

HB 615 -- Electrical Industry Licensing Board

Sponsor: St. Onge

This bill creates the Missouri Electrical Industry Licensing Board within the Division of Professional Registration. The board's seven members are appointed by the Governor and approved by the Senate. Members serve four-year staggered terms with an eight-year term limit. Six members must have been electrical contractors for at least five years preceding their appointment, with the Associated Builders and Contractors, the Independent Electrical Contractors Association, and the National Electrical Contractors Association each having two representatives. One member represents the public. The board will meet at least four times annually, and board members may be reimbursed for expenses and receive compensation of up to \$50 per day.

The bill also establishes state licensing requirements for electrical contractors. Contractors practicing prior to March 1, 2004, may apply for a waiver of requirements if they hold a license issued by any authority that requires a written test. Other practicing contractors may apply for a two-year limited, non-renewable license while they await passing a state examination. The division may establish licensing fees to cover administrative costs and may develop reciprocal licensing agreements with other states.

The board may file complaints against contractors with the Administrative Hearing Commission and suspend or revoke licenses if warranted by the commission's findings. Violators of licensing requirements are guilty of a class B misdemeanor.