



*National
Electrical
Contractors
Association*

Southeast Texas Chapter
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August 21, 2020

Emily Johnson
Senior Policy Analyst
P.O. Box 13066
Austin, TX 78711

Re: Elimination of "Journeyman Industrial Electrician" License

Dear Ms. Johnson:

The Southeast Texas Chapter of NECA supports the Texas Sunset Advisory Commission's recommendation to eliminate the Journeyman Industrial Electrician's License from TDLR's Electrician's Program. The Journeyman Industrial Electrician's License is vastly underutilized and creates unnecessary costs and regulatory burdens on the TDLR. We opposed the license initially because of the potential effects on the electrical industry workforce and employers. The Industry has confirmed our fears; there are currently just 241 Journeyman Industrial Licensees compared to a total of 39,626 Journeyman Licensees in the State of Texas. This license is a complete waste of the TDLR's administrative efforts. The Journeyman Industrial License is unused because it negatively impacts workforce education, qualification, and portability. Journeyman Industrial Licensees are restricted to a single segment of the electrical industry, have no upward career mobility to full Journeyman status, and the industry as a whole is certainly no better off.

The [National Electrical Contractors Association \(NECA\)](#) is an international trade association of electrical contracting companies. In 2019, Southeast Texas Chapter NECA companies employed over four thousand electricians and paid \$200,000,000 in wages. NECA employee electricians participate in premier accredited apprenticeship training programs. NECA is the industry leader in quality, safety, knowledge and innovation.

We respectfully request your support in eliminating the Journeyman Industrial License.

Sincerely,

Beaumont

Corpus Christi

Galveston

Houston

Rio Grande Valley

Allen Grainey
Executive Director
Southeast Texas Chapter NECA