Associated Builders and Contractors
Western Pennsylvania
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ABC Western PA Applauds Passage of Statewide Electrician Licensing Bill

Pittsburgh, Pa. (October 23) — The General Assembly advanced Sen. Devlin Robinson's Senate Bill 1260 to Governor Shapiro's desk on October 21, moving Pennsylvania closer to statewide licensing standards for electricians and electrical contractors. The legislation would strengthen public safety and professional standards while supporting the future of the Commonwealth's construction and skilled trades industries.

The Associated Builders & Contractors (ABC), Western PA Chapter, has advocated for this legislation from the beginning because its members view statewide licensing as a commitment to safety, accountability, and excellence. By bringing Pennsylvania in line with best practices adopted in many other states, the reform would help ensure that electrical work throughout the Commonwealth meets consistently high professional standards.

For too long, Pennsylvania has lacked any uniform system for licensing electricians and electrical contractors, making it one of the few states without any state oversight. SB 1260 addresses that gap by establishing consistent qualifications, training requirements, and oversight for electrical professionals across the Commonwealth. Our state will no longer have a patchwork of local governments, each with its own testing and standards that force qualified professionals to demonstrate the same skills in a different zip code to work.

Electrical work is among the most complex and potentially hazardous activities performed in homes, businesses, schools, and public facilities. By ensuring individuals meet statewide competency standards, Pennsylvania can reduce the risk of electrical fires, injuries, and costly construction defects. At the same time, business owners and workers can use the state's license as proof of their skills anywhere in Pennsylvania and expect other states to reciprocate it as proof of competency there soon, too.

The bill also enhances consumer protection. Homeowners and businesses deserve confidence that licensed professionals possess the knowledge and experience necessary to complete electrical installations and repairs safely. Statewide licensing increases accountability and sets clear standards for disciplinary action when those standards are not met.

Upon passage, Justin Erdner, President of ABC Western Pennsylvania, said, "We thank Sen. Robinson for championing this legislation and helping move Pennsylvania toward a more consistent statewide electrical licensing system. ABC supports professional licensing standards that promote accountability while reducing the patchwork of varying local requirements contractors currently face across the Commonwealth. This legislation is an important example of what can be accomplished when lawmakers, merit shop contractors, and industry stakeholders work together toward a common goal. ABC members are committed not only to building Pennsylvania's future, but also to engaging in the legislative process to advance practical solutions that benefit our industry and the communities we serve."

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Associated Builders and Contractors of Western Pennsylvania (ABC Western PA) represents contractors and construction-related businesses across 18 counties, from Erie to Fayette. Founded on the merit shop philosophy, ABC supports members through workforce development, safety training, education, advocacy, and networking opportunities, helping them succeed while strengthening local communities.