



General Assembly

February Session, 2010

Raised Bill No. 5225

LCO No. 988

00988 _____ GL_

Referred to Committee on General Law

Introduced by:
(GL)

AN ACT CONCERNING SOLAR WORK.

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

1 Section 1. Section 20-330 of the 2010 supplement to the general
2 statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
3 (*Effective October 1, 2010*):

4 As used in this chapter:

5 (1) "Contractor" means any person regularly offering to the general
6 public services of such person or such person's employees in the field
7 of electrical work, plumbing and piping work, solar work, heating,
8 piping, cooling and sheet metal work, fire protection sprinkler systems
9 work, elevator installation, repair and maintenance work, irrigation
10 work, automotive glass work or flat glass work, as defined in this
11 section;

12 (2) "Electrical work" means the installation, erection, maintenance,
13 alteration or repair of any wire, cable, conduit, busway, raceway,
14 support, insulator, conductor, appliance, apparatus, fixture or
15 equipment that generates, transforms, transmits or uses electrical

16 energy for light, heat, power or other purposes, but does not include
17 low voltage wiring, not exceeding twenty-four volts, used within a
18 lawn sprinkler system;

19 (3) "Plumbing and piping work" means the installation, repair,
20 replacement, alteration or maintenance of gas, water and associated
21 fixtures, tubing and piping mains and branch lines up to and including
22 the closest valve to a machine or equipment used in the manufacturing
23 process, laboratory equipment, sanitary equipment, other than
24 subsurface sewage disposal systems, fire prevention apparatus, all
25 water systems for human usage, sewage treatment facilities and all
26 associated fittings within a building and includes lateral storm and
27 sanitary lines from buildings to the mains, process piping, swimming
28 pools and pumping equipment, and includes making connections to
29 back flow prevention devices, and includes low voltage wiring, not
30 exceeding twenty-four volts, used within a lawn sprinkler system, but
31 does not include (A) solar thermal work performed pursuant to a
32 certificate held as provided in section 20-334g, except for the repair of
33 those portions of a solar hot water heating system that include the
34 basic domestic hot water tank and the tie-in to the potable water
35 system, (B) the installation, repair, replacement, alteration or
36 maintenance of fire prevention apparatus within a structure, except for
37 standpipes that are not connected to sprinkler systems, (C) medical gas
38 and vacuum systems work, and (D) millwright work. For the purposes
39 of this subdivision, "process piping" means piping or tubing that
40 conveys liquid or gas that is used directly in the production of a
41 chemical or a product for human consumption;

42 (4) "Solar thermal work" means the installation, erection, repair,
43 replacement, alteration, or maintenance of active, passive and hybrid
44 solar systems that directly convert ambient energy into heat or convey,
45 store or distribute such ambient energy;

46 (5) "Heating, piping and cooling work" means (A) the installation,
47 repair, replacement, maintenance or alteration of any apparatus for

48 piping, appliances, devices or accessories for heating systems,
49 including sheet metal work, (B) the installation, repair, replacement,
50 maintenance or alteration of air conditioning and refrigeration
51 systems, boilers, including apparatus and piping for the generation or
52 conveyance of steam and associated pumping equipment and process
53 piping and the installation of tubing and piping mains and branch
54 lines up to and including the closest valve to a machine or equipment
55 used in the manufacturing process, but excluding millwright work,
56 and (C) on-site operation, by manipulating, adjusting or controlling,
57 with sufficient technical knowledge, as determined by the
58 commissioner, (i) heating systems with a steam or water boiler
59 maximum operating pressure of fifteen pounds per square inch gauge
60 or greater, or (ii) air conditioning or refrigeration systems with an
61 aggregate of more than fifty horsepower or kilowatt equivalency of
62 fifty horsepower or of two hundred pounds of refrigerant. Heating,
63 piping and cooling work does not include solar thermal work
64 performed pursuant to a certificate held as provided in section 20-
65 334g, or medical gas and vacuum systems work or the passive
66 monitoring of heating, air conditioning or refrigeration systems. For
67 the purposes of this subdivision, "process piping" means piping or
68 tubing that conveys liquid or gas that is used directly in the production
69 of a chemical or a product for human consumption;

70 (6) "Apprentice" means any person registered with the Labor
71 Department for the purpose of learning a skilled trade;

72 (7) "Elevator installation, repair and maintenance work" means the
73 installation, erection, maintenance and repair of all types of elevators,
74 dumb waiters, escalators, and moving walks and all mechanical
75 equipment, fittings, associated piping and wiring from a source of
76 supply brought to the equipment room by an unlimited electrical
77 contractor for all types of machines used to hoist or convey persons or
78 materials, but does not include temporary hoisting machines used for
79 hoisting materials in connection with any construction job or project;

