

House Research Act Summary

CHAPTER: 309

SESSION: 2008 Regular Session

TOPIC: Boiler Operations

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Analyst: Anita Neumann (651) 296-5056

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Overview

Makes changes to boiler operator licensing requirements.

Section

- 1 **Farm traction engines, show engines and boilers.** Allows a person age 16 or older to be licensed to operate steam farm traction engines, portable and stationary show engines, and portable and stationary show boilers if the applicant meets all other licensing requirements and has demonstrated the ability to perform each task on a list approved by the chief boiler inspector. An applicant must also have at least 50 hours of operating experience on the devices. Eight hours of experience must be done while operating the boiler under load, and up to 16 hours may be satisfied through attendance at a school of instruction in operating the devices.
- 2 **License requirements.** Provides the commissioner of labor and industry with the authority to issue a provisional boiler operator license. The provisional license would allow an employee of a high pressure boiler plant to operate boilers greater than 500 horsepower at that plant only if:
 - the employee holds a valid license as a second-class engineer, grade A or B;
 - the boiler plant has designated a chief engineer;
 - the boiler plant owner has a documented training program with examination for boilers and equipment at the boiler plant to train and test the employee;

- provisional licenses are allowed at public utilities, electrical coops, municipal power agencies, or municipal electric utilities only if they are not in violation of a collaborative bargaining agreement; and
- if the application is granted, the total number of provisional licenses for employees of the boiler plant would not exceed the total number of properly licensed first-class engineers and chief engineers at the boiler plant.

A provisional license expires 36 months after the date of issuance unless it is revoked sooner. The commissioner may issue no more than two provisional licenses to any individual within a four-year period.

Effective the day following final enactment.

- 3 Examinations; classifications; qualifications.** Provides that if the commissioner approves an applicant for examination, the applicant may take the exam one time within one year from the date the commissioner received the application. Authorizes the commissioner to require continuing education prior to the renewal of any license. Before requiring continuing education, the commissioner shall adopt rules that specify continuing education requirements. Also provides an educational offset that allows the commissioner to establish by rule educational equivalencies that an applicant may meet instead of all or a portion of the specified operating experience. Authorizes special engineer licenses for persons at least 16 but not more than 18 years of age if enrolled in a course approved by the commissioner.

Effective the day following final enactment.

- 4 Boiler engineer license fees.** Establishes a \$50 fee for a provisional license.

Effective the day following final enactment.