

Date: February 22, 2016

To: Senator Cassano
Representative Jutila
Senator McLachlan
Representative Smith
Honorable Members of the Government of the Government Administration and Elections Committee

From: Larry Vallieres, Chairman of the State Electrical Work Examining Board

Re: Governor's S.B. No. 15. "An Act Adopting The Requirements of North Carolina State Board of Dental Examiners V. Federal Trade Commission And Making Minor Revisions To Boards and Commissions Statutes"

My name is Larry Vallieres, and I am a licensed contractor and business owner for nearly 45 years. I am also the Chairman of the State Electrical Work Examining Board of which I have been an active member for many years.

On behalf of the Electrical Work Examining Board, I am writing in opposition to Governor's Bill S.B. 15 as currently drafted for the following reasons:

- S.B. No.15 indicates "Minor Revisions" to Boards and Commissions Statutes. We believe that the fallout from these "Minor Revisions" will have a substantial adverse impact on the effectiveness of the Boards and Commissions and will reduce the protection of the consumers and impact public and life safety.
- If a respondent is aggrieved by a board's decision, the board allows the respondent to re-appear before the board and provide any new testimony that he or she may have overlooked at the time of the original appearance. We will take that new testimony into consideration and if a reversal or modification to our original decision is necessary, we will make such reversal or modification for the good of that particular case.
- As currently provided, should a person or person's be aggrieved by a decision by a board, they currently have the right to appeal for judicial review as provided in Section 4-183, and as stipulated in Sec 20-336 and Sec 21-a7.
- Based on the proposed S.B. 15, and with all due respect to the Commissioner or his designee, neither of these two individuals would necessarily have the expertise in the subject matter to render a proper decision, unlike the board which is made of industry experts from both the union and non-union sectors as well as the public members.
- Passage of this proposed bill, would only lead to the undermining of the professional expertise of the boards, the independence of these boards as originally sculptured by our legislators, protection of consumers, and adversely affect the industry at large.

- The Electrical Work Examining Board takes any all respondents that are in need of reprimand as a serious matter. We consult as needed with our legal counsel as provided to us from the Attorney General's office, for any issue that is out of the ordinary.
- While we understand and have had the North Carolina Dental decision explained to us from the Attorney General's office, we do believe that the make-up of the boards in North Carolina as compared to the boards in Connecticut is substantially different.
- The Electrical Work Examining Board is always mindful of protecting the consumers of the State of Connecticut from unscrupulous contractors while at the same time protecting and preserving the interest of the State of Connecticut.

The Electrical Work Examining Board is always available and willing to cooperate with the Governor's Office and our Legislators in a harmonious fashion to improve our statues and regulations as and when needed.

Respectfully Submitted:



Larry Vallieres, Chairman
Electrical Work Examining Board
State of Connecticut

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