80 (8) "Elevator maintenance" means the lubrication, inspection and
81 replacement of controls, hoistway and car parts;

82 (9) "Fire protection sprinkler systems work" means the layout, on-
83 site fabrication, installation, alteration, maintenance or repair of any
84 automatic or manual sprinkler system designed for the protection of
85 the interior or exterior of a building or structure from fire, or any
86 piping or tubing and appurtenances and equipment pertaining to such
87 system including overhead and underground water mains, fire
88 hydrants and hydrant mains, standpipes and hose connections to
89 sprinkler systems, sprinkler tank heaters excluding electrical wiring,
90 air lines and thermal systems used in connection with sprinkler and
91 alarm systems connected thereto, foam extinguishing systems or
92 special hazard systems including water spray, foam, carbon dioxide or
93 dry chemical systems, halon and other liquid or gas fire suppression
94 systems, but does not include (A) any engineering design work
95 connected with the layout of fire protection sprinkler systems, or (B)
96 any work performed by employees of or contractors hired by a public
97 water system, as defined in subsection (a) of section 25-33d;

98 (10) "State Fire Marshal" means the State Fire Marshal or any
99 member of the Division of State Police to whom the Commissioner of
100 Public Safety has delegated powers under section 29-291;

101 (11) "Journeyman sprinkler fitter" means a specialized pipe fitter
102 craftsman, experienced and skilled in the installation, alteration,
103 maintenance and repair of fire protection sprinkler systems;

104 (12) "Irrigation work" means making the connections to back flow
105 prevention devices, and low voltage wiring, not exceeding twenty-four
106 volts, used within a lawn sprinkler system;

107 (13) "Sheet metal work" means the installation, erection,
108 replacement, repair or alteration of duct work systems, both ferrous
109 and nonferrous;

110 (14) "Journeyman sheet metal worker" means an experienced
111 craftsman skilled in the installation, erection, replacement, repair or
112 alteration of duct work systems, both ferrous and nonferrous;

113 (15) "Automotive glass work" means installing, maintaining or
114 repairing fixed glass in motor vehicles;

115 (16) "Flat glass work" means installing, maintaining or repairing
116 glass in residential or commercial structures;

117 (17) "Medical gas and vacuum systems work" means the work and
118 practice, materials, instrumentation and fixtures used in the
119 construction, installation, alteration, extension, removal, repair,
120 maintenance or renovation of gas and vacuum systems and equipment
121 used solely to transport gases for medical purposes and to remove
122 liquids, air-gases or solids from such systems;

123 (18) "Solar electricity work" means the installation, erection, repair,
124 replacement, alteration, or maintenance of photovoltaic or wind
125 generation equipment used to distribute or store ambient energy for
126 heat, light, power or other purposes, [to a point immediately inside
127 any structure or adjacent to an end use] where such work commences
128 at an outlet, receptacle or connection previously installed by a person
129 licensed to install such outlet, receptacle or connection;

130 (19) "Active solar system" means a system that uses an external
131 source of energy to power a motor-driven fan or pump to force the
132 circulation of a fluid through solar heat collectors and which removes
133 the sun's heat from the collectors and transports such heat to a location
134 where it may be used or stored;

135 (20) "Passive solar system" means a system that is capable of
136 collecting or storing the sun's energy as heat without the use of a
137 motor-driven fan or pump;

138 (21) "Hybrid solar system" means a system that contains
139 components of both an active solar system and a passive solar system;

140 (22) "Gas hearth product work" means the installation, service or
141 repair of a propane or natural gas fired fireplace, fireplace insert, stove
142 or log set and associated venting and piping that simulates a flame of a
143 solid fuel fire. "Gas hearth product work" does not include (A) fuel
144 piping work, (B) the servicing of fuel piping, or (C) work associated
145 with pressure regulating devices, except for appliances gas valves; and

146 (23) "Millwright work" means the installation, repair, replacement,
147 maintenance or alteration of (A) power generation machinery, or (B)
148 industrial machinery, including the related interconnection of piping
149 and tubing used in the manufacturing process, but does not include
150 the performance of any action for which licensure is required under
151 this chapter.

152 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2010*) The Commissioner of
153 Consumer Protection, after consulting with the Electrical Work Board,
154 shall issue a solar photovoltaic work certificate authorizing the
155 performance of solar electricity work, as defined in section 20-330 of
156 the general statutes, as amended by this act, to any person who: (1)
157 Has been issued an E-1 or E-2 license by the Department of Consumer
158 Protection, (2) has completed a solar photovoltaic installation training
159 course approved by the commissioner, and (3) has achieved a passing
160 score on a solar photovoltaic work examination as determined and
161 approved by the commissioner. The initial fee for a solar photovoltaic
162 certificate shall be fifty dollars. Such certificate shall be renewed
163 consistent with the renewal process for E-1 and E-2 licenses.

