

**PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COUNCIL
AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY**

Meeting Date: 7/25/2000

Reference No.: CB-40-2000

Proposer: County Executive

Draft No.: 2

Sponsors: Shapiro

Item Title: An Act amending or establishing licensing requirements
for Master Electricians, Journeyman Electricians,
Apprentice Electricians and Electrical Contractors

Drafter: Karen Anderson
Office of Law

Resource Wayne Robinson
Personnel: DER

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:

Date Presented: 5/2/2000

Executive Action: 8/7/2000 S

Committee Referral: 5/2/2000 THE

Effective Date: 9/22/2000

Committee Action: 1 5/11/2000 HELD

Committee Action: 2 6/19/2000 FAV(A)

Date Introduced: 6/27/2000

Public Hearing: 7/25/2000 11:00 A.M.

Council Action: 7/25/2000 ENACTED

Council Votes: DB:A, JE:A, IG:A, TH:A, WM:A, RVR:A, AS:A, PS:A, MW:A

Pass/Fail: P

Remarks: _____

TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE DATE: 6/19/00

Committee Vote: Favorable, 4-1, (In favor: Council Members Shapiro, Hendershot, Maloney and Wilson, Opposed: Gourdine).

Staff gave an overview of the legislation and informed the Committee of referral comments that were received.

CB-40-2000 sets licensing requirements and fees for Journeyman and Apprentice Electricians, includes Electrical Sub-Contractors to be licensed, establishes an investigation fee for work being performed under an electrical permit by unlicensed Journeyman and Apprentice Electricians in violation of the ratio requirement, and increases the fee for duplicate licenses.

The legislative Officer and the Office of Law have reviewed CB-40-2000 and suggested the following amendments:

Page 2, line 7, after the word "occupant" add "Except as provided in Section 9-117 of the Prince George's County Code".

Page 2, delete lines 14 through 19 and add "Any violation of this Division shall be a civil offense subject to a penalty not to exceed One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00). The procedures of Subdivision 1, Division 3, Subtitle 28 of this Code shall apply".

Page 4, line 1, delete the words "a person", and insert "an electrical contractor".

Page 4, line 3, delete the words "a person" and insert "an electrical contractor".

Page 4, line 22, add "(15) Journeyman Electrician means an individual licensed under this Division who has been regularly and principally engaged in electrical work for a period of not less than four years under the direct supervision of a licensed Master Electrician".

Page 6, line 22, delete the word "examination" and insert "application", and after "(\$60.00)" delete the words "for each examination".

Page 7, line 18, after "(\$50.00)" delete "for each examination".

Page 12, delete lines 10 through the word "Exception:" on line 15, and on line 16 delete the words "Bell Atlantic Telephone will be exempt from permitting requirements, provided a licensed Master or Master Limited Electrician certifies all installations to Prince George's County Chief Electrical Inspector", and insert "a telephone company or a telecommunications services company, as defined in Section 5A-150(a)(15) of this Code, shall be subject to blanket permitting requirements only, as approved by the Prince George's County Chief Electrical Inspector".

The Office of Audits and Investigations determined there should be no negative fiscal impact on the County as a result of enacting the bill. Based on an estimated number of Journeyman and Apprentice Electricians, and Electrical Sub-Contractors who will apply for licenses, as well as the number of investigation fees that may be issued, we estimate the positive fiscal impact to be approximately \$170,000 first year, and \$85,000 in future years. The revenue may be offset slightly by administrative costs incurred by the Business License Division.

The County Executive supports the legislation.

The National Electrical Contractors Association and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers submitted letters in support of CB-40-2000. Carl Smith, Bell Atlantic-Maryland Inc. submitted a letter in support of CB-40-2000, indicating that the proposed language and amendments in Section 2-253.61 concerning Bell Atlantic Telephone Company of Maryland provides for the continuance of the blanket permit program already in place.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION/FISCAL IMPACT

(Includes reason for proposal, as well as any unique statutory requirements)

This legislation will amend Subtitle 2, 14B, Master Electrician's License and Electrical Contractor's License of the Prince George's County Code.

CODE INDEX TOPICS: