



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 76

January Session, 2007

Substitute House Bill No. 7255

House of Representatives, March 19, 2007

The Committee on General Law reported through REP. STONE of the 9th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING THE GRANTING OF RECIPROCAL ELECTRICAL WORK AND ELECTRONIC TECHNICIAN AND SERVICE DEALER LICENSES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 20-333a of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

3 (a) The Commissioner of Consumer Protection may, upon the
4 payment of the appropriate fee, as provided in section 20-335, grant a
5 license or a card of registration provided for in this chapter, without an
6 examination, to any currently practicing, competent person who holds
7 a similar license or card of registration granted by any other state,
8 licensure jurisdiction within another state, the District of Columbia or
9 any territory or commonwealth of the United States having licensure
10 or registration requirements substantially similar to, or higher than,
11 those of this state, if the licensing authority in such other state,
12 licensure jurisdiction within another state, the District of Columbia or
13 any territory or commonwealth of the United States may grant such

14 similar license or card of registration, without an examination, to any
 15 currently practicing, competent licensee or registrant from this state.
 16 [The commissioner, with the advice and consent of the appropriate
 17 examining board, may adopt regulations in accordance with the
 18 provisions of chapter 54 in order to carry out the provisions of this
 19 section.]

20 (b) The commissioner may enter into a reciprocal licensing
 21 agreement with another state, the District of Columbia or any territory
 22 or commonwealth of the United States regarding the granting of a
 23 license or card of registration provided for in this chapter.

24 (c) The commissioner may adopt regulations, in accordance with the
 25 provisions of chapter 54, in order to carry out the provisions of this
 26 section.

27 Sec. 2. Subsection (b) of section 20-350 of the general statutes is
 28 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
 29 *passage*):

30 (b) The [board] Commissioner of Consumer Protection may
 31 [authorize the Department of Consumer Protection to] issue a license
 32 without examination to any person who, at the time of the application
 33 or within thirty days prior thereto, was licensed to engage in servicing
 34 receiving equipment by another state under a law which contained
 35 qualifications substantially similar to or higher than those prescribed
 36 by this chapter, which state grants reciprocity to persons licensed
 37 under the provisions of this chapter.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	20-333a
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	20-350(b)

GL *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose:

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 08 \$	FY 09 \$
Consumer Protection, Dept.	GF - Revenue Gain	Potential Minimal	Potential Minimal

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

This bill could result in a minimal revenue gain related to the allowance of certain reciprocal licenses from other states and the anticipation that approximately fifty licenses would be granted each year.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to the number of reciprocal licenses granted, which is unknown at this time.

OLR Bill Analysis**sHB 7255*****AN ACT CONCERNING THE GRANTING OF RECIPROCAL ELECTRICAL WORK AND ELECTRONIC TECHNICIAN AND SERVICE DEALER LICENSES*****SUMMARY:**

This bill authorizes the Department of Consumer Protection (DCP) commissioner to (1) enter reciprocal licensing agreements with other states, the District of Columbia, or a federal territory or commonwealth concerning the granting of occupational licenses or registrations and (2) adopt implementing regulations. Current law allows the DCP commissioner to grant a Connecticut license without examination to a currently practicing tradesman licensed in another state or licensing jurisdiction (1) if that jurisdiction has standards substantially similar to, or higher than, Connecticut's and (2) in conformance to implementing regulations adopted with the advice and consent of the appropriate licensing board. The bill authorizes the commissioner to adopt implementing regulations without a licensing board's advice and consent. Both provisions apply to: electricians; plumbers; heating, piping and cooling contractors and journeymen; elevator contractors and craftsmen; solar contractors and journeymen; fire protection sprinkler contractors and journeymen; irrigation contractors and journeymen; sheet metal contractors and journeymen; and automotive and flat glass contractors and journeymen.

In addition, the bill allows the DCP commissioner to license without examination someone who is, and has been for at least 30 days when applying, licensed to service receiving equipment by another state with laws that are substantially similar to, or higher than, Connecticut's if that state similarly licenses Connecticut receiving equipment servicemen on a reciprocal basis. Under current law,

licenses may be granted in this circumstance only with the authorization of the Examining Board for Electrical Work and only if the other state has laws that are substantially similar to Connecticut's.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

BACKGROUND

Occupational Licensing System

State law establishes a licensing system for several trades overseen by the Examining Boards for Electrical Work; Heating, Piping, and Cooling Work; Plumbing and Piping Work; Elevator Installation, Repair, and Maintenance Work; and the Automotive Glass Work and Flat Glass Work and the Fire Protection Sprinkler Systems Board. The boards are within DCP. They have the power to determine who qualifies for a license and to enforce standards by disciplining licensees. The boards may create limited licenses authorizing their holders to work in a specific area of a trade that have less extensive requirements. Each trade has different levels of expertise – apprentice, journeyman, and contractor. Workers must meet education, training, and experience requirements to qualify for each level. The law establishes DCP's duties to the boards, which include receiving complaints, carrying out investigations, and performing administrative tasks, such as physically issuing licenses and renewals.

COMMITTEE ACTION

General Law Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 18 Nay 1 (03/06/2007)