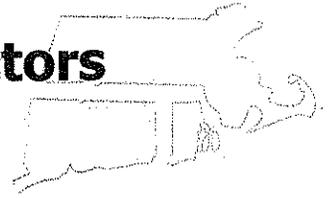




Independent Electrical Contractors of New England, Inc.



TO: The Honorable Paul Doyle and Rep. Joe Taborsak
Members of the General Law Committee

From: Lisa Stevens, Executive Director

Date: February 24, 2011

Re: **HB-6265, An Act Concerning Advertising by Nonlicensed
Tradespersons**

The Independent Electrical Contractors of New England (IEC-NE) *supports* **HB-6265**, which tightens up the current law to impose penalties against individuals who hold themselves out in advertisements as a licensed tradesperson but who do not hold the license needed to perform such work.

Unfortunately, many people advertise in the yellow pages or in newspapers that they can do electrical work. Unfortunately, some of these individuals do not hold an electrical license and are jeopardizing the safety of consumers by purporting to be qualified to do such work. Although licensed electricians and other skilled trades are required to include their license number on their truck, letterhead, advertisements, etc. the law does not specifically speak to situations where someone who is not licensed advertises that they can perform certain work.

This bill corrects this situation and protects consumers by prohibiting unlicensed individuals from advertising their services in ways that could mislead the public into thinking that they are licensed. Many other states already have laws on the books which prohibit such advertisements and have successfully cracked down on unlicensed contractors.

The Independent Electrical Contractors of New England is the premier trade association representing Connecticut, Massachusetts and Rhode Island independent electrical contractors aggressively working with the industry to establish a free environment for merit shop -- a philosophy that promotes the concept of free enterprise, open competition and economic opportunity for all.

1800 Silas Deane Highway, Rear Building, Rocky Hill, CT 06067
(860) 563-4953 Fax (860) 563-5453 Toll Free (866) GO IEC NE
email: lisa@iecne.org www.iecne.org