



ANALYSIS

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1969, No. 10

An Act to amend the Electricians Act 1952

[18 August 1969]

BE IT ENACTED by the General Assembly of New Zealand in Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1. Short Title and commencement—(1) This Act may be cited as the Electricians Amendment Act 1969, and shall be read together with and deemed part of the Electricians Act 1952 (hereinafter referred to as the principal Act).

(2) This Act shall come into force on the first day of April, nineteen hundred and seventy.

2. Interpretation—Section 2 of the principal Act is hereby amended—

(a) By omitting from the definition of the term “improver” the words “or electrical serviceman, as the case may be,” and also omitting the words “or an electrical serviceman.”

(b) By inserting, after the definition of the term “Minister”, the following definition:

“‘Observer’ means any pupil not less than fifteen years of age attending a secondary school for the purposes of acquiring a secondary education:”:

(c) By repealing the definition of the term “university student”, and substituting the following definition:

“‘Student’ means a person who is attending a university or a technical institute and is taking therein a prescribed course in electrical engineering for a degree or for a New Zealand certificate in engineering:”.

3. Constitution of Electricians Registration Board—

(1) Section 4 of the principal Act is hereby amended by omitting from paragraphs (e) and (f) of subsection (2) the words “One registered electrician who”, and substituting in each case the words “One person who shall be either a registered electrical technician or a registered electrician and who”.

(2) The said section 4 is hereby further amended by inserting in subsection (3), before the words “Every member of the Board”, the words “Subject to subsection (7) of this section”.

(3) The said section 4 is hereby further amended by adding the following subsection:

“(7) On completion of the terms of office expiring with the thirty-first day of March, nineteen hundred and seventy-one, of members appointed under paragraphs (b), (d), (e), and (f) of subsection (2) of this section, members next appointed under paragraphs (b) and (e) of subsection (2) of this section

shall each be appointed for a term of one year, and members next appointed under paragraphs (d) and (f) of subsection (2) of this section shall each be appointed for a term of two years.”

4. Registrar of Electricians—Section 8 of the principal Act is hereby amended by repealing subsection (2).

5. New sections as to registration substituted—The principal Act is hereby further amended by repealing section 11, and substituting the following sections:

“11. Qualifications for registration as electrical technician—Subject to section 10 of this Act, every person shall, on payment of the prescribed fee, be entitled to be registered as an electrical technician if he satisfies the Board—

- “(a) That for a period of not less than ten years, or for a period of not less than five years in the case of any person having passed such examination or completed such course of study as may be approved for the purpose by the Board, he has been registered as an electrician under this Act; and
- “(b) That for such period he has been engaged in undertaking or supervising, or has been in charge of, or has been otherwise directly associated with, electrical wiring work of such scope and complexity as to require wide technical experience and ability; and
- “(c) That he is the holder of a current certificate of registration as an electrician free from endorsement.

“11A. Qualifications for registration as electrician—Subject to section 10 of this Act, every person shall, on payment of the prescribed fee, be entitled to be registered as an electrician if he satisfies the Board—

- “(a) That he has completed an apprenticeship in the work of an electrician, and has had not less than four years’ experience satisfactory to the Board or has had experience satisfactory to the Board for such other period as may from time to time be prescribed by regulations made under this Act or as the Board may in any case approve; and
- “(b) That he has passed the Electricians’ Examination conducted in accordance with regulations made or

continuing in force under this Act, or an examination approved by the Board as being of equivalent standing for the purpose of registration under this section.

“11B. Qualifications for registration as electrical mechanic—Subject to section 10 of this Act, every person shall, on payment of the prescribed fee, be entitled to be registered as an electrical mechanic if he satisfies the Board—

“(a) That he has completed an apprenticeship in the work of an electrician, and has had not less than four years’ experience satisfactory to the Board or has had experience satisfactory to the Board for such other period as may from time to time be prescribed by regulations made under this Act or as the Board may in any case approve; and

“(b) That he has passed an examination approved by the Board as sufficient for the purpose of registration under this section.

