

One Hundred Fourth Legislature - Second Session - 2016

Introducer's Statement of Intent

LB973

Chairperson: Senator Jim Smith

Committee: Transportation and Telecommunications

Date of Hearing: February 08, 2016

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

LB 973 enhances the penalty from a Class V misdemeanor to a Class II misdemeanor for violation of 48-437. This section prohibits any unqualified person from performing any function within specified distances from overhead high voltage conductors, including entering any land, building or other premises to engage in excavation, demolition, construction or repair until accidental contact with such conductor has been guarded against pursuant to sections 48-436 to 48-442. In addition, 48-437 prohibits any unqualified person from manipulating overhead high voltage conductors or other components, including the poles and other structures, of an electric utility.

Under LB 973, any person transporting loads more than 15 feet six inches high or wider than the roadway who fails to notify the local authority and electric utility responsible for the infrastructure along the route as required by law is guilty of a Class II misdemeanor. The permit required for the moving of a building or object shall clearly state that the applicant is not authorized to manipulate overhead high voltage lines or conductors and related components and that any violation is a Class II misdemeanor.

Principal Introducer: _____

Senator Jim Smith