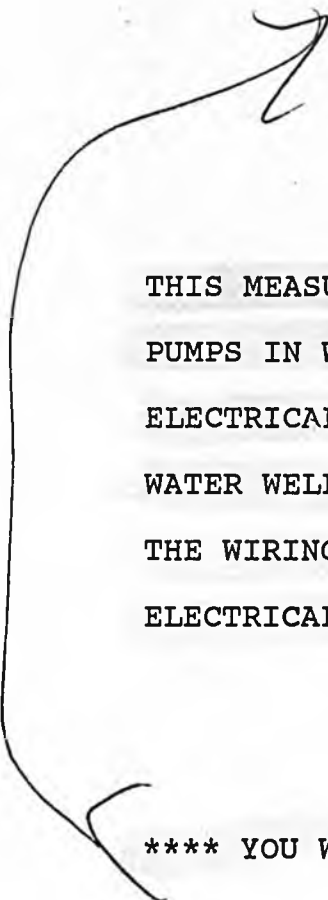


S B

4 7 4



THIS MEASURE EXEMPTS PERSONS WHO INSTALL AND WIRE SUBMERSIBLE PUMPS IN WATER WELLS FROM THE LICENSURE REQUIREMENTS AS ELECTRICAL ADMINISTRATORS. CONCERNS HAVE BEEN EXPRESSED BY WATER WELL PUMP INSTALLERS OVER THE CURRENT LAW WHICH REQUIRES THE WIRING TO BE DONE BY AN ELECTRICIAN AND INSPECTED BY AN ELECTRICAL ADMINISTRATOR.

\*\*\*\* YOU WILL NEED TO MOVE THE L&C AMENDMENT ON THE FLOOR\*\*\*\*

AN AMENDMENT WAS OFFERED IN THE SENATE LABOR AND COMMERCE COMMITTEE TO LIMIT THE ELECTRICAL WIRING PROVISIONS TO THE WELL HEAD CONTROL UNIT IF OUTSIDE OF A BUILDING OR STRUCTURE. THIS AMENDMENT WAS SUPPORTED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, AND HAS THE EFFECT OF ALLOWING AN INSTALLER OF SUBMERSIBLE PUMPS TO WIRE TO THE CONTROL UNIT IF IT IS LOCATED OUTSIDE OF A BUILDING OR STRUCTURE, OR TO THE WELL HEAD IF THE CONTROL UNIT IS OUTSIDE A STRUCTURE.

AMENDMENT OCCURS ON PAGE 2, LINE 13: after unit insert:  
if outside a building or a structure.

Alaska Water Well Assn.  
P.O. Box 110435  
Anchorage, AK 99511-0435

April 12, 1986

Representative Sam Cotten  
District 15  
Pouch V  
Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Sam:

First, I would like to thank you for your efforts and assistance thus far in our communications regarding the State Department of Labor's proposed certificate of fitness program for water well pump installers. Your great support was acknowledged at the annual Alaska Water Well Association meeting in February and was extremely well received by the membership.

The research material provided by your staff is first rate and has been quite useful in responding to inquiries.

Sam, we seem to have another obstacle on this subject, specifically opposition to the proposed exemption for a water well pump installer by permitting them to go to the load side of the disconnect. The terminology used in SB 474 implies limiting service to the well head. The crucial term here is well head controller unit which we suggest would better serve the need by reading well pump system controls.

At the request of your office, I spoke with Mr. Al Dwyer, the inspector responsible for electrical functions in Southeast Alaska.

Mr. Dwyer expressed a serious concern over improper installation by present contractors, and indicated he wanted their level of responsibility to terminate at the well head. The reasons he stated were that (A) installations he has inspected were of poor workmanship. (B) The cable being used inside the household was the twisted three wire material designed for use in the wet environment of the well. (C) This wire was being stapled to the floor joists, etc. leaving a potential fire hazard in the years to come. (D) The contractors responsible for this workmanship have been warned previously but

persist in the stated practice. (E) Commercial installations such as stores, gas stations and office buildings have wiring codes that are specifically different than those required in residential construction and consequently, these contractors are not versed in the proper techniques and codes and therefore are not qualified to perform those installations.