“11C. Qualifications for registration as radio serviceman—Subject to section 10 of this Act, every person shall, on payment of the prescribed fee, be entitled to be registered as a radio serviceman if he satisfies the Board—

“(a) That he has completed an apprenticeship in the work of a radio serviceman, and has had not less than four years’ experience satisfactory to the Board or has had experience satisfactory to the Board for such period as may from time to time be prescribed by regulations made under this Act or as the Board may in any case approve; and

“(b) That he has passed the Radio Servicemen’s Examination conducted in accordance with regulations made under this Act, or an examination approved by the Board as being of equivalent standing for the purpose of registration under this section.

“11D. Qualifications for registration as radio mechanic—Subject to section 10 of this Act, every person shall, on payment of the prescribed fee, be entitled to be registered as a radio mechanic if he satisfies the Board—

“(a) That he has completed an apprenticeship in the work of a radio serviceman, and has had not less than four years’ experience satisfactory to the Board or has had experience satisfactory to the Board for

such other period as may from time to time be prescribed by regulations made under this Act or as the Board may in any case approve; and

“(b) That he has passed an examination approved by the Board as sufficient for the purpose of registration under this section.

“11E. **Qualifications for limited registration**—Subject to section 10 of this Act, every person who is engaged from time to time on electrical work associated with any occupation and who is not otherwise entitled to registration under this Act shall, on payment of the prescribed fee, be entitled to limited registration under this Act if he satisfies the Board—

“(a) That he has had not less than three years’ experience satisfactory to the Board in the work of servicing electrical apparatus; and

“(b) That he has passed the prescribed examination conducted in accordance with regulations made under this Act, or an examination approved by the Board as sufficient for the purpose of registration under this section.

“11F. **Experience gained in assisting to do electrical wiring work**—For the purposes of sections 11C, 11D, and 11E of this Act, the Board may take account of experience gained by a person in assisting to do electrical wiring work with the permission of the Board granted under subsection (2) of section 21 of this Act as if it were experience for the purposes of registration under this section.

“11G. **Application for registration by provisional licensee**—In addition to the persons entitled to be registered under sections 11 to 11F of this Act, the Board may, on application made at any time during the currency or after the expiry of a provisional licence issued under section 16 of this Act, grant to the person to whom the licence was issued registration as an electrician, electrical mechanic, radio serviceman, radio mechanic, or limited registration if the Board is satisfied that the applicant has had not less than the experience in the class of work prescribed by this Act and has passed the examination prescribed by this Act in the class or classes of work in respect of which he has applied for registration and that, during the currency of the licence, he has satisfactorily performed the class or classes of work in respect of which he has applied for registration.

“11H. Experience gained in contravention of Act not to be taken into account—(1) In computing the period during which any person has had experience in the class of work for which registration is applied, any time occupied or any experience gained in contravention of this Act shall not be taken into account for the purposes of registration.

“(2) Notwithstanding anything in sections 11 to 11E of this Act, in computing the period during which any person has had experience in the class or classes of work for which registration is applied, the Board may for the purposes of that registration take account of experience or a proportion of experience gained by that person satisfactorily to the Board while that person was employed or engaged either in New Zealand or overseas in work not subject to this Act, notwithstanding that any such experience or part of such experience was gained before any date of registration in a class or classes of work other than the class or classes of work for which registration is applied.

“11I. Registration of electrical servicemen as electrical mechanics—Notwithstanding anything in sections 11 to 11H of this Act, every person who was registered as an electrical serviceman under this Act, and was immediately before the first day of April, nineteen hundred and seventy, the holder of a current certificate of registration as an electrical serviceman (class ES) issued under the Electricians Registration Regulations 1956, and was not then limited to such work as was specified by the Board or the premises on which he could work, or to employment only with an approved employer, shall, on making application to the Board within one year after the first day of April, nineteen hundred and seventy, be entitled to be registered under this Act as an electrical mechanic.”

