

1 State of Arkansas
2 88th General Assembly
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4
5 By: Senator J. Jeffress

A Bill

SENATE BILL 567

For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT TO AMEND ARKANSAS LAW CONCERNING PERMITS TO
9 CONDUCT INSTALLATION, REPAIR, OR MAINTENANCE OF
10 ELECTRICAL WORK; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

14 TO AMEND ARKANSAS LAW CONCERNING PERMITS
15 TO CONDUCT INSTALLATION, REPAIR, OR
16 MAINTENANCE OF ELECTRICAL WORK.

19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

21 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 17, Chapter 28, Subchapter 1 is amended
22 to add additional sections to read as follows:

23 17-28-104. Permits to conduct installation, repair, or maintenance of
24 electrical work -- Inspections.

25 (a) As used in this section:

26 (1) "Electrical work" means the same as defined in § 17-28-101;

27 (2) "Master electrician" means the same as defined in § 17-28-
28 101; and

29 (3) "Residential building contractor" means the same as defined
30 in § 17-25-502.

31 (b)(1) The owner or authorized agent of the owner of a property upon
32 which the installation, repair, or maintenance of electrical work will occur
33 shall obtain a permit for the installation, repair, or maintenance of
34 electrical work from:

35 (A) The municipality or county in which the property is
36 located, as determined by ordinances of the municipality or county; or



1 (B) The Board of Electrical Examiners of the State of
2 Arkansas, if the municipality or county in which the property is located does
3 not provide by ordinance for an inspection by the municipality or county.

4 (2) An authorized agent under subdivision (a)(1) of this section
5 may include a:

6 (A) Master electrician installing, repairing, or
7 performing maintenance upon electrical work on the property; and

8 (B) Residential building contractor if the project is a
9 single family dwelling.

10 (3)(A) Except as provided in subdivision (b)(3)(B) of this
11 section, the permit shall be obtained before the commencement of the
12 installation, repair, or maintenance of electrical work.

13 (B) If installation, repair, or maintenance of electrical
14 work must be performed in an emergency situation, the application for a
15 permit shall be submitted within one (1) business day of the installation,
16 repair, or maintenance of electrical work.

17 (4)(A) A municipality, county, or the Board of Electrical
18 Examiners of the State of Arkansas may charge a reasonable fee for a permit
19 under subdivision (b)(1) of this section.

20 (B) The amount of a fee shall be established by:

21 (i) Ordinance of a municipality or county; or

22 (ii) Rule of the Board of Electrical Examiners of
23 the State of Arkansas.

24 (5)(A) Except as provided in subdivision (b)(3)(B) of this
25 section, if the installation, repair, or maintenance of electrical work
26 occurs before a permit is obtained, the owner of the property upon which the
27 electrical work occurred or the authorized agent charged with obtaining the
28 permit shall be subject to a fine by the permitting authority of three (3)
29 times the amount of the permit fee established under subdivision (b)(4) of
30 this section.

31 (B) If the owner of the property or authorized agent
32 charged with obtaining the permit holds a license issued by the Board of
33 Electrical Examiners of the State of Arkansas, the board may take additional
34 actions against the person as authorized by law.

35 (c)(1)(A)(i) Electrical wiring or conduit containing electrical wiring
36 shall not be concealed from view until the completion of an inspection by the

1 authority issuing the permit for the installation, repair, or maintenance of
2 electrical work.

3 (ii) An inspection under subdivision (c)(1)(A)(i) of
4 this section shall not be scheduled until all joints have been made with
5 approved connections and all pigtail connectors have been provided for
6 hanging fixtures.

7 (B) The electrical wiring or conduit shall not be
8 concealed from view until the person conducting the inspection indicates the
9 work satisfies the statewide standards for the construction, installation,
10 and maintenance of electrical facilities and the performance of electrical
11 work under § 20-31-104.

12 (2)(A) Electricity shall not be transmitted through any
13 electrical work for which a permit was obtained under subdivision (b)(1)
14 until the completion of a final inspection by the authority issuing the
15 permit for the installation, repair, or maintenance of electrical work.

16 (B) If the person conducting the inspection indicates the
17 work satisfies the statewide standards for the construction, installation,
18 and maintenance of electrical facilities and the performance of electrical
19 work under § 20-31-104, electricity may be transmitted through the electrical
20 work.

21 (3) If a person conducting an inspection under subdivisions
22 (c)(1) and (c)(2) of this section notes a deficiency in the electrical work,
23 the deficiency shall be corrected and a re-inspection shall be requested.

24
25 17-28-105. Installation or activation of electrical meters.

26 An electrical utility company shall not install or activate an
27 electrical meter without first obtaining the approval of:

28 (1) The municipality or county in which the property is located,
29 as determined by ordinances of the municipality or county; or

30 (2) The Board of Electrical Examiners of the State of Arkansas
31 if the municipality or county in which the property is located does not
32 provide by ordinance for the approval of installation or activation of
33 electric maters.