Sam, all of Mr. Dwyer's objections are valid concerns, however I believe he is trying to prevent the certificate of fitness program from doing what it is designed to do; to pre-qualify people within a given industry by testing and minimum experience standards set at levels which would prevent persons utilizing improper installation knowledge from being licensed. If this is allowed, then why do we even have a certificate of fitness program? It is a lot like the stereotype attitude used in racial prejudice. If one person is lazy, all like him are lazy.

I would like to address what seems to be the logical corrective approach to Mr. Dwyer's objections by reviewing them one at a time.

(A) Present installations are of poor workmanship. If there is a defined code where proper techniques are stated and the observation is not based on personal preference of technique, the card carrying contractor should be informed as such. If he then fails to correct the error or continues to perform shoddy work at other installations, his certificate of fitness should be revoked thereby putting him out of business until such time as he is reinstated. The first suspension could be something like 60 days with a requirement for re-passing the exam, while a second suspension (or third) should be permanent.

(B) The cable being used inside the household is the twisted three wire material designed for use in the wet environment of the water well. Surely there is a code in this State that requires the use of either a Romex or UF type cable in that type of installation. If such a code exists, the contractor should be required to comply or have his certificate either revoked or suspended per the above mentioned procedure.

If not, Mr. Dwyer's objection is a personal one that should not be considered, because if we let field inspectors be the interpreters of various laws, there will be no consistency in the field for the contractors to follow. As a result, project cost overruns will run rampant on construction jobs and shoddy workmanship will be even more prevalent as the contractor tries to cut cost in other areas due to being caught doing something that is perfectly acceptable in other parts of the State.

(C) The potential for a fire hazard existing in these conditions is obvious, and I am in complete agreement with Mr. Dwyer. A double insulated wire such as Romex or UF should be used inside the house per existing codes.

(D) The contractors have been warned previously of shoddy workmanship, but persist in their ways. Fine, use the program to weed them out, but don't knock the program if you're (sic) not using it properly! The whole purpose of a Certificate of Fitness program is to improve the quality of workmanship in the respective industry and provide a mechanism for establishing and maintaining competency.

(E) Commercial installations such as stores, gas stations, office buildings have wiring codes that are specifically different than those required in residential construction and consequently, these contractors are not versed in the proper techniques and codes and therefore are not qualified to perform those installations.

It has already been agreed to by the AWWA membership and the Department of Labor that two classifications need to exist; one for residential and one for commercial. We suggest Mr. Dwyer's object in could easily be remedied by allowing only contractors certificated for residential service to connect as far as the load side of the disconnect on residential applications only. Those certificated for and servicing commercial work should limit their service to the source side of the motor controller and not be involved in running wire to the source from the controller.

Mr. Dwyer objected to my suggestion of allowing the commercial contractor to service beyond the well head, but it is imperative that they be allowed to do so. Otherwise, costs for the system owner will rise due to the requirement of at least one additional service personnel to be at the job site while the equipment is being installed and tested. Again, the exam for a certificate is properly structured to adequately test the knowledge of the individual as well as his practical experience.

We feel it is imperative that the certificated pump system installer be allowed to service the system to the above stated levels to avoid unnecessary call backs resulting in high costs to the consumer and also to avoid tarnishing the image of the installer by having provided a product that fails. If the electrician doesn't install the controller equipment provided by the pump manufacturer, then the warranty for the motor is void. Who pays for a motor that burns out on start-up when the proper ambient compensated quick trip overload heaters were not installed by the electrician?

All too often, we experience installations where the control circuit was installed by a licensed journeyman electrician where the motor or control failed upon start-up simply because the electrician connected the third lead from the motor to a ground at the control box, rather than follow the manufacturer's wiring diagram located inside the cover of the enclosure, or use a Romex 2 wire with ground from the well head to the control. These failures aren't the responsibility of the pump installer, but because he provided the equipment, the electrician and/or consumer turns and points a finger at him, expecting him to warranty the allegedly "defective" product.

Unfortunately, I have yet to experience an electrician come forth and admit that he's made a mistake and buy the component(s) necessary to repair the fault.

On commercial installations, the motor manufacturers very emphatically state that if their control requirements are not met, they will not warrant the product. That is because they recognize the potential for human health hazard should a failure occur. However, on most applications, particularly 3 phase, again, the journeyman electrician feels his practical experience makes him more qualified than the factory's design engineers and he doesn't provide the overload protection they require.

