

The House Committee on Regulated Industries offers the following substitute to HB 593:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Chapter 14 of Title 43 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to  
2 electrical contractors, plumbers, conditioned air contractors, low-voltage contractors, and  
3 utility contractors, so as to authorize the Division of Low-voltage Contractors to require  
4 continuing education; to provide for a waiver of continuing education requirements under  
5 certain circumstances; to provide for applicability; to provide for related matters; to repeal  
6 conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 SECTION 1.

9 Chapter 14 of Title 43 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to electrical  
10 contractors, plumbers, conditioned air contractors, low-voltage contractors, and utility  
11 contractors, is amended by adding a new subsection to Code Section 43-14-6, relating to the  
12 power and duties of divisions within the State Construction Industry Licensing Board, to read  
13 as follows:

14 "(h)(1) The Division of Low-voltage Contractors shall be authorized to require persons  
15 seeking renewal of Low-voltage Contractor Class LV-A, Low-voltage Contractor Class  
16 LV-T, Low-voltage Contractor Class LV-U, and Low-voltage Contractor Class LV-G  
17 licenses to complete board approved continuing education of not more than four hours  
18 annually. The division shall be authorized to approve courses offered by institutions of  
19 higher learning, vocational-technical schools, and trade, technical, or professional  
20 organizations; provided, however, that continuing education courses or programs related  
21 to low-voltage contracting provided or conducted by public utilities, equipment  
22 manufacturers, or institutions under the State Board of the Technical College System of  
23 Georgia shall constitute acceptable continuing professional education programs for the  
24 purposes of this subsection. Continuing education courses or programs conducted by  
25 manufacturers specifically to promote their products shall not be approved.

26 (2) The Division of Low-voltage Contractors shall be authorized to waive the continuing  
27 education requirements in cases of hardship, disability, or illness or under such other  
28 circumstances as the division deems appropriate.

29 (3) This subsection shall apply to license renewals occurring after February 28, 2018.

30 (4) This subsection shall not apply to any person seeking to renew a Low-voltage  
31 Contractor Class LV-A, LV-G, LV-U, or LV-T license who:

32 (A) Holds an Electrical Contractor Class I or Class II license or both; and

33 (B) Has fulfilled the continuing education requirements required by the Division of  
34 Electrical Contractors pursuant to subsection (e) of this Code section."

35 **SECTION 2.**

36 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.