

Senator moves to amend the delete-everything amendment (SCS5266A-2) to S.F. No. 5266 as follows:

Page 42, after line 11, insert:

"Section 1. [181.912] UNDERGROUND TELECOMMUNICATIONS INFRASTRUCTURE."

Subdivision 1. Definitions. For the purposes of this section:

(1) "directional drilling" means a drilling method that utilizes a steerable drill bit to cut a bore hole for installing underground utilities;

(2) "safety-qualified underground telecommunications installer" means a person who has completed underground utilities installation certification under subdivision 3;

(3) "underground telecommunications utilities" means buried broadband, telephone and other telecommunications transmission, distribution and service lines, and associated facilities; and

(4) "underground utilities" means buried electric transmission and distribution lines, gas and hazardous liquids pipelines and distribution lines, sewer and water pipelines, telephone or telecommunications lines, and associated facilities.

Subd. 2. Installation requirements. The installation of underground telecommunications infrastructure that is located within ten feet of existing underground utilities or that crosses said utilities must be performed by safety-qualified underground telecommunications installers as follows:

(1) the location of existing utilities by hand or hydro excavation or other accepted methods must be performed by a safety-qualified underground telecommunications installer;

(2) where telecommunications infrastructure is installed by means of directional drilling, the monitoring of the location and depth of the drill head must be performed by a safety-qualified underground telecommunications installer; and

(3) no less than two safety-qualified underground telecommunications installers must be present at all times at any location where telecommunications infrastructure is being installed by means of directional drilling.

Subd. 3. Certification Standards. (a) The commissioner of labor and industry shall develop standards for a safety-qualified underground telecommunications installer certification program that requires a person to:

- 2.1 (1) complete a 40-hour initial course that includes classroom and hands-on instruction
2.2 covering proper work procedures for safe installation of underground utilities, including:
2.3 (i) regulations applicable to excavation near existing utilities;
2.4 (ii) identification, location, and verification of utility lines using hand or hydro excavation
2.5 or other accepted methods;
2.6 (iii) response to line strike incidents;
2.7 (iv) traffic control procedures;
2.8 (v) use of a tracking device to safely guide directional drill equipment along a drill path;
2.9 and
2.10 (vi) avoidance and mitigation of safety hazards posed by underground utility installation
2.11 projects;
2.12 (2) demonstrate knowledge of the course material by successfully completing an
2.13 examination approved by the commissioner; and
2.14 (3) complete a four-hour refresher course within three years of completing the original
2.15 course and every three years thereafter in order to maintain certification.
2.16 (b) The commissioner must develop an approval process for training providers under
2.17 this subdivision, and may suspend or revoke the approval of any training provider that fails
2.18 to demonstrate consistent delivery of approved curriculum or success in preparing participants
2.19 to complete the examination."
2.20 Renumber the sections in sequence and correct the internal references
2.21 Amend the title accordingly