Who is to pay for the burned out motor when they haven't followed the directions? It isn't the pump installer's problem, nor is it the supplier's problem. The manufacturer has already protected himself by stating his requirements in his installation and operation instruction manual. The pump installer has normally paid for this equipment before he gets paid, and in this situation, he is forced to submit to the demands of the owner to get his money, even though he is not the responsible party.

If, as Mr. Dwyer states, the licensed journeyman electricians are fully qualified in motor start circuits, I wonder why it is that my employer is asked several times each construction season to warrant failures directly attributable to improper techniques practiced by these same licensed electricians.

It is extremely disturbing to realize one individual that has had experience with a limited number of contractors representing a very small segment of this state's population could influence such a major decision by making a few casual comments while being uninformed about all aspects of the subject being discussed. If this situation is an example of how our system works, there is definitely a need for improvement in the system.

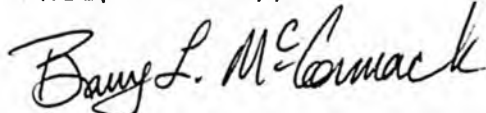
letter to Representative Sam Cotten re Certificate of Fitness. pg. 5

Sam, I'm enclosing a copy of the National Water Well Association's primer on their Certified Pump Installer program which is the testing standard the AWWA has suggested the Department of Labor adopt in this program. You will also find a copy of a cover letter NWWA sends out which confirms the need for proper practical experience to pass these exams. By reviewing it, you will see it requires more than knowledge of how to turn wrenches and squeeze a pair of crimping pliers to pass and become recognized by the National Association as a Certified Pump Installer. Mr. Dwyer is of the belief the exam is geared primarily towards health concerns for well construction, which isn't correct.

You will also find enclosed copies of the letters we submitted to the Department of Labor at the public hearing held November 4th in Anchorage.

Again, Thank you for your assistance in our cause. If I may be of further help, please feel free to contact me at 563-3424 days or at home evenings at 344-4707 (unlisted.)

Respectfully,



Barry L. McCormack, Executive Secretary  
Alaska Water Well Association

cc: Mr. Don Robison, Commissioner  
State of Alaska  
Department of Labor

November 4, 1985

State of Alaska  
Department of Labor, Mechanical Inspection  
Pouch 7-020  
Anchorage, AK 99510

Subject: Licensing and Certification of Filings Exams for Water  
Well Installers.

Gentlemen:

As a supplier, we applaud your good intention of requiring water well installers to take a qualifying exam for licensing and to certify their fitness as an experienced, competent technician to install and service commercial and residential water systems.

This move should help to stem the tide of disreputable firms and individuals that have managed to tarnish the image of the Alaskan water well installer from continually coming into Alaska from Outside when their reputations prevent them from making an acceptable living wage in their economically depressed home area. We view this as an opportunity to improve the level of competency of the people in the industry and possibly reduce some of the excessive competitiveness brought on by the insurgence of these people into the Alaska marketplace.

We feel it is imperative that we express concern over the definition you have proposed for a "water well installer." The definition given leads us to believe you would not permit the water well installer to install the control box for a three wire submersible pump, nor install the pressure tank. We further see this as a problem for the few cases where a jet pump is needed, either as a booster pump or as the sole pumping source for the water system.

Experience as a supplier that is asked to warranty defective products leads us to object to the limitation you have placed on the water well installer with this definition. Not once, but several times each year, we are asked to warranty failed motors and control boxes because some certified journeyman electrician wired the control in accordance with all he has been taught. When we question the cause of failure and find that the electrician grounded the third lead, which is part of the start circuit for the motor. This is definitely not a warrantable failure. When the electricians are questioned why they didn't follow the instructions in the cover of the control, their typical response is that they thought the manufacturer had made a mistake in the wiring diagram.

Each year nearly one million domestic submersible water pumps are produced in the United States. This statistic comes from the Water Systems Council, a consortium of the 26 major water system manufacturers. Surely none would make that mistake consistently for several years, or they would go out of business due to insurmountable warranty costs.

It appears that a licensed electrician feels that he is entitled to redesign a circuit at will and then not have to accept responsibility for his actions and warrant the failed product.

