

MINUTES OF THE SENATE ELECTIONS AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Tim Huelskamp at 1:30 P.M. on February 15, 2006 in Room 423-S of the Capitol.

Members absent:

Senator Betts
Senator Wilson
Senator O'Connor

Committee staff present:

Martha Dorsey, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Mike Heim, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Zoie Kern, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Senator Mike Petersen
Don Butts - Electrician
David Woodard - NECA Wichita
Tom Kerschen - Electrical Construction Inspector Supervisor, Wichita

Others attending:

See attached list.

Ken Wilke from the Revisor of Statues Office summarized **SB 498** - Requiring continuing education for certain contractors licensed by cities and counties.

Senator Mike Petersen gave testimony in favor of **SB 498** (Attachment 1) and correction of language (Attachment 2).

Chris Butts, Journeyman Wireman from Wichita, Kansas, gave testimony in favor of **SB 498** (Attachment 3).

David Woodard, Executive Director of NECA of Wichita, Kansas, gave testimony in favor of **SB 498** (Attachment 4).

Tom Kerschen, Electrical Construction Inspection Supervisor of Wichita, Kansas, gave testimony in favor of **SB 498** (Attachment 5).

Written testimony received in favor of **SB 498** and was submitted for James F. Davis (Attachment 6).

Written testimony received in favor of **SB 498** and was submitted for Jeff Read (Attachment 7).

Written testimony received in favor of **SB 498** and was submitted for Tony Naylor, Training Director, Wichita Electrical JATC (Attachment 8).

Written testimony received in favor of **SB 498** and was submitted for Robert W. Zehring, EZ Electrical, Inc. Wichita, Kansas (Attachment 9).

Written testimony received in favor of **SB 498** and was submitted for Glen Wiltse, Director of Code Enforcement, Sedgwick County, Kansas (Attachment 10).

Written testimony received in favor of **SB 498** and was submitted for Kent G. Linnebur, President of Linnebur Electrical, Wichita, Kansas (Attachment 11).

Written testimony was received in favor of **SB 498** and was submitted for Steven John, Electrician for Greenway Electric Inc., Wichita, Kansas (Attachment 12).

Written testimony was received in favor of **SB 498** and was submitted for Perry Overstake, Creek Electric, Wichita, Kansas (Attachment 13).

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE Senate Elections and Local Government Committee at 1:30 P.M. on February 15, 2006 in Room 423-S of the Capitol.

Written testimony was received in favor of **SB 498** and was submitted for Dwight Melton of Davis Electric, Inc., Cimarron, Kansas (Attachment 14).

Written testimony was received in favor of **SB 498** and was submitted for Karen L. John, Executive Director of Independent Electrical Contractor's, Wichita Chapter (Attachment 15).

There were no opponents to **SB 498**.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Zoie C. Kern, Committee Secretary

Senate Elections & Local Government Committee
Daily, 1:30 - 2:30 p.m. Room 423-S
Senator Tim Huelskamp, Chair

Guest List for February 15, 2006

Please sign in with BLACK Ink.

Name

Representing

Tom Kerschen

City of Wichita - 001

CHRIS Butts

SELF-IBEW

Jim Gruewald

Topeka

Richard Kretchmar

Wichita IEC

JEANNE Goodwin

City of Wichita

Shirley Jones

Sims Electric Service Inc.

Mary Kretchmar

~~Ray Electric~~ IEC

Belinda Kerschen

guest

David Woodard

National Electrical Contractors Ass.

Derck Hein

Hein Law Firm

JEAN MILLER

KBIA

Martha Lee Smith

KMHA

2608 S.E. DRIVE
WICHITA, KANSAS 67216
(316) 264-1817

STATE CAPITOL, ROOM 242-E
TOPEKA, KANSAS 66612
(785) 296-7355
petersen@senate.state.ks.us



COMMITTEES
ELECTIONS & LOCAL GOVERNMENT
TRANSPORTATION
UTILITIES

JT. COMMITTEE ON
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

SENATOR MIKE PETERSEN

SB498

Mr. chairman and members of the committee I want to thank you for letting me have the opportunity to appear before you today. SB498 is a bill requiring cities that have licensing requirements to adopt rules and regulations requiring electricians to obtain 12hrs every 2 years to renew their license and set requirements for field experience before setting for exams. This is similar to what we passed for the plumbing trades last session. With the addition of the residential certificates as it applies to the electrical trades. The language was worked out with the input of inspectors, Independent Electrical Contractors Assn., National Electrical Contractors Assn. and International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.

