

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 4276**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

**In the Year Two Thousand Fourteen**

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 1 of chapter 141 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2012  
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out section 1 and inserting in place thereof the  
3 following section:-

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

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

8 “Fire warning system”, an inherently power limited system of wires, conduits, apparatus,  
9 devices, fixtures or other appliances installed and interconnected electrically or electronically for  
10 the detection of heat, smoke, or products of combustion, or for the transmission of signals or  
11 audible alarms.

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

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

17 “Master electrician”, a person, firm or corporation having a regular place of business  
18 who, by the employment of journeyman or apprentices, performs the work of installing, repairing  
19 or maintaining wires, conduits, apparatus, devices, fixtures or other appliances used for light,  
20 heat power, fire warning, security, or telecommunications system purposes; provided, however,  
21 that no journeyman electrician so employed shall have more than one apprentice under his

22 supervision; and provided, further, that not more than one such apprentice shall be employed for  
23 each journeyman electrician.

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

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

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

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

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41 “Telecommunications Contractor”, a person, firm or corporation having a regular place  
42 of business who, by the employment of telecommunications technicians or apprentices, performs  
43 the work of installing, repairing or maintaining wires, wireless, conduits, apparatus, devices,  
44 fixtures or other appliances used for telecommunications systems; provided, however, that no  
45 telecommunications technician so employed shall have more than one apprentice under his  
46 supervision; and provided, further, that not more than one such apprentice shall be employed for  
47 each telecommunications technician.

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

52 “Telecommunications technician”, a person qualified to do the work of installing,  
53 repairing or maintaining wires, wireless, conduits, apparatus, devices, fixtures, or other  
54 appliances installed or interconnected electrically or electronically for the purpose to send and/or  
55 receive at a distance the transference of voice, sound, video, telephony, digital, data, and/or video  
56 transmissions used for telecommunications systems.

57 SECTION 2. Section 1A of chapter 141 of the General Law, as appearing in the 2012  
58 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking the words “or security system” in line 4 and  
59 inserting in place thereof the following words:- , security system, or telecommunications system

60 SECTION 3. Section 3 of chapter 141 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby  
61 amended by striking out the first paragraph and inserting in place thereof the following  
62 paragraph:-

63 Section 3. The following forms of license shall be issued: certificate A, known as master  
64 electrician’s license; certificate B, known as journeyman electrician’s license; certificate C,  
65 known as systems contractor’s license; certificate D, known as systems technician’s license;  
66 certificate E, known as telecommunications contractor’s license; and certificate F, known as  
67 telecommunications technician’s license.

68 SECTION 4. Section 3 of chapter 141 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby  
69 further amended by striking the words in lines 27 through 71 and inserting in place thereof the  
70 following words:-

71 (5) Certificate A, certificate C, and certificate E shall specify the name of the person, firm  
72 or corporation licensed and the name of the person passing the examination by which such  
73 person, firm or corporation shall be authorized to enter upon or engage in business as set forth  
74 therein. The holding of certificate A, certificate C, or certificate E shall not entitle the holder  
75 individually to engage in or perform the actual work of installing wires, conduits, apparatus,  
76 devices, fixtures or other appliances, systems, or telecommunications systems but the holding of  
77 certificate A shall entitle the holder to conduct business as a master electrician, the holding of  
78 certificate C shall entitle the holder to conduct business as a systems contractor, and the holding  
79 of certificate E shall entitle the holder to conduct business as a telecommunications contractor.

80 (6) Persons desiring an examination shall make written application therefor, accompanied  
81 by an examination fee. A person passing an examination for a master electrician’s license, a  
82 systems contractor’s license, a telecommunications contractor’s license, a journeyman  
83 electrician’s license, a systems technician’s license, or a telecommunications technician’s  
84 license, shall pay a fee before being issued such license.

85 (7) Each certificate A and certificate C shall expire on July thirty-first every third year,  
86 commencing July thirty-first, nineteen hundred and eighty-nine, and certificate E shall expire on  
87 July thirty-first every third year, commencing July thirty-first, two thousand and fifteen, but may  
88 be renewed by the same person, firm or corporation acting by one or more of its members or  
89 officers, without further examination, upon payment of a fee, application therefor being made  
90 during said month. In case of failure to renew a license as aforesaid on or before July thirty-first  
91 of the third year, the person named therein, upon payment of said fee, increased by such  
92 additional fees as would have been payable had such license been continuously renewed may  
93 receive a deferred renewal thereof which shall expire July thirty-first of ensuing three year

94 period; provided, however, that such renewed license shall not constitute its holder a licensee for  
95 any period preceding its issue.

96 (8) Each certificate B and certificate D shall expire on July thirty-first every third year,  
97 commencing July thirty-first, nineteen hundred and eighty-nine, and certificate F shall expire on  
98 July thirty-first every third year, commencing July thirty-first, two thousand and fifteen, but may  
99 be renewed upon payment of a fee upon the same conditions set forth in clause (7).

100 (9) Holders of certificate A, certificate C, and certificate E shall keep their certificates of  
101 registration displayed in a conspicuous place in their principal offices or places of business. The  
102 examiners shall furnish holders of certificate B, certificate D, and certificate F with evidence of  
103 having been so licensed by the examiners, in card form or otherwise, which shall be carried on  
104 the person of the licensee and exhibited on request.

105 (10) Any certificate expiring while the holder thereof is in the military or naval service of  
106 the United States shall be renewed without further examination, upon payment of the prescribed  
107 fee, at any time within four months after such person's discharge from the service.

108 (11) Examination papers and applications for certificate A, certificate B, certificate C,  
109 certificate D, certificate E, and certificate F shall be preserved for at least two years, after which  
110 time they may, at the discretion of the examiners, be destroyed.

111 SECTION 5. Section 6 of chapter 141 of the General Laws is hereby amended by  
112 striking the section and inserting in place thereof, the following section:

113 Section 6. No person, firm or corporation holding a "certificate A, certificate C, or  
114 certificate E" shall be liable for work done by his or its employees, unless it appears that such  
115 work was done with his or its knowledge or consent or by his or its authorization.

116 SECTION 6. Section 7 of chapter 141 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby  
117 amended by striking the words in line 23 through 27 and insert in place thereof, the following  
118 words:- its own premises; or the work in connection with the installation, construction,  
119 maintenance, repair and renovation of telephone equipment and cable television service.

120 SECTION 7. Section 9 of chapter 141 of the General laws, as so appearing, is hereby  
121 amended by striking the section and replacing in place thereof, the following section:-

122 Section 9. Any person applying for a journeyman electrician's license, a systems  
123 technician's license, or a telecommunications technician's license, and making any misstatement  
124 as to his experience or other qualifications, or any person, firm or corporation subscribing to, or  
125 vouching for, any such misstatement shall be subject to the penalties set forth in section five.

126 SECTION 8. Any person, firm or corporation providing evidence satisfactory to the state  
127 examiners of electricians, on or before August first, two thousand and fifteen, that such person,

128 firm or corporation has at least thirty-six months experience working as or for a  
129 telecommunications system contractor shall be exempt from the examination requirements of  
130 section three of chapter one hundred and forty-one.

131 SECTION 9. Any person providing evidence satisfactory to the state examiners of  
132 electricians on or before August first, two thousand and fifteen, that such person has at least  
133 twelve months experience working as a telecommunications technician shall be exempt from the  
134 examination requirements of section three of chapter one hundred of forty-one.