And what about the situation where the journeyman plumber installs a pressure tank too small for the capacity of the pump in the well? The pump cycles on and off too frequently and either burns out the motor or a component of the control box. What happens if the plumber installs a pre-pressurized tank when the water well installer has made provisions for a galvanized tank by installing a bleeder orifice in the vertical drop pipe? The consumer continually gets air out the faucets, possibly breaking dishes and glasses until the plumber comes out to change the tank, probably to another pre-pressurized tank thinking the first was defective. This becomes another situation where the supplier is asked to warranty a product that is in fact not defective but simply improperly applied because the installing technician was not aware of the total system design.

Many times we've received calls from plumbers and system owners complaining about the limited amount of water (drawdown) they are able to get out of the pre-pressurized tank on each pumping cycle. This comes from not having matched the pressure switch's pre-set operating range with the air charge in the tank. Again, this causes undue rapid cycling of the pump unit and possibly a failure which is not warrantable.

Alaska has many aquifers which yield very little water. In some cases, not enough for a standard water system to work. Consequently, special controls and storage tanks along with a booster pump must be used to provide the water system owner with a water supply adequate to pass the lending institution's requirements and those of the Department of Environmental Conservation. In those instances, the total system design becomes even more important, as there are several areas where mismatched equipment could lead to system failure and costly repairs. Failures of this nature are not warrantable.

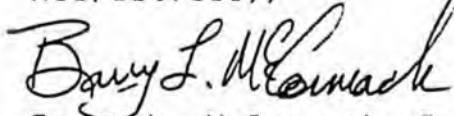
Who pays for these unnecessary failures? The consumer, the technician, the supplier and the manufacturer all wind up paying through either cash outlay or reputation for not giving in to every incompetent's demands.

The water well installer must be able to install the complete system from the pump in the well thru the exit of the pressure tank, as it is a system requiring a complete balanced design. If the system is not balanced or some of the necessary components are left out, the results can spell disaster for the water system owner as they will be plagued with problems or faced with ridiculously high repair bills when they have to have a "journeyman plumber," "service/sewer plumber," "maintenance electrician" and a "water well installer" all come to the point of service at the same time to diagnose the defect and then hopefully, repair it to an acceptable operating condition.

Again, we applaud the intent of setting a standard for more qualified technicians in the industry, but implore you to allow the "water well installer" to have complete control over the installation of the system thru the tank and its necessary accessories, and the electrical circuit providing power to the system from the breaker box forward. This will follow suit with the training provided by manufacturers at in the field seminars and the National Water Well Association's Certified Pump Installer (CPI) examination program.

We also suggest that you not give "Grandfather Rights" to individuals other than those holding NWWA CPI certificates, as as you would otherwise only perpetuate the problem of unqualified operating in the Alaska water well industry. We urge you to consider using the NWWA'S CPI exam as a measurable standard to qualify any and all licensee's.

Respectfully,



Barry L. McCormack, General Manager  
Alaska Pump & Supply, Inc.

cc: State Senator Sturzelewski  
State Senator Faiks  
State Representative Boucher  
State Representative Collins

November 4, 1985

State of Alaska  
Department of Labor, Mechanical Inspection  
Pouch 7-020  
Anchorage, AK 99510

Subject: Proposed Licensing of "Water Well Installers"

Gentlemen:

The Alaska Water Well Association (AWWA) submits the following information on behalf of member and non-member water well/pump installers and Alaskan water well owners.

Ten (10) states are known to require licensing of water well/pump installers currently. Those states are California, Colorado, Delaware, Hawaii, Illinois, Maryland, Michigan, New Hampshire, New Jersey and Tennessee. Several additional states have proposed legislation under consideration to license water well/pump installers.

Each of the 10 licensing states has a licensing board with appointed members ranging from 5 to 13 total members of which 1 to 6 are current licensed resident specialty contractors serving from 2 to 5 year terms. They usually represent various geographic areas of the respective state.

Qualifications for applicants vary from no required time in service to as much as 5 years in service with the majority using 2 years, which the proposed 4,000 hours experience would equate to if the applicant were to work steady 40 hour weeks for 51 of 52 weeks over a two year period.