6. Qualifications for registration as Inspectors of electrical wiring—(1) Section 13 of the principal Act (as substituted by section 6 of the Electricians Amendment Act 1966) is hereby amended by omitting subparagraph (i) of paragraph (a), and substituting the following subparagraph:

“(i) Is the holder of a current certificate of registration free from endorsement as an electrical technician or as an electrician or is registered by virtue of qualifications in electrical engineering under the Engineers Registration Act 1924 or the Engineering Associates Act 1961; and”

(2) The said section 13 is hereby further amended by omitting subparagraph (iii) and substituting the following subparagraph:

“(iii) Is not, in the case of an electrical technician or electrician or a person registered by virtue of qualifications in electrical engineering under the Engineers Registration Act 1924 or the Engineering Associates Act 1961, for the time being suspended or disqualified from doing the work of a registered electrician; and”

7. Holders of limited registration may be limited in respect of work which they may undertake—The principal Act is hereby further amended by repealing section 15, and substituting the following section:

“15. The Board may direct that the registration of any person as an electrical mechanic, radio mechanic, radio serviceman, or any person who is being granted limited registration shall be limited in one or more of the following respects, namely:

“(a) That he shall be limited to such work as the Board may specify:

“(b) That he shall be limited to work only on approved premises:

“(c) That he shall be limited to work only in the employ of an approved employer.”

8. Provisional licences—The principal Act is hereby further amended by repealing section 16, and substituting the following section:

“16. The Board may grant to any person, on payment of the prescribed fee, a provisional licence to carry out any specified electrical wiring work for a period not exceeding one year at any one time, and while the licence remains in force the holder thereof shall be entitled to carry out such work as may be specified in the licence.”

9. Cancellation of registration—(1) Section 17 of the principal Act is hereby amended by omitting from subsection (1) the words “electricians, electrical servicemen”, and substituting the words “electrical technicians, electricians, electrical mechanics, radio servicemen, radio mechanics”.

(2) Section 17 of the principal Act is hereby further amended by repealing paragraphs (c) and (d) of subsection (2), and substituting the following paragraphs:

“(c) He is no longer the holder of a current certificate of registration free from endorsement as an electrical technician or as an electrician or is no longer registered by virtue of qualifications in electrical engineering under the Engineers Registration Act 1924 or the Engineering Associates Act 1961; or

“(d) If registered as an electrical technician or as an electrician, or if by virtue of qualifications in electrical engineering he is registered under the Engineers Registration Act 1924 or the Engineering Associates Act 1961, he is for the time being suspended or disqualified from doing the work of a registered electrician.”

10. Copy of register to be gazetted each year—Section 18 of the principal Act is hereby amended by omitting from subsection (1) the words “electricians, electrical servicemen”, and substituting the words “electrical technicians, electricians, electrical mechanics, radio servicemen, radio mechanics”.

11. Certificate by Registrar to be evidence of registration, etc.—Section 18A of the principal Act (as inserted by section 11 of the Electricians Amendment Act 1966) is hereby amended by omitting the words “electrician, an electrical serviceman,”, and substituting the words “electrical technician, an electrician, an electrical mechanic, a radio serviceman, a radio mechanic,”.

12. Restrictions on doing electrical wiring work—Section 19 of the principal Act is hereby amended by repealing subsection (3).

13. Persons who may do electrical wiring work—(1) Section 20 of the principal Act is hereby amended by repealing subsection (1), and substituting the following subsection:

“(1) The following persons may do electrical wiring work:

“(a) Persons who by virtue of qualifications in electrical engineering are registered under the Engineers Registration Act 1924 or under the Engineering Associates Act 1961 if they are not for the time being suspended or disqualified from doing the work of a registered electrical technician:

- “(b) Registered electrical technicians or the holders of provisional licences to carry out the work of an electrical technician:
- “(c) Registered electricians or the holders of provisional licences to carry out the work of an electrician:
- “(d) Registered electrical mechanics to carry out the work of an electrician under the supervision of any person named in paragraphs (a), (b), or (c) of this subsection, or as otherwise authorised by regulation:
- “(e) Registered radio servicemen and persons holding limited registration:
- “(f) Registered radio mechanics to carry out the work of a radio serviceman under the supervision of a registered radio serviceman, or as otherwise authorised by regulation:
- “(g) Persons who are licensed or authorised under this Act to do the class of work undertaken.”

(2) The said section 20 is hereby further amended by omitting the words “electrician, or a person who is registered under the Engineers Registration Act 1924 as an electrical engineer”, and substituting the words “electrical technician, or a registered electrician, or a person who is registered by virtue of qualifications in electrical engineering under the Engineers Registration Act 1924 or the Engineering Associates Act 1961”.

