



Janet T. Mills
Governor

STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF PROFESSIONAL
AND FINANCIAL REGULATION
35 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE
04333-0035

Anne L. Head
Commissioner

February 8, 2021

Senator Chip Curry, Senate Chair
Representative Tiffany Roberts, House Chair
Joint Standing Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business
100 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333-0100

Re: LD 126 *An Act To Allow a Journeyman Electrician To Supervise Three Helper Electricians*

Dear Senator Curry, Representative Roberts, and Members of the Committee:

The Department does not take a position on LD 126 as amended by Senator Pouliot but offers the following information. LD 126, as amended, would allow a master, a journeyman, and a limited electrician to supervise up to three helper electricians.

The Electricians' Examining Board's statute currently allows a master, a journeyman, or a limited electrician to supervise up to two helper electricians if the helpers are enrolled or have completed an electrical program of study at Maine's community colleges, and vocational-technical schools or apprenticeship programs offered by the Department of Corrections and the Department of Labor. The statute also allows a master, a journeyman, or a limited electrician to supervise up to one helper electrician who is not enrolled in any educational program. LD 126 would allow up to three helper electricians to be supervised by a master, journeyman, or a limited electrician regardless of whether they receive formal education in the trade.

During the 129th Legislative Session, the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation proposed a similar change to the Board's statute in LD 1746 - *An Act to Amend the Licensing Laws of Certain Professions and Occupations* that would have allowed a master, a journeyman, or a limited electrician to supervise up to **two** helper electricians who are not enrolled in either a DOL Apprenticeship program or an electrical educational program. The intent to change the ratio was to allow more helper electricians who are not enrolled in any educational program to benefit from the supervision of a master, journeyman, or limited electrician. The proposed change was not enacted.

I hope this information is helpful. The Board's administrator, Catherine Carroll, will participate in the work session on this bill.

Sincerely,

Anne L. Head

Anne L. Head
Director, Office of Professional and Occupational Regulation

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