In this age of rapidly changing technology. Today's electrician needs to be highly skilled and trained in a variety of techniques and specialties. To safely provide services to their customers. A recent NCSL brief stated that "Electricians must have the skills and knowledge to design and install electrical current systems. To do so, they must be able to read blueprints and connect wiring to transformers, as well as install conduit, circuits, outlets and breaker panels in homes and businesses. Their work must comply with national, state, and local building and electrical codes." The last day I worked in the electrical trade before coming to session. I dealt with standards from the Electronic industries Assn., Telecommunications industries Assn., The National Electrical Code and local building codes.

Today's electrician may work on systems that range from dealing with millivolts and milliamps when retro-fitting existing machinery to be controlled by computer to providing a safe path to ground for current during a lightning strike. They need to know how, what they install for basic delivery of power interfaces with other systems that they are installing or others will be installing. Such as life safety systems, wireless systems and computer networks.

Senate Elections and Local
Government Committee
Attachment 1
2-15-06

Some areas of our state may not deal with all of these issues. Some of our small businesses have motors that even 2 years ago would have been installed with a starter. That might be able to use a programmable frequency drive which can be safer, more efficient and cheaper(If properly installed). Bringing electricians together might generate discussions on how different companies are adapting to changes in the code, technology and wiring methods that could lead to safer and more efficient installations for all of us. Other communities might want to focus their training on Code changes that deal with new methods of installations or safety devices for homes. We live in a great and diverse state. That is why this bill leaves the adoption of the rules and regulations to the local city or county. I ask you to vote for this bill and increase the safety of our citizens.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mike Petersen". The signature is written in black ink and is centered on the page.

Senator. Mike Petersen

1 (d) No person who was certified or licensed prior to July 1, 1989,
 2 upon the basis of passage of a standard examination designated as such
 3 under the provisions of article 15 of chapter 12 of Kansas Statutes An-
 4 notated, and whose certificate or license was issued by a political subdivi-
 5 sion which prescribed a minimum score of not less than 70% for passage
 6 of such examination, shall be required to be reexamined for renewal of
 7 certification or licensure.

8 (e) *Before sitting for the standard examination designated by K.S.A.*
 9 *12-1525, and amendments thereto, an applicant for a journeyman certifi-*
 10 *cate shall demonstrate documented proof of a minimum of two years field*
 11 *experience. "Field experience" means working under the direct supervi-*
 12 *sion of a person having a valid journeyman certificate, residential certifi-*
 13 *cate or master certificate or attending trade related schooling. No more*
 14 *than one year of the requirement may be satisfied by trade related school-*
 15 *ing. Schooling shall consist of a minimum of 240 hours classroom training.*

16 (f) *Before sitting for the standard examination designated by K.S.A.*
 17 *12-1525, and amendments thereto, an applicant for a master certificate*
 18 *shall demonstrate documented proof of having a valid journeyman cer-*
 19 *tificate for a minimum of two years.*

20 Sec. 2. K.S.A. 12-1526 is hereby repealed.

21 Sec. 3. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its
 22 publication in the statute book.

[or residential]

Dear Committee Members,

I am here today to support Senate Bill 498. I have been a Journeyman Wireman since 1992, and currently am licensed thru the city of Wichita.

The training I received as an apprentice was based on the National Electrical Code (NEC).

The purpose of the NEC is “ the practical safeguarding of persons and property from hazards arising from the use of electricity”. Over twenty five percent of all fires are caused by electricity.

The NEC defines a qualified person as: “One who has skills and knowledge related to the construction and operation of the electrical equipment and installations and has received safety training on the hazards involved”.

The state of Kansas does not require any education or training of any kind to be recognized as a qualified person or electrician. All you need to do is to be able to look up the answers in the NEC to pass the open book electrical exam. It is possible in this state to pass the exam and become a licensed electrician without any experience what so ever. This also means you can also become an electrical contractor without the proper training.