Several but not all require a performance bond ranging from \$2,000.00 to \$10,000.00. All require an examination, with some requiring either written or oral and some offering a choice to be made by the licensing board. Translators are provided by some where they may be needed.

The regulating or licensing State agency varies from state to state with most being regulated by the agency or department equal to Alaska's Department of Environmental Conservation (D.E.C.).

Presently the State of Alaska recognizes the National Water Well Association (NWWA) by reference to NWWA publications and studies in D.E.C. publications regarding practices for installation and sizing of Class A, B, and C water systems. The NWWA is recognized by the United States Geological Survey division of the Department of the Interior by requesting its assistance thru chapter and affiliate state associations in monitoring and recording the quantity and quality of water well activity over the preceding decade.

The NWWA has utilized its own voluntary certification program for the last decade. To become certified, individuals must have at least two years full time experience in an operational or supervisory capacity in pump installing to be eligible to take the exams. If the state in which the applicant operates requires licensing, he must show evidence of having this license before he can become certified. Membership in the NWWA is not required.

The exams consist of a general test on well drilling and at least one additional exam from any one of 13 specialty categories available. These categories test the applicant's ability to use his equipment on the particular types of products used in his area, giving consideration to the local geological formations.

To maintain certification, individuals are required to renew annually and demonstrate they have attended at least 20 hours of approved continuing education each three-year period.

These exams are given upon request of local chapter and affiliate associations, however, NWWA strictly requires enforcement of a neutral, non-licensable individual such as a State or Federal employee or an NWWA staff member acting as proctor during the examination.

It is the position of the Alaska Water Well Association, by majority of the Board of Directors to support licensing and Certificate of Fitness exams for water well/pump installers in the State of Alaska.

We do object to wording used in definition of a "water well installer" in that the 'work necessary to the installation of commercial and residential wells' 'is limited to the pump installation terminating at the well head.' It should be understood that our reasons for this objection are not only for our behalf but also on behalf of the Alaskan water well owners as they will suffer increased cost on initial installations and aftermarket service of their water well system.

None of the aforementioned states has explicitly established a limit of service to be performed by the installer. Some do specifically include the water system as a whole by including provision to service as may be necessary to protect such water from contamination and all construction involved in connecting pumping units or pressure tanks into the water supply system of buildings served by the well from which the pump is supplying water. Provision is also included for repair to existing installations.

As this proposed change is written, responsibility for warranty of the water system design lies spread over as many as 4 separate parties. Consumer costs will rise considerably when each contractor has to raise prices to cover possible errors by the other involved parties should they error in selection of appropriately sized equipment or make an improper installation resulting in failure of another party's installed equipment.

Presently, when a well/pump installer performs a new installation, he may provide in addition to the pump and it's required electrical control, the water and electrical lines between the well and tank as well as the pressure tank and it's required appurtenances for proper operation of these components as a system.

When a consumer needs service currently, one phone call can result in a service call to diagnose and rectify the fault by one technician. However, if the proposed change is passed as written, as many as 4 technicians may be required to analyze and rectify the problem. With current labor rates from \$45.00 to 60.00 per hour, the wording of this change would be a grave injustice to the typical well owner, because getting all the required parties together at one time will be next to impossible, in addition to horrendously expensive.

The AWWA requests that the State of Alaska Department of Labor revise the term 'water well installer' to "pump and water system installer." We also request that the definition be revised to include installation of the complete water system from the pump installed in the well thru the first gate valve from the exit of the pressure tank, (not to be more than 24 linear pipe inches from the tank outlet) and to the circuit breaker box with electrical service limited to the circuit(s) required to operate the pump and its related controls.

With many low producing aquifers in Alaska it is not uncommon for the water system to require the use of a storage tank, high and low level controls for same and the well plus a booster pump. If the 'water well installer' is not permitted to be directly involved in the selection, application and installation of this equipment, severe water shortage problems may be experienced by the homeowner.

Alaska presently has several NWWA certified pump installers. The AWWA urges the Department of Labor to recognize the NWWA certification program as its testing standard for the State's Certificate of Fitness exam. This coupled with the above request to redefine a water well installer should result in a cohesive comprehensive program that will benefit all Alaskans served by water wells.

We respectfully request that you carefully consider the re-wording we've suggested to this proposed change before submitting a final format to the legislature.

