

business of, attempt to engage in the business of, offer to engage in the business of, or hold themselves out as a master electrician unless licensed by the [Statewide Master Electrical Licensing Board] STATE BOARD OF MASTER ELECTRICIANS or by any local board in the county.

(b) Any individual who violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, is subject to a fine of not more than \$500.

[538.] 2.

(a) If application [is] WAS made by the licensee by January 1, 1985[,] and all other requirements of [this subtitle are] ARTICLE 56, §§ 530 THROUGH 542A WERE met, any licensee holding a THEN current master electrical license, active or inactive, issued by a local licensed subdivision of this State, shall be granted, without examination, a master electrical license issued by the STATE Board OF MASTER ELECTRICIANS. The prescribed fee and proof of eligibility required by the STATE Board shall accompany the application. [After January 1, 1985, any applicant for a master electrician license shall be required to submit to a Board examination.]

(b) If application and payment of the prescribed fee [is] WAS made before January 1, 1985, any person who is a resident of this State and has been principally engaged and lawfully established as a master electrician[,] in a nonlicensed subdivision in this State for not less than 5 years immediately prior to July 1, 1984[,] shall receive a [statewide] master electrical license ISSUED BY THE STATE BOARD OF MASTER ELECTRICIANS without examination. The application shall include information required by the STATE Board OF MASTER ELECTRICIANS showing proof of eligibility. [All applicants for a master electrical license after January 1, 1985, shall submit to a statewide Board examination.]

COMMITTEE COMMENT: This section is new language derived from the first and second sentences of former Art. 56, § 538(a) and (b).

These provisions are retained in the Session Laws to protect the licensing status of those individuals who qualified for licensure under them.

The third sentences of former Art. 56, § 538(a) and (b), which required examination after January 1, 1985, are deleted as overly broad in light of the provisions for waiver of examination and as unnecessary.

SECTION 5. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That Section(s) 320 through 322, inclusive, and the subtitle "Reciprocity for