Senate Bill 498 will be a step in the right direction to ensure the public that a qualified person would perform electrical instillations in our state.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Butts". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Chris Butts



*Kansas Chapter
National Electrical Contractors Association, Inc.*

February 15, 2006

The Honorable Tim Huelskamp
Kansas State Senate
State Capitol Building Room 24E
Topeka, Kansas, 66612-1504

Re: Endorsement of Senate Bill 498

Dear Tim Huelskamp:

On behalf of the Kansas Chapter of National Electrical Contractors Association, I wish to extend our support towards Senate Bill 498. As an organization, representing the Electrical Construction Industry, one of our primary interests is the advancement of safe installation practices in electrical construction. Safe installation practices require highly skilled and educated electricians to perform such tasks. In today's ever changing environment, we feel that it is essential to continually sharpen those skills as technology advances the products, materials, and methods used in electrical construction. Continuous education is imperative to keep abreast with those changes.

In addition to the educational requirements necessary, there must exist a practical understanding of the applications of safe installation practices. Such an understanding is best accomplished by field experience.

A requirement establishing a minimum field experience tenure before electrical examinations may be administered, coupled with continuous education requirements before electrical licensing renewal can be obtained, ensures that individuals working in the electrical construction industry possess all the expertise and experience to fully understand the intricacies of the electrical construction industry.

Safely installed electrical systems benefit all Kansans. Please support Senate Bill 498.

Sincerely,

David Woodard
Executive Director Kansas NECA

Senate Elections and Local
Government Committee
Attachment 4
2-15-06



February 13, 2006

The Honorable Senator Huelskamp
Committee on Elections and Local Government
300 SW 10th Avenue
Topeka, KS 66612-1504

RE: Senate Bill #498

Dear Senator Huelskamp,

I represent the City of Wichita's Office of Central Inspection, which is the building construction plan review and inspection department for the City. Our office is a strong proponent of SB #498. As construction inspectors, we are required to have continuing education in order to maintain our certifications (as is virtually every other building construction trade and profession in the state of Kansas).

Technology is rapidly and constantly changing, and without continuing education, new safety devices and installation practices may be overlooked, and new equipment and devices may be inappropriately or unsafely utilized and installed. The latest edition of the National Electrical Code had more than 3,500 proposed changes, and this was during just one three-year code cycle.

Per current state law, anyone passing the required examination is issued a license **that has no expiration date**. Per the law, a license holder is not required to remain knowledgeable or up-to-date with respect to changes in the electrical industry or to minimum code standards, or to even be active in the electrical industry. For example, under current law, the holder of a State-issued electric license could go to work as a metal fabricator in the aerospace industry for 10 years, then leave aerospace employment to re-enter the electrical trade as an electrical contractor. This individual may become an electrical contractor by simply reapplying to our office for issuance of a local electrical certificate, and by applying for a local electrical contractor's license (with submission of required minimum liability insurance). Even though the applicant has not kept current with changes in the industry, especially new products and codes, our office is **required** to issue the local electrical certificate and license - simply because the applicant has a valid State-issued license. For the safety of the public, electricians need continuing education to keep themselves abreast of technology and the national electrical codes.

The second part of SB#498 is to require some apprentice field training before taking the test and becoming a journeyman. The present state statute does not require an individual to have any field training. During a recent local contractor license review hearing, the contractor who was under review asked why the City of Wichita was not concerned with safety, because the City was issuing electrical contractor licenses to unqualified or inexperienced people, even to

Office of Central Inspection

City Hall • 7th Floor • 455 N. Main • Wichita, Kansas 67202-

T 316.268.4460 • **F** 316.268.4663

Senate Elections and Local
Government Committee
Attachment 5
2-15-06

people who had never worked in the trade. Our answer: Due to the current format of the state law, we are required to issue these licenses, even though the issuance does not coincide with our own local testing, certification and licensing minimum requirements. This bill is needed to prevent this from happening.

As building construction inspectors, we pride ourselves on promoting and encouraging safe, quality construction. This bill is necessary to assure the continued and improved safety of all buildings or structures in which Kansans live, work, play, assemble or congregate.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tom Kerschen". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name and title.

Tom Kerschen
Electrical Construction Inspection Supervisor
Office of Central Inspection
Wichita, KS 67202

Dear Committee Members,

RE: Senate Bill No. 498

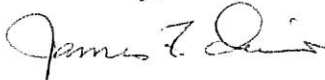
I am writing this letter to urge you to support Senate Bill No. 498. I have worked as an electrician since 1977 and have had to continually update my education in the electrical industry. This is necessary in regards to changing code requirements and technology changes.