Sincerely,



Ronald Palmer, President  
Alaska Water Well Association

RP/BLMc

cc: Governor Bill Sheffield

Board of Directors, AWWA

Ms. Christine Reimer, Legislative Services, NWWA

CHAIRMAN'S INFORMATION: SB 474

- 1) BILL TITLE: "An act relating to exemptions from licensing requirements as electrical administrators; and providing for an effective date."
  - a) Introduced: Senate Labor and Commerce
  - b) Co-sponsors:
- 2) INTENT: This measure expands the list of exemptions from the licensing requirements for electrical administrators. The amendment adds persons who install submersible pump motors and wire them to the "well head" controller unit in water wells.

FISCAL NOTE: 0

- 3) ADDITIONAL REFERRALS: Rules
- 4) PUBLIC HEARINGS:
  - a) Sponsor:
  - b) Public Witnesses:
- 5) BILL ACTION:
  - a) Hold in committee?
  - b) Assign to sub committee for further review?
  - c) Move from committee?
  - d) Close public hearings?
- 6) COMMITTEE ACTION?
  - a) amendments?
  - b) CS adoption?

A M E N D M E N T

#2

By Eliason

Offered in the SENATE

TO: SB 474

On page 1, line 12      After the word "manufacture" insert  
the following:

","maintenance, replacement"



Official Business

# Alaska State Legislature

Senate

Committee on Labor & Commerce

Pouch V  
State Capitol  
Juneau, Alaska 99811

SB 474: Summary

This measure expands the list of exemptions from electrical administrator licensing requirements. The amendment adds persons who install submersible pump motors and wire them to the well head controller unit in water wells.

Introduced: 4/9/86  
Referred: Labor and Commerce

*Conf. Franchise of  
F. Franchise*

*Bill starts*

BY THE LABOR AND  
COMMERCE COMMITTEE

1 IN THE SENATE

2 SENATE BILL NO. 474

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 FOURTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to exemptions from licensing re-  
7 quirements as electrical administrators; and pro-  
8 viding for an effective date."

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

10 \* Section 1. AS 08.40.190(b) is amended to read:

11 (b) This chapter does not apply to a [ANY] person engaged in

12 (1) the manufacture or repair of electrical apparatus or  
13 equipment;

14 (2) electrical work, the cost of which does not exceed  
15 \$5,000, involving residences or small commercial establishments in  
16 communities

17 (A) which have a population of under 500; or

18 (B) which are over 50 miles by air or water transpor-  
19 tation from the business place of an electrical administrator  
20 licensed under this chapter;

21 (3) electrical installation on residential property which  
22 is owned by the installer or a member of the installer's immediate  
23 family and not intended for sale at the time of making the installa-  
24 tion;

25 (4) the operation, maintenance or repair of a television or  
26 radio broadcasting system and the installation of a radio broadcasting  
27 system under 500 watts input power except for A.C. power supply and  
28 wiring;

29 (5) the installation, maintenance and repair of elevators

1 so long as the work is performed by an agent or employee of the eleva-  
2 tor industry and is confined to the elevator control system, which  
3 system does not include the power supply, wiring and motor connection;

4 (6) the operation, maintenance and repair of telephone,  
5 telegraph, and intercommunication facilities;

6 (7) the installation, maintenance and repair of fire alarm,  
7 intrusion alarm or other low voltage signaling systems of 48 volts to  
8 ground or less;

9 (8) the maintenance or repair of diesel electric engines  
10 installed on heavy construction equipment, either in a shop or on a  
11 job site;

12 (9) the installation in a water well of the submersible  
13 pump motor and the wiring to the well head controller unit.

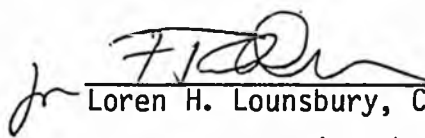
14 \* Sec. 2. This Act takes effect immediately in accordance with AS 01.  
15 10.070(c).

*is outside  
building  
or structure*

Department of Commerce  
Economic Development / POSITION PAPER

SB 474 An Act relating to exemptions from licensing requirements as electrical administrators.

The department does not oppose this bill.

