barriers, de-
10 energization, and grounding as specified in this section shall be paid
11 by the person engaging in the work which requires these protective
12 measures.

13 Sec. 42.20.037. PENALTIES. (a) A person who violates secs. 32 -
14 39 of this chapter is guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction is
15 punishable by a fine of not more than \$500, or by imprisonment for
16 not more than six months, or by both.

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

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

26 Sec. 42.20.038. NONAPPLICABILITY OF CERTAIN ACTIVITIES. Secs.
27 32 - 39 of this chapter do not apply to

28 (1) activities relating to high voltage overhead conductors
29 or their supporting structures conducted by persons authorized by the

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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.