14. Persons who may assist in doing electrical wiring work—(1) Section 21 of the principal Act is hereby amended by omitting from subsection (1) the word “university”.

(2) The said section 21 is hereby further amended by adding to subsection (1) the following proviso:

“Provided that an apprentice who has passed any examination qualifying him for registration under this Act, or a person who has passed the graduation examination for a degree in electrical engineering or who has passed the final examination for a New Zealand certificate in engineering, in electrical engineering, or a person granted permission to assist in doing a class of electrical wiring work who has passed the examination qualifying him for registration in that class of work, may assist a person who is authorised under section 20 of this Act to do electrical wiring work, otherwise than in the presence of that authorised person.”

(3) The said section 21 is hereby further amended by adding the following subsections:

“(3) An observer, with the consent of the Electrical Supply Authority, within the meaning of the Electricity Act 1968, for the locality in which the observer intends to assist with

electrical wiring, may assist in doing electrical wiring work for a period, not exceeding eight weeks at any one time, if at all times when so assisting he is under the supervision and in the presence of a person authorised under section 20 of this Act to do the work:

“Provided that any experience gained under this subsection shall not be recognised for the purposes of registration under this Act.

“(4) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this section, if the length of run, size, or weight of conductors, or the size or weight of apparatus, supports, or enclosures in any premises are such as to require temporary physical assistance in the placing or mounting of the conductors, apparatus, supports, or enclosures, the Electrical Supply Authority in whose area the premises are situated may, unless otherwise determined by the Board, grant permission in each case for any person to assist an electrical technician in that work.”

15. Inspection of electrical installations—Section 24 of the principal Act (as substituted by section 13 of the Electricians Amendment Act 1966) is hereby amended by repealing subsection (1), and substituting the following subsections:

“(1) No person shall connect any electrical installation of a type referred to in section 23 of this Act to a source of supply unless permission to make the connection has first been given by the Electrical Supply Authority.

“(1A) Except as provided in section 3 of this Act, before giving permission to connect the electrical installation to a source of supply, the Authority shall cause the installation to be inspected, tested, and approved:

“Provided that, in the case of an extension, repair, or alteration to an existing installation, the Authority may give permission to connect to the source of supply and either—

“(a) Defer the inspection and test for a period not exceeding three months; or

“(b) On receipt of a certificate satisfactory to the Authority from an electrical technician or a person registered by virtue of qualifications in electrical engineering under the Engineers Registration Act 1924 or the Engineering Associates Act 1961 that the work has been properly carried out, and has been properly inspected and tested by him, approve the installation as having been inspected and tested in accordance with this section:

“Provided that the Authority may, notwithstanding that the installation has been approved under this paragraph without inspection or testing by the Authority, at any time inspect and test the installation, and shall, in accordance with regulations made under this Act, make random inspections and tests from time to time on installations approved under this paragraph.”

16. Power to enter and inspect—(1) Section 26 of the principal Act is hereby amended by inserting in subsection (1), after the word “producing”, the words “to the person in charge of the premises”.

(2) The said section 26 is hereby further amended by omitting from subsection (2) the words “any person”, and substituting the words “the person in charge of the premises”.

(3) The said section 26 is hereby further amended by repealing subsection (3), and substituting the following subsection:

“(3) The Registrar, or if authorised by the Registrar in writing, any registered electrical technician, registered electrician, or person registered by virtue of qualifications in electrical engineering under the Engineers Registration Act 1924 or the Engineering Associates Act 1961, and not for the time being suspended or disqualified from doing the work of a registered electrician, may on notice given to the person in charge of any premises enter the premises at any reasonable time or times for the purpose of making for the information of the Board an inspection and report concerning any electrical wiring work, whether a complaint has been made in respect of the work or not.”

(4) The said section 26 is hereby further amended by inserting in subsection (4), after the word “producing”, the words “to the person in charge of the premises”.

17. Suspension or removal of name from register where work is defective—(1) Section 27 of the principal Act is hereby amended by repealing paragraph (aa) of subsection (2) (as inserted by section 14 (1) of the Electricians Amendment Act 1966).

(2) The said section 27 is hereby further amended by adding to paragraph (b) of subsection (2) the word “; or”.