  
Loren H. Lounsbury, Commissioner

DATE: 4/17/86

0245k41786a

Bill No. Senate Bill 474

Date April 22, 1986

Title "An Act relating to exemptions from licensing requirements as electrical administrators; and providing for an effective date."

Contact: Eileen Plate  
465-2700  
Robert Bacolas  
465-4870


Senate Bill 474 proposes to exempt the installation of water well pumps from the electrical administrator licensing requirements.

Although the Department has no particular objection to allowing an installer to wire a submersible pump and position it in the well, wiring from the well head to the controller should be performed by a qualified electrician and inspected by an electrical administrator. A controller can be located anywhere in a home, school or other building and it is critical that the person installing the wiring is knowledgeable of the proper wiring method required for the particular occupancy in which the wiring is being done. Further, since it is not possible for the Department of Labor to inspect every electrical installation, the supervision of such work by an electrical administrator is essential.

The Department is opposed to water well pump wiring being installed beyond the well head by a person other than a qualified electrician under the supervision of an electrical administrator.

Senate Bill 474 would not have a fiscal impact on the Department of Labor.

APPROVED:

  
Jim Robison, Commissioner  
Department of Labor

AS08.40.190 DOCUMENT

CHAPTER = 08.40

SECTION = 08.40.190

TITLE = 08

HEADINGS TITLE 8.

Business and Professions.

CHAPTER 40.

Electrical Administrators.

ARTICLE 3.

General Provisions.

CITATION Sec. 08.40.190.

CATCH LINE

EXCLUSIONS.

TEXT (a) This chapter does not apply to any utility or municipality engaged in

(1) electrical construction and maintenance of electrical wiring for the generation and distribution of electrical current where the wiring is an integral part of a system owned and operated by that utility or municipal light and power department;

(2) the installation, operation, maintenance, or repair of telephone, telegraph, signal or communication systems when the work is performed by the employees of that utility.

(b) This chapter does not apply to any person engaged in

(1) the manufacture or repair of electrical apparatus or equipment;

(2) electrical work, the cost of which does not exceed \$5,000, involving residences or small commercial establishments in communities

(A) which have a population of under 500; or

(B) which are over 50 miles by air or water

transportation from the business place of an electrical administrator licensed under this chapter;

(3) electrical installation on residential property which is owned by the installer or a member of the installer's immediate family and not intended for sale at the time of making the installation;

(4) the operation, maintenance or repair of a television or radio broadcasting system and the installation of a radio broadcasting system under 500 watts input power except for A.C. power supply and wiring;

(5) the installation, maintenance and repair of elevators so long as the work is performed by an agent or employee of the elevator industry and is confined to the elevator control system, which system does not include the power supply, wiring and motor connection;

(6) the operation, maintenance and repair of telephone, telegraph, and intercommunication facilities;

(7) the installation, maintenance and repair of fire alarm, intrusion alarm or other low voltage signaling systems of 48 volts to ground or less;

(8) the maintenance or repair of diesel electric engines installed on heavy construction equipment, either in a shop or on a job site.

(c) Work within the exclusionary provisions of this section is nevertheless subject to the inspection provisions of AS 08.40.070 and must follow the regulations regarding workmanship adopted by the board.

HISTORY

(Sec. 8 ch 158 SLA 1960; am sec. 1 ch 79 SLA 1967; am sec. 10 ch 53 SLA 1977; am secs. 7, 8 ch 71 SLA 1980)

BILL SHEFFIELD, GOVERNOR

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE &  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

POUCH D  
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811  
PHONE: (907) 465-2534

DIVISION OF OCCUPATIONAL LICENSING

March 26, 1986

Honorable Sam Cotten  
Alaska House of Representatives  
Pouch V  
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Representative Cotten:

Mr. Bill Stoltze advised that our suggested wording for an exemption from the electrical administrator act for water well drillers appeared quite limited.

I discussed this further with Al Dwyer, Electrical Inspector, to further critique the wording suggested in my letter to you dated March 24, 1986. My suggested wording was:

AS 08.40.190(b)(9). This act does not apply to any person engaged in

- (9). Water well drillers for installation of the submersible pump motor and the wiring to the well head controller unit.