It should be noted that 35% of our industry changes due to technology every five years. Every aspect of our lives is touched in some way by the electrical industry. Whether it is by heating, air conditioning, computer systems, voice video, etc. nothing works without electricity. It requires the most skill and education of all of the crafts.

I believe many accidents and fires within the electrical industry would have been prevented if more people were required to educate themselves. This is not an issue that only addresses the electrician but it also helps protect the consumer.

I urge you to pass Senate Bill No. 498

Sincerely,



James F. Davis

Dear Committee Members,

I am writing this letter in regards to **Senate Bill No. 498**.

My name is Jeff Read. I have been a licensed electrician since 1979. During my career I have also served as a Safety Director and an electrical apprenticeship instructor.

Electrical fires are the number one cause of fire in the workplace and electrocution is now the fifth leading cause of worker-related deaths in the United States.

But that is only part of the story. According to the latest statistics from the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), there is an annual average of 111,400 home fires caused by faulty electrical distribution systems taking an average of 860 lives, injuring 3,785 and causing nearly \$1.3 billion in property damage.

Of all the skilled trades, the electrical trade must stress education the most, as it is the trade that has caused the most property damage and deaths.

Being an electrician is a very demanding career, and the technical expertise required to handle the job means that today's electrician must be more educated than ever before. The requirement of continuing education credits for the renewal of electrical licenses is a simple and positive means to ensure that Kansas's electricians are achieving and maintaining that needed expertise and knowledge.

To the best of my knowledge, 24 other states (Alaska, Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Kentucky, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Washington and Wyoming) have already realized the importance of requiring continuing education credit requirements for the renewal of electrical licenses, and we should too.

I earnestly feel that with the passage of Senate Bill No. 498 you will be making Kansas a safer place to work and live.

Sincerely,



Jeff Read

Senate Elections and Local
Government Committee
Attachment 7
2-15-06

THE JOINT APPRENTICESHIP AND TRAINING COMMITTEE

of

THE WICHITA ELECTRICAL CONTRACTING INDUSTRY

810 WEST 13TH
WICHITA, KANSAS 67203

316 264-9231
FAX 316 264-9281

Dear Committee members,

I would like to make my support of Senate Bill No. 498 known. I feel it is very important for Electricians to know the current codes, there are a great deal of Licensed Electricians in the Great State of Kansas that have not reviewed any code changes in many, many years. We will be faced with a great deal of electrical issues in the very near future. I have worked in this field for 22 years and I know that many of our buildings in this State are in dyer need of new electrical systems. These include new wiring, fire alarm, services, communication, uninterrupted power supplies, proper grounding and many other issues. The minimum requirement of 12 hrs of continuing education every two years is a small price to pay to do business in Kansas. We currently offer a course at my facility that would meet this requirement for 25 dollars. The cost impact to the current workforce is minimal compared to the cost of reinspection due to not knowing the current codes. My understanding is that most contractors in the state are behind this requirement; they hope to hire Electricians that know how to wire buildings in accordance with the current National Electrical Code. Education is the Key to Success; please support this Continuing Education Bill. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Tony Naylor
Training Director, Wichita Electrical JATC

Senate Elections and Local
Government Committee
Attachment 8
2-15-06

E Z ELECTRIC, INC.

P.O. BOX 3461
WICHITA, KANSAS 67201
(316) 269-1492

The Honorable Senator Huelskamp
Committee on Elections and Local Government
300 SW 10th Avenue
Topeka, Ks. 66612-1504

Re: Senate Bill # 498

Dear Senator Huelskamp:

As a member of the electrical contracting industry, I would like to voice my support of the Senate Bill # 498 addressing the licensure of Kansas electricians.

I have been in the electrical contracting industry for the past 32 years and president of my own company for the past 16 years.

The adoption of Senate Bill #498 will ensure the safety of all electricians, other tradesman on a jobsite, and ultimately the general public in two ways. It will require documented field experience prior to obtaining a license, and continuing education to maintain that license.

We feel that it is extremely important for an electrician to have the ability to apply academic principles in the field, therefore we believe that an applicant should provide documented proof of a minimum two years field experience prior to sitting for the standard examination.

