

HOUSE No. 242

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Harold P. Naughton, Jr.

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act relative to telecommunications systems contractors and technicians.

PETITION OF:

| NAME: | DISTRICT/ADDRESS: |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|
| <i>Harold P. Naughton, Jr.</i> | <i>12th Worcester</i> |
| <i>Josh S. Cutler</i> | <i>6th Plymouth</i> |
| <i>Timothy J. Toomey, Jr.</i> | <i>26th Middlesex</i> |

HOUSE No. 242

By Mr. Naughton of Clinton, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 242) of Harold P. Naughton, Jr., Josh S. Cutler and Timothy J. Toomey, Jr., relative to further regulating telecommunications systems contractors and technicians. Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 262 OF 2013-2014.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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**In the One Hundred and Eighty-Ninth General Court
(2015-2016)**
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An Act relative to telecommunications systems contractors and technicians.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 32 of said chapter 13 of the General Laws, as appearing in the
2 2010 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out the third sentence and inserting in place
3 thereof the following sentence:-

4 Six of said appointees shall be citizens of the commonwealth: one of whom shall be a
5 master electrician who holds a certificate A license issued under said chapter one hundred and
6 forty-one and has at least ten years experience as an employing master electrician; one shall be a
7 master electrician who holds certificate A and certificate B licenses issued under said chapter one
8 hundred and forty-one, is actively engaged in such business and has at least ten years experience
9 as an employing master electrician; one shall be a journeyman electrician who holds a certificate

10 B license issued under said chapter one hundred and forty-one, is a wage earner and has at least
11 ten years practical experience in the installation of wires and appliances for carrying electricity
12 for light, heat or power purposes; one shall be a systems contractor who holds a certificate C
13 license issued under said chapter, is actively engaged in the business of fire warning security,
14 and telecommunications systems as his principal business and has at least ten years experience as
15 an employing systems contractor; one shall be a systems technician who holds a certificate D
16 license issued under said chapter, is a wage earner and has at least ten years practical experience
17 in the design, installation, repair and maintenance, alteration, service, or the testing of systems;
18 and one shall be a representative of the New England Section of the International Municipal
19 Signal Association who holds at least a level I competency certificate from said association, is a
20 municipal employee and has at least ten years practical experience in the installation, repair and
21 maintenance, alteration, service, or the testing of fire warning, signaling, or telecommunications
22 systems.

23 SECTION 2. Section 1 of chapter 141 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2010
24 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out section 1 and inserting in place thereof the
25 following section:-

26 Section 1. The following words as used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise
27 requires, shall have the following meanings:

28 “Fee”, a fee to be determined annually by the commissioner of administration under the
29 provision of section three B of chapter seven.

30 “Fire warning system”, an inherently power limited system of wires, conduits, apparatus,
31 devices, fixtures or other appliances installed and interconnected electrically or electronically for

32 the detection of heat, smoke, or products of combustion, or for the transmission of signals or
33 audible alarms.

34 “Inherently power limited system”, a system requiring no overcurrent protection due to
35 design and construction.

36 “Journeyman electrician”, a person qualified to do the work of installing, repairing, or
37 maintaining wires, conduits, apparatus, devices, fixtures, or other appliances used for heat, light,
38 power, fire warning, security, or telecommunications system purposes.

39 “Master electrician”, a person, firm or corporation having a regular place of business
40 who, by the employment of journeyman or apprentices, performs the work of installing, repairing
41 or maintaining wires, conduits, apparatus, devices, fixtures or other appliances used for light,
42 heat, power, fire warning, security, or telecommunications system purposes; provided, however,
43 that no journeyman electrician so employed shall have more than one apprentice under his
44 supervision; and provided, further, that not more than one such apprentice shall be employed for
45 each journeyman electrician.

46 “Security system”, an inherently power limited system of wires, conduits, apparatus,
47 devices, fixtures, or other appliances installed and interconnected electrically or electronically to
48 permit access control, proprietary signaling, surveillance and the detection of burglary, intrusion,
49 holdup, or other conditions requiring response or the transmission of signals or audible alarms.

50 “System”, a fire warning, security, telecommunications, or other inherently power limited
51 system, wire, conduit or device which conducts or consumes electricity and is electrically or
52 electronically activated.

53 “Systems contractor”, a person, firm or corporation having a regular place of business
54 who, by the employment of systems technicians or apprentices, performs the work of installing,
55 repairing or maintaining wires, conduits, apparatus, devices, fixtures or other appliances used for
56 systems; provided, however, that no systems technician so employed shall have more than one
57 apprentice under his supervision; and provided, further, that not more than one such apprentice
58 shall be employed for each systems technician.

59 “Systems technician”, a person qualified to do the work of installing, repairing or
60 maintaining wires, conduits, apparatus, devices, fixtures or other appliances used for systems.

61 “Telecommunications System”, any inherently power limited system of wires, conduits,
62 apparatus, devices, fixtures, or other appliances installed or interconnected electrically or
63 electronically for the purpose to send and/or receive at a distance the transference of voice,
64 sound, video, telephony, digital, data, and/or video transmissions.

65 SECTION 3. Section 3 of chapter 141 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2010
66 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting in lines 6 and 32 after the word “wires,” the
67 word:- wireless,; and in line 18 by inserting after the word “security” the word:- ,
68 telecommunications

69 SECTION 4. Section 7 of chapter 141 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2010
70 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking the words in lines 23 through 27 and inserting in
71 place thereof the following words :- its own premises.

72 SECTION 5. Notwithstanding section 3 of chapter 141 of the General Laws or any other
73 general or special law to the contrary, the state examiners of electricians shall issue a certificate
74 C or certificate D to any applicant who presents satisfactory evidence that he possesses the

75 qualifications for the type of license applied for, or to any applicant who shows proof satisfactory
76 to the examiners of at least 3 years of verifiable and continuous experience as a systems
77 contractor of telecommunications systems or experience as a systems technician of
78 telecommunications systems in the commonwealth. The examiners may deny an applicant a
79 certificate C or certificate D based on insufficient qualifications for fire warning or security
80 systems, provided such applicant shall be issued a restricted certificate C or certificate D
81 permitting the holder individually to either engage in the business of installing
82 telecommunications systems, or engage in the occupation of installing telecommunications
83 systems.

84 SECTION 6. Section 5 of this act is hereby repealed.

85 SECTION 7. Section 6 of this act shall take effect September 1, 2014.