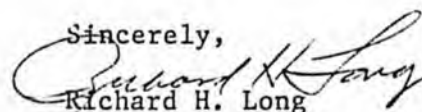
The intent is to assure that the installer can install the pump motor and bring the wire to the top of the well, but not to wire into the controller units, whether they be automatic or manual switching units. After our critique, to assure the installer who is not properly licensed to perform the wiring work does not make any connections at the controller unit or elsewhere toward the energy source, perhaps the wording should be shortened to read:

- (9). Water well drillers for installation of the submersible pump motor and the wiring to the top of the well.

As I mentioned in my previous letter, there are many and varied safety problems and various electrical code requirements that vary pertaining to connecting the installed pump to a controller unit and the energy source. If improperly installed there can be serious danger to persons and property according to the well location compared to the energy source. Mr. Dwyer still advises that it would be unwise to extend the exemption any further than the well head, up to but not including into the controller unit.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide comments to you on this matter. Feel free to contact this office again for further assistance.

Sincerely,



Richard H. Long  
Chief Investigator and  
Acting Director

**STATE OF ALASKA 1986 LEGISLATIVE SESSION  
FISCAL NOTE**

Revision Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**REQUEST**

Bill/Resolution No.: SB 474  
 Title: An Act relating to exemptions from licensing requirements as electrical administrators;  
 Sponsor: Senate Labor & Commerce  
 Requester: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date of Request: \_\_\_\_\_

**FISCAL DETAIL**

Agency Affected: Commerce & Economic Dev.  
 BRU: Occupational Licensing  
 Components: \_\_\_\_\_

**EXPENDITURES / REVENUES : (Thousands of Dollars)**

OPERATING	FY 86	FY 87	FY 88	FY 89	FY 90	FY 91
PERSONAL SERVICES		-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
TRAVEL		-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
CONTRACTUAL		-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
SUPPLIES		-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
EQUIPMENT		-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
LAND & STRUCTURES		-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
<b>TOTAL OPERATING</b>		-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-

CAPITAL						
---------	--	--	--	--	--	--

REVENUE		-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
---------	--	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

**FUNDING: (Thousands of dollars)**

GENERAL FUND		-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
<b>TOTAL</b>		-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-

**POSITIONS:**

FULLTIME		-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
PARTTIME						
TEMPORARY						

**ANALYSIS:** Attach a separate page if necessary.

The bill exempts water well drillers from being subject to the electrical administrator statutes in the installation of a submersible pump motor and wiring to the well head controller unit.

The bill is not expected to generate new costs or revenues.

Prepared by: Jennifer Strickler, Management Analyst  
 Division: Occupational Licensing

Phone: 465-2144  
 Date: 4-15-86

Approved by Commissioner: Thomas S. Brown  
 Agency: Commerce and Economic Development

Date: 4/16/86

Distribution (by Agency preparing fiscal note):

- Legislative Finance
- Legislative Sponsor
- Requestor

# STATE OF ALASKA 1986 LEGISLATIVE SESSION FISCAL NOTE

Revision Date : \_\_\_\_\_

**REQUEST**

Bill/Resolution No. : SB 474  
 Title : "An Act relating to exemptions from licensing requirements as electrical administrators..."  
 Sponsor : Senate Labor and Commerce  
 Requestor : Senate Labor and Commerce Comm  
 Date of Request : 4/10/86

**FISCAL DETAIL**

Agency Affected : Labor  
 BRU : Labor Standards and Safety  
 Components : Mechanical Inspection

**EXPENDITURES/REVENUES : (Thousands of Dollars)**

OPERATING	FY 86	FY 87	FY 88	FY 89	FY 90	FY 91
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
<b>TOTAL OPERATING</b>	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
<b>CAPITAL</b>						
<b>REVENUE</b>						

**FUNDING : (Thousands of Dollars)**

GENERAL FUND						
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
<b>TOTAL</b>	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-

**POSITIONS :**

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

**ANALYSIS :** Attach a separate page if necessary

Prepared by : Robert J. Bacolas, Str. Phone : 465-4870  
 Division : Labor Standards and Safety Date : 4/21/86  
 Approved by Commissioner : Jim Robison Date : 4/21/86  
 Agency : Labor

Distribution (by Agency preparing fiscal note) :

- Legislative Finance
- Legislative Sponsor
- Requestor
- Office of Management and Budget
- Impacted Agency(ies)