By Senator Soto

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A bill to be entitled
An act relating to electrical contracting; amending s.
489.537, F.S.; authorizing municipalities and counties
to require that the electrical journeyman who is
present on certain industrial or commercial
construction sites possess a certificate of
competency; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Subsection (3) of section 489.537, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

489.537 Application of this part.-

- (3) Nothing in This part does not limit act limits the power of a municipality or county:
- (a) To regulate the quality and character of work performed by contractors through a system of permits, fees, and inspections which is designed to secure compliance with, and aid in the implementation of, state and local building laws or to enforce other local laws for the protection of the public health and safety. However, a certified alarm system contractor or certified electrical contractor is not subject to any additional certification or licensure requirements that are not required by this part.
- (b) To collect fees for business tax receipts and inspections for engaging in contracting or examination fees from persons who are registered with the local boards pursuant to local examination requirements.
  - (c) To adopt any system of permits requiring submission to

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and approval by the municipality or county of plans and specifications for work to be performed by contractors before commencement of the work.

- (d) To require one bond for each electrical contractor in an amount not to exceed \$5,000, which bond shall be conditioned only upon compliance with the Florida Building Code adopted pursuant to s. 553.73. Any such bond must be equally available to all electrical contractors without regard to the period of time an electrical contractor has been certified or registered and without regard to any financial responsibility requirements. Any such bonds shall be payable to the Governor and filed in each county or municipality in which a building permit is requested. Bond reciprocity shall be granted statewide. All such bonds shall be included in meeting any financial responsibility requirements imposed by any statute or rule.
- (e)1. To refuse to issue permits or issue permits with specific conditions to a contractor who has committed multiple violations, when he or she has been disciplined for each of them by the board and when each disciplinary action has involved revocation or suspension of a license, imposition of an administrative fine of at least \$1,000, or probation.
- 2. To issue permits with specific conditions to a contractor who, within the previous 12 months, has had final action taken against him or her, by the department or by a local board or agency which licenses contractors and has reported the action pursuant to paragraph (5)(c), for engaging in the business or acting in the capacity of a contractor without a license.
  - (f) To require that one electrical journeyman, who

 possesses a certificate of competency issued by the municipality or county conditioned upon the journeyman's passage of a competency examination is a graduate of the Institute of Applied Technology in Construction Excellence or licensed pursuant to s. 489.5335, be present on an industrial or commercial new construction site with a facility of 5,000 50,000 gross square feet or more when electrical work in excess of 98 77 volts is being performed in order to supervise or perform such work, except as provided in s. 489.503.

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2013.