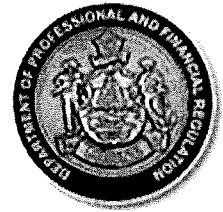




Janet T. Mills
Governor

STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF PROFESSIONAL &
FINANCIAL REGULATION
OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL AND OCCUPATIONAL REGULATION



Joan F. Cohen
Commissioner

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF L.D. 545

“An Act to Exempt a Person Making Electrical Installations in the Person’s Existing Bona Fide Personal Abode from Licensing and Permitting Requirements”

Sponsored by Representative Tiffany Roberts

BEFORE THE JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON LABOR

Public Hearing: March 11, 2025, 1:00 p.m.

Good afternoon, Senator Tipping, Representative Roeder, and Members of the Committee. I am Holly Poirier, a regulatory manager of 5 boards within the Office of Professional and Occupational Regulation (“OPOR”), an umbrella agency which supports 38 licensing boards and programs. OPOR’s sole purpose is to protect the public health and welfare of Maine citizens. One of my licensing boards is the Electricians’ Examining Board. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on LD 545.

This bill was submitted at the request of the Department to reinstate the exception to the permitting and licensing requirements for individuals making electrical installations to their own home. The proposed exception allows an individual to perform electrical installations on an existing single-family residence that is occupied by that person or will be occupied by that person as their personal abode (home). That exception to Title 32, Section 1105, Subsection 5, was inadvertently omitted as part of a larger legislative change in 2017. The installation must still conform with the National Electrical Code and other standards adopted by the Board.

This exception would align the electricians’ licensing laws with the fuel board (32 M.R.S. § 18104(7) (fuel), and the plumbing board 32 M.R.S. § 3302(1)(c) both of which allow this limited licensing exception for individuals doing work on their own home. The bill does not change the single-family dwelling certificate requirements for newly constructed single-family dwellings.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I would be happy to answer any questions now or at work session.

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