

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
2023 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE  
First Reader

Senate Bill 326 (Washington County Senators)  
Education, Energy, and the Environment

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Washington County - Electricians - Registration and Licensing

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This bill generally corrects references in the Washington County Code to the licensing (rather than registration) of master electricians. As a result, the bill conforms the Washington County Code with the Maryland Electricians Act. It also allows reciprocity for individuals applying for licensure as a Restricted Electrician in Washington County and who took the required examination in another jurisdiction. Finally, the bill makes other technical and conforming changes.

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Fiscal Summary

**State Effect:** None. The bill affects only Washington County.

**Local Effect:** Any potential reduction in the collection of examination fees by Washington County due to reciprocity is expected to be minimal. The bill's other changes are technical in nature and do not directly affect local governmental finances.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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Analysis

**Current Law:** Chapter 708 of 2021 repealed local authority to license master, journeyman, and apprentice electricians beginning July 1, 2021, and instead required a State license for each of those classifications. However, a local jurisdiction may continue to issue or begin issuing local *registrations* for those classifications, subject to specified requirements.

In Washington County, a restricted electrician is an individual who has been found competent by the Board of Electrical Examiners and Supervisors to engage in limited fields of electrical work. The bill maintains licensure of restricted electricians in Washington County as this classification of licensure is not affected by the Maryland Electricians Act. Before an individual engages in the business of a restricted electrician in Washington County, the individual must apply to the local board for a license examination. There is no provision for reciprocity with other jurisdictions that administer the same examination.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** Similar legislation has not been introduced within the last three years.

**Designated Cross File:** HB 414 (Washington County Delegation) - Economic Matters.

**Information Source(s):** Washington County; Maryland Department of Labor; Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 10, 2023  
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Analysis by: Eric F. Pierce

Direct Inquiries to:  
(410) 946-5510  
(301) 970-5510