Once the bill is adopted, electricians will also be required to complete 12 hours of continuing education units biennially, keeping them abreast of issues pertaining to industry.

I respectfully request your support and encourage the passage of Senate Bill # 498.

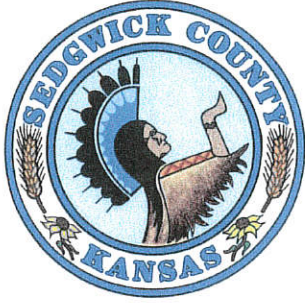
Thank you,

Sincerely



Robert W. Zehring
President

Senate Elections and Local
Government Committee
Attachment 9
2-15-06



**DEPARTMENT OF CODE ENFORCEMENT
Sedgwick County, Kansas**

**1144 South Seneca
Wichita, Kansas 67213-4443
Phone: (316) 383-7951
1-800-527-CODE
FAX: (316) 383-7502**

***Glen Wiltse, C.B.O., C.B.I.
Director***

February 15, 2006

Chairman Huelskamp,

Sedgwick County Code Enforcement Department is in support of senate Bill 498. Our Department is in charge of Licensing Electrical Contractors and providing inspection services for Sedgwick County. We also have contracts for 10 Cities in the county that we provide the inspection and licensing services for.

The proposed changes in the SB 498 would provide a necessary requirement of work experience prior to taking an examination and also require continuing education. These Electrical Codes typically will change every three years and also equipment changes so rapidly that periodic training is necessary.

For all of the above reasons Sedgwick County Code Enforcement is in support of Senate Bill 498 and asking for your approval.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Glen Wiltse", written over a horizontal line.

Glen Wiltse
Director of Code Enforcement

Sedgwick County

"Sedgwick County ... working for you"

Senate Elections and Local
Government Committee
Attachment 10
2-15-06



LINNEBUR ELECTRIC INC.

YOUR "SWITCH" TO A BRIGHTER FUTURE!
RESIDENTIAL - COMMERCIAL - INDUSTRIAL
234 S. COLORADO; WICHITA, KS. 67209
O - (316) 943-6616 F- (316) 943-2547

LIC. # 1353

email: linneburelectric@sbcglobal.net

The Honorable Senator Tim Huelskamp
300 SW 10th Street
Topeka, Ks. 66612-1504

2-13-06

Re: SB 498

Dear Senator Huelskamp,

I am a small business owner doing business as an electrical contractor in the Wichita area. We are in an exciting field that is ever changing with new technology, innovation, and code up-dates. I think it is imperative to the safety and integrity of our industry to keep abreast of these changes. I believe one of the best ways to accomplish this task is to require continuing education to keep pace with changes to our industry. At the same time we need to set a standard amount of textbook training and field experience to ensure individuals that want to set for the examination have been duly trained and are somewhat qualified to set for that

exam. I believe SB 498 is a positive step to address these concerns. I urge you to consider this worthwhile bill and would appreciate your support. If you would like to further discuss the merits of this bill or need any help with information in its regard please contact me!

Thank you for your consideration.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kent G. Linnebur".

Kent G. Linnebur
President
Linnebur Electric Inc.

Senate Elections and Local
Government Committee
Attachment 11
2-15-06

February 13, 2006

The Honorable Senator Huelskamp
Committee on Elections and Local Government
300 SW 10th Avenue
Topeka, KS 66612-1504

Re: Senate Bill #498

Dear Senator Huelskamp:

As a member of the electrical contracting industry, I would like to voice my support of Senate Bill #498.

My name is Steven John and I have worked at Greenway Electric, Inc. since 1971 and have carried a master electrician's license for 15 years.

Senate Bill #498 addresses the licensure of Kansas electricians.

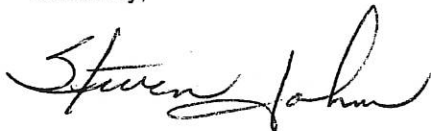
By adopting this bill I feel we are assuring the safety of our electricians and everyone on the jobsite. It requires 12 hours biennially of continuing education to ensure that the electricians are being kept up to date with issues pertaining to their industry.

Prior to setting for the standard examination, the applicant for the journeyman certificate shall demonstrate documented proof of a minimum of two years field experience. This requirement is also a safety issue in that they have actual field experience versus only book knowledge.

