

**SUBSTITUTE FOR
HOUSE BILL NO. 5349**

A bill to amend 1956 PA 217, entitled
"Electrical administrative act,"
by amending sections 1b and 3k (MCL 338.881b and 338.883k), as
added by 1992 PA 130.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 1b. (1) "Electric sign" means fixed, stationary, or
2 portable self-contained, electrically illuminated equipment that
3 has words or symbols designed to convey information or attract
4 attention. Electric sign includes outline lighting. Electric
5 sign does not include ~~these~~ signs that are indoor or outdoor
6 portable applications or recognized holiday residential signs
7 listed with a recognized testing and approval agency and that use
8 a cord cap-110 volt plug as the electrical energizing attachment
9 method.

10 (2) "Outline lighting" means an arrangement of incandescent

1 lamps or electric discharge tubing ~~which~~ **that** is an integral
2 part of an ~~electrical~~ **electric** sign ~~that outlines~~ **outlining**
3 certain features, such as the shape of a building or the
4 decoration of a window.

5 (3) "Sign specialty contractor" means a person, firm, or
6 corporation engaged in the business of ~~manufacturing~~
7 **fabricating**, installing, maintaining, connecting, or repairing
8 electric sign wiring or devices, including wiring that is
9 directly related to electric signs and is electrically dedicated
10 as a sign circuit. **The term does not include a manufacturer of**
11 **signs that is subject to section 7(3)(e).**

12 (4) "Sign specialist" means a person who, as his or her
13 principal occupation, is engaged in the installation, alteration,
14 or repair of electric signs.

15 (5) "Sign specialty licensure" means licensure as a sign
16 specialist or sign specialty contractor.

17 (6) "Related wiring" means the following:

18 (a) Except as otherwise provided in subdivisions (b), (c),
19 and (d), that portion of the electric sign wiring that originates
20 at the load-side terminals of a disconnecting means ~~located in~~
21 ~~the vicinity of~~ **on or adjacent to** the electric sign involved but
22 does not include the installation of the disconnecting means,
23 complete with line-side connections.

24 (b) In the case of electric sign installations having sign
25 transformers installed physically apart from the electric sign,
26 that portion of the electric sign wiring that originates at the
27 load-side terminals of a disconnecting means ~~located in the~~

1 ~~vicinity of~~ **on or adjacent to** the electric sign involved but
2 does not include the installation of the disconnecting means,
3 complete with line-side connections.

4 (c) In the case of free-standing electric sign installations
5 supplied through underground circuit conductors, that portion of
6 the electric sign wiring that originates at a wiring termination
7 point adjacent to, within, or immediately above the permanent
8 base for the electric sign but does not include, if the base of
9 the sign structure is suitable for use as a raceway, the
10 installation of bushing, complete with free-length circuit
11 conductors extending through to accommodate the connection of the
12 related wiring within the sign structure raceway.

13 (d) In the case of electric signs specifically designed to be
14 connected directly to the building wiring raceway or cable
15 supply, that portion of the electric sign wiring that originates
16 at the point where the free-length circuit conductors extend
17 through the building wiring raceway or cable at the specifically
18 designed supply location for the electric sign involved but does
19 not include the installation of the building wiring raceway or
20 cable system to the specifically designated point of supply for
21 the electric sign involved, complete with free-length circuit
22 conductors extending through the building wiring raceway or cable
23 to accommodate the connection of the related wiring.

24 Sec. 3k. (1) Subject to section ~~5(6) or (7)~~ **5**, the
25 department of labor **and economic growth** shall issue a sign
26 specialist's license to a person not less than 18 years of age
27 who does all of the following:

1 (a) Files a completed application form provided by the
2 department of labor **and economic growth**.

3 (b) Pays the examination fee prescribed in section 3 and
4 passes an examination provided for by the board and the
5 department of labor **and economic growth**.

6 (c) Pays the license fee prescribed in section 3.

7 (d) Has not less than 4,000 hours of experience, obtained
8 over a period of not less than 2 years, related to the
9 ~~manufacture~~ **fabrication**, installation, maintenance, connection,
10 or repair of electric signs and related wiring as verified by a
11 contractor licensed under this act who is the current employer of
12 the applicant. The hours of experience may be obtained from
13 multiple employers, and equivalent education as determined by the
14 board may be substituted for work experience.

15 (e) Demonstrates the successful completion of a course
16 concerning the installation, maintenance, connection, or repair
17 of electric signs and related wiring ~~as contained in the sign~~
18 ~~electrician's workbook published by the American technical~~
19 ~~publishers, inc. or any other course designed to address the~~
20 ~~installation, maintenance, connection, or repair of electric~~
21 ~~signs and related wiring, as approved by the board.~~

22 (2) Upon failure to pass the sign specialist examination 2
23 times within a period of 2 years, an applicant ~~shall be~~ **is**
24 ineligible to sit for another examination until he or she
25 presents to the board proof of the successful completion of a
26 course on code and electrical fundamentals approved by the board
27 ~~—~~ in order to become eligible again to sit for an examination.

1 (3) As a condition of renewal of a sign specialist's license,
2 the sign specialist shall demonstrate the successful completion
3 of a course, approved by the board, concerning any update or
4 change in applicable sections of the code within 12 months after
5 the update or change in that code. This requirement applies only
6 during or after those years that the code is updated or changed.

7 (4) A licensed master electrician, journeyman electrician, or
8 apprentice electrician ~~shall~~ **is** not ~~be~~ required to have a
9 sign specialist's license to perform those work activities.