



CHARLES D. BAKER
GOVERNOR

KARYN E. POLITO
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

MIKE KENNEALY
SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Division of Professional Licensure
Board of State Examiners of Electricians
1000 Washington Street, Suite 710
Boston, Massachusetts 02118

EDWARD A. PALLESCHI
UNDERSECRETARY OF CONSUMER
AFFAIRS AND BUSINESS
REGULATION

LAYLA D'EMILIA
COMMISSIONER, DIVISION OF
PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE

Massachusetts Board State Examiners of Electricians
Planning and Research Subcommittee Meeting Minutes
April 2, 2021

Conducted remotely via Microsoft Teams meeting

1. The meeting was called to order by the Chair at 10:33 A.M.

The following Board members were present:

Kathleen Guinee, Systems Contractor Member
John Bagni, MAVA Member
Paul J. Malagrifa, International Municipal Signal Association, Member

The following members of Board Staff were present:

Mari Cooney, Executive Director
Kristin Mitchell, Assoc Exec Director
Tamara Smith, Program Coordinator
Milla Lewis, Administrative Assistant
Charles Kilb, Legal Counsel

2. **Discussion** – Apprentice to Journeyman Ratio

J. Bagni broached the conversation stating that New Hampshire has an increased ratio of apprentices to licensees 2:1. He added that MA 1:1 seems antiquated and does not take into account advancement in technology, business operation and demand in this century.

K. Guinee expressed that as to whether MA goes that way or not the Board has to consider enforcement issues as she felt there are often violations currently with 1:1.

The Executive Director shared some apprentice program facts regarding Division of Apprentice Standards (DAS) and the plumbing apprentice license. She mentioned that staff will be able to prepare a comparison of trades' apprenticeships for the subcommittee's next meeting.

P. Malagrifa stated that the subcommittee should seek to establish whether there exists a real problem with the 1:1 ratio being antiquated or due to misalignment with NH practices prior to seeking legislative amendment.

J. Bagni responded that he has worked with various employer programs and witnesses the shortage of apprentices. He thinks the solution is creating opportunity which in turn produces the stimulus that is needed in the pandemic climate.



3. **Discuss** – Eliminating requiring Journeyman license upon issuance of a Master

J. Bagni expressed his reasoning for proposing this change as the Master license is viewed as an advanced learning license and should be sufficient for operating in the trade without maintaining the Journeyman.

The Executive Director gave the current license statistics at 26,183 Journeyman, 8577 Master, 1922 Systems Technician, 677 Systems Contractor and 3087 business licenses.

The Associate Executive Director presented initial loss of revenue estimates as approximately \$721,812 at renewal cycle with removing the requirement for the Journeyman and Technician.

Approximate estimates for renewal of the business licenses were calculated at

\$361,179 based on current business license not taking into account businesses that may not renew.

A difference of \$360,633 loss to the state.

Counsel added regarding the aforementioned propositions that would require amendments to legislation that the two avenues for effecting these changes would be through lobbyists or as a formal proposition through the Commissioner in which case the Board would prepare an exhaustive package or recommendations with due diligence of research and reasoning.

4. **Discuss** other matters not reasonably anticipated 48 hours in advance of the meeting.

- The subcommittee projected the next meeting to be scheduled on May 7, 2021.

5. **Adjournment**

At 11:54 A.M. J. Bagni made a motion P. Malagrifa, seconded and it was so unanimously voted to adjourn.

A true copy.

List of Documents used at the meeting

1. Meeting agenda