I respectfully request that you support and encourage the passage of Senate Bill #498.

Thank you.

Sincerely,





Design Build—Commercial • Industrial • Service—Automation Control

2811 W. Pawnee • Wichita, KS 67213 • Phone (316) 943-5888 • Fax (316) 943-6098

The Honorable Senator Huelskamp
Committee on Elections and Local Government
300 SW 10th Avenue
Topeka, KS 66612-1504

Re: Senate Bill #498

Dear Senator Huelskamp:

AS a member of the electrical contracting industry, I would like to voice my support of the Senate Bill #498 addressing the licensure of Kansas electricians.

I have been in the Electrical Trade for 30 years, 15 of those years as an Electrical Contractor. Most of our work is in the Industrial field.

The adoption of Senate Bill #498 will ensure the safety of all electricians, other tradesmen on a jobsite, and ultimately the general public in two ways. It will require documented field experience prior to obtaining a license, and continuing education to maintain that license.

We feel that it is extremely important for an electrician to have the ability to apply academic principles in the field, therefore we believe that an applicant should provide documented proof of a minimum two years field experience prior to sitting for the standard examination.

Once the bill is adopted, electricians will also be required to complete 12 hours of continuing education units biennially, keeping them abreast of issues pertaining to industry. This issue is of paramount importance. I am licensed in several other states and most of them require continuing education for license renewal. It would behoove Kansas to do the same.

I respectfully request your support and encourage the passage of Senate Bill #498.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Perry Overstake", written in a cursive style.

Perry Overstake
Creek Electric, Inc.
2811 W. Pawnee
Wichita, KS 67213

Senate Elections and Local
Government Committee
Attachment 13
2-15-06



**DAVIS
ELECTRIC
INC.**

CORPORATE HEADQUARTERS
600 West Avenue A
P.O. Box 321
Cimarron, KS 67835
Phone: 800 737-7795
620 855-2379
Fax: 620 855-3081

TEXAS DIVISION
12221 West Highway 60
P.O. Box 1111
Canyon, TX 79015
Phone: 877 655-5200
806 655-5200
Fax: 806 655-5202

The Honorable Senator Huelskamp
Committee on Elections and Local Government
300 SW 10th Avenue
Topeka KS 66612-1504

Re: Senate Bill #498

Dear Senator Huelskamp:

As a member of the electrical contracting industry, I submit written testimony in support of the Senate Bill #498 addressing the licensure of Kansas electricians.

Davis Electric Inc has been in business in western Kansas for over twenty-five years. The adoption of Senate Bill #498 will ensure the safety of all electricians, other tradesmen on a jobsite, and ultimately the general public in two ways. It will require documented field experience prior to obtaining a license, and continuing education to maintain that license.

We feel that it is extremely important for an electrician to have the ability to apply academic principles in the field, therefore we believe that an applicant should provide documented proof of a minimum tow years field experience prior to sitting for the standard examination.

Once the bill is adopted, electricians will also be required to complete 12 hours of continuing education units biennially, keeping them abreast of issues pertaining to industry.

I respectfully request your support and encourage the passage of Senate Bill #498.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Dwight Melton
President
Davis Electric Inc



Independent Electrical
Contractors, Inc.

February 13, 2006

The Honorable Senator Huelskamp
Committee on Elections and Local Government
300 SW 10th Avenue
Topeka, KS 66612-1504

Re: Senate Bill #498

Dear Senator Huelskamp:

In my position as Executive Director of the Wichita Chapter of the Independent Electrical Contractors, Inc. I would like to voice the support of our association and myself in strongly supporting this bill.

Senate Bill #498 addresses the licensure of Kansas electricians.

By adopting this bill we are assuring greater safety of all electricians and other tradesmen on the jobsite. It requires 12 hours biennially of documented continuing education to ensure that the electricians are being kept up to date with issues pertaining to the industry.

In addition, prior to setting for the standard examination, the applicants for the journeyman certificate shall demonstrate documented proof of a minimum of two years field experience. This requirement is also a safety issue in that they have actual field experience versus only book knowledge.

I respectfully request that you support and encourage the passage of Senate Bill #498.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Karen L. John
Executive Director, Wichita Chapter

Senate Elections and Local
Government
Attachment 15