164 Sec. 3. Section 20-340 of the general statutes is repealed and the
165 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

166 The provisions of this chapter shall not apply to: (1) Persons
167 employed by any federal, state or municipal agency; (2) employees of
168 any public service company regulated by the Department of Public
169 Utility Control or of any corporate affiliate of any such company when
170 the work performed by such affiliate is on behalf of a public service
171 company, but in either case only if the work performed is in

172 connection with the rendition of public utility service, including the
173 installation or maintenance of wire for community antenna television
174 service, or is in connection with the installation or maintenance of wire
175 or telephone sets for single-line telephone service located inside the
176 premises of a consumer; (3) employees of any municipal corporation
177 specially chartered by this state; (4) employees of any contractor while
178 such contractor is performing electrical-line or emergency work for
179 any public service company; (5) persons engaged in the installation,
180 maintenance, repair and service of electrical or other appliances of a
181 size customarily used for domestic use where such installation
182 commences at an outlet receptacle or connection previously installed
183 by persons licensed to do the same and maintenance, repair and
184 service is confined to the appliance itself and its internal operation; (6)
185 employees of industrial firms whose main duties concern the
186 maintenance of the electrical work, plumbing and piping work, solar
187 thermal work, heating, piping, cooling work, sheet metal work,
188 elevator installation, repair and maintenance work, automotive glass
189 work or flat glass work of such firm on its own premises or on
190 premises leased by it for its own use; (7) employees of industrial firms
191 when such employees' main duties concern the fabrication of glass
192 products or electrical, plumbing and piping, fire protection sprinkler
193 systems, solar, heating, piping, cooling, chemical piping, sheet metal or
194 elevator installation, repair and maintenance equipment used in the
195 production of goods sold by industrial firms, except for products,
196 electrical, plumbing and piping systems and repair and maintenance
197 equipment used directly in the production of a product for human
198 consumption; (8) persons performing work necessary to the
199 manufacture or repair of any apparatus, appliances, fixtures,
200 equipment or devices produced by it for sale or lease; (9) employees of
201 stage and theatrical companies performing the operation, installation
202 and maintenance of electrical equipment if such installation
203 commences at an outlet receptacle or connection previously installed
204 by persons licensed to make such installation; (10) employees of
205 carnivals, circuses or similar transient amusement shows who install

206 electrical work, provided such installation shall be subject to the
207 approval of the State Fire Marshal prior to use as otherwise provided
208 by law and shall comply with applicable municipal ordinances and
209 regulations; (11) persons engaged in the installation, maintenance,
210 repair and service of glass or electrical, plumbing, fire protection
211 sprinkler systems, solar, heating, piping, cooling and sheet metal
212 equipment in and about single-family residences owned and occupied
213 or to be occupied by such persons; provided any such installation,
214 maintenance and repair shall be subject to inspection and approval by
215 the building official of the municipality in which such residence is
216 located and shall conform to the requirements of the State Building
217 Code; (12) persons who install, maintain or repair glass in a motor
218 vehicle owned or leased by such persons; (13) persons or entities
219 holding themselves out to be retail sellers of glass products, but not
220 such persons or entities that also engage in automotive glass work or
221 flat glass work; (14) persons who install preglazed or preassembled
222 windows or doors in residential or commercial buildings; (15) persons
223 registered under chapter 400 who install safety-backed mirror
224 products or repair or replace flat glass in sizes not greater than thirty
225 square feet in residential buildings; (16) sheet metal work performed in
226 residential buildings consisting of six units or less by new home
227 construction contractors registered pursuant to chapter 399a, by home
228 improvement contractors registered pursuant to chapter 400 or by
229 persons licensed pursuant to this chapter, when such work is limited
230 to exhaust systems installed for hoods and fans in kitchens and baths,
231 clothes dryer exhaust systems, radon vent systems, fireplaces, fireplace
232 flues, masonry chimneys or prefabricated metal chimneys rated by the
233 Underwriter's Laboratory or installation of stand-alone appliances
234 including wood, pellet or other stand-alone stoves that are installed in
235 residential buildings by such contractors or persons; and (17)
236 [employees of or any contractor employed by and under the direction
237 of a properly licensed solar contractor, performing work limited to the
238 hoisting, placement and anchoring of solar collectors, photovoltaic
239 panels, towers or turbines; and (18)] persons performing swimming

240 pool maintenance and repair work authorized pursuant to section 20-
241 417aa.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2010</i>	20-330
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2010</i>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>from passage</i>	20-340

Statement of Purpose:

To ensure solar electricity work is performed safely, to authorize E-1 and E-2 license holders to perform solar voltaic work, subject to certain conditions, and to eliminate a licensing exemption relating to the hoisting, placement and anchoring of solar collectors, photovoltaic panels, towers and turbines.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]