(3) The said section 27 is hereby further amended by adding to subsection (2) the following paragraphs:

- “(c) In the case of a registered electrical technician, direct that his registration be restricted for such period as the Board thinks fit to the work of an electrician, electrical mechanic, or a holder of limited registration, or to such work as the Board may specify, or direct that he shall be limited for such period as the Board thinks fit to work only on approved premises or in the employ of an approved employer; or
- “(d) In the case of a registered electrician, direct that his registration be restricted for such period as the Board thinks fit to the work of an electrical mechanic, or a holder of limited registration, or to such work as the Board may specify, or direct that he shall be limited for such period as the Board thinks fit to work only on approved premises or in the employ of an approved employer; or
- “(e) In the case of a registered electrical mechanic, direct that his registration be restricted for such period as the Board thinks fit to the work of a holder of limited registration, or direct that his registration be limited for such period as the Board thinks fit, in accordance with section 15 of this Act; or
- “(f) In the case of a registered radio serviceman, direct that his registration be restricted for such period as the Board thinks fit to the work of a radio mechanic, or direct that his registration be limited for such period as the Board thinks fit, in accordance with section 15 of this Act; or
- “(g) In the case of a registered radio mechanic, direct that his registration be limited, for such period as the Board thinks fit, in accordance with section 15 of this Act; or
- “(h) In the case of a person holding limited registration, direct that his registration be limited, for such period as the Board thinks fit, in accordance with section 15 of this Act.”

(4) The said section 27 is hereby further amended by repealing subsection (4), and substituting the following subsection:

“(4) If any person who is registered by virtue of qualifications in electrical engineering under the Engineers Registration Act 1924 or the Engineering Associates Act 1961 acts in accordance with this Act with respect to any electrical wiring work in the capacity of a registered electrical technician, and

if there is any fault or defect in any work for which he is responsible, the Board may either suspend him for such period as it thinks fit, or disqualify him permanently, from acting in that capacity, and while he is so suspended or disqualified it shall not be lawful for him to do electrical wiring work or any work of a registered electrical technician.”

(5) The said section 27 is hereby further amended by repealing subsection (5A) (as inserted by section 14 (2) of the Electricians Amendment Act 1966), and substituting the following subsection:

“(5A) Any person whose registration has been restricted or become limited or further limited under paragraphs (c) to (h) of subsection (2) of this section may at any time apply to the Board for the removal of the restriction or limitation or further limitation and his reinstatement to registration.”

18. Appeals from Board—Section 30 of the principal Act (as amended by section 15 of the Electricians Amendment Act 1966) is hereby further amended by omitting from subsections (1) and (2) the words “as an electrician”.

19. Work dangerous to life—Section 31 of the principal Act (as amended by section 7 (1) of the Decimal Currency Act 1964) is hereby further amended by omitting the words “two hundred dollars”, and substituting the words “four hundred dollars”.

20. False or fraudulent representations to Board—Section 32 of the principal Act (as amended by section 7 (1) of the Decimal Currency Act 1964) is hereby further amended by omitting the words “one hundred dollars”, and substituting the words “two hundred dollars”.

21. Other offences—Section 33 of the principal Act (as amended by section 7 (1) of the Decimal Currency Act 1964) is hereby further amended—

- (a) By omitting from subsection (1) the words “one hundred dollars”, and substituting the words “two hundred dollars”:
- (b) By omitting from subsection (2) the words “forty dollars”, and substituting the words “eighty dollars”:
- (c) By omitting from subsection (3) the words “ten dollars”, and substituting the words “twenty dollars”:
- (d) By omitting from subsection (3) the words “two dollars”, and substituting the words “four dollars”.

22. Regulations—(1) Section 37 of the principal Act is hereby amended by repealing paragraph (j) of subsection (1), and substituting the following paragraph:

“(j) Prescribing the limits or scope of electrical wiring work which electrical mechanics, radio servicemen, radio mechanics, persons holding limited registration, apprentices, improvers, and students may do or assist to do:”.

(2) The said section 37 is hereby further amended by repealing paragraph (1) of subsection (1).

23. Repeals—The following enactments are hereby consequentially repealed—

(a) The Electricians Amendment Act 1963:

(b) Sections 4, 8, 9, and 14 of the Electricians Amendment Act 1966.

This Act is administered in the New Zealand Electricity Department.
