

# HOUSE BILL No. 5349

December 3, 2003, Introduced by Reps. Dennis, Rocca, O'Neil, Wojno, Hopgood, Meisner, Julian, Gielegem, Palsrok, Gaffney, Sheen, DeRoche, Zelenko, Minore, Condino and Farhat and referred to the Committee on Regulatory Reform.

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 ~~those~~ 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 sign ~~that outlines~~ **outlining** certain  
3 features, such as the shape of a building or the decoration of a  
4 window.

5 (3) "Sign specialty contractor" means a person, firm, or  
6 corporation engaged in the business of ~~manufacturing,~~  
7 installing, maintaining, connecting, or repairing electric sign  
8 wiring or devices, including wiring that is directly related to  
9 electric signs and is electrically dedicated as a sign circuit.

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

13 (5) "Sign specialty licensure" means licensure as a sign  
14 specialist or sign specialty contractor.

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

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

22 (b) In the case of electric sign installations having sign  
23 transformers installed physically apart from the electric sign,  
24 that portion of the electric sign wiring that originates at the  
25 load-side terminals of a disconnecting means located in the  
26 vicinity of the electric sign involved but does not include the  
27 installation of the disconnecting means, complete with line-side

1 connections.

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

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

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

26 (a) Files a completed application form provided by the  
27 department of ~~labor~~ **consumer and industry services**.

1 (b) Pays the examination fee prescribed in section 3 and  
2 passes an examination provided for by the board and the  
3 department of ~~labor~~ **consumer and industry services**.

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

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

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

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

26 (3) As a condition of renewal of a sign specialist's license,  
27 the sign specialist shall demonstrate the successful completion

1 of a course, approved by the board, concerning any update or  
2 change in applicable sections of the code within 12 months after  
3 the update or change in that code. This requirement applies only  
4 during or after those years that the code is updated or changed.

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