

1.1 ..... moves to amend H.F. No. 1704, the delete everything amendment  
1.2 (H1704DE3), as follows:

1.3 Page 22, after line 24, insert:

1.4 "Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 326B.198, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

1.5 Subd. 3. **Certification Standards.** (a) The commissioner of labor and industry, in  
1.6 consultation with the Office of Broadband, shall approve standards for a safety-qualified  
1.7 underground telecommunications installer certification program that requires a person to:

1.8 (1) complete a ~~40-hour~~ ten-hour initial course that includes classroom and hands-on  
1.9 instruction covering proper work procedures for safe installation of underground utilities,  
1.10 including:

1.11 (i) regulations applicable to excavation near existing utilities;

1.12 (ii) identification, location, and verification of utility lines using hand- or  
1.13 hydro-excavation or other accepted methods;

1.14 (iii) response to line strike incidents;

1.15 (iv) traffic control procedures;

1.16 (v) use of a tracking device to safely guide directional drill equipment along a drill path;  
1.17 and

1.18 (vi) avoidance and mitigation of safety hazards posed by underground utility installation  
1.19 projects;

1.20 (2) demonstrate knowledge of the course material by successfully completing an  
1.21 examination approved by the commissioner; and

2.1 (3) complete a four-hour refresher course within three years of completing the original  
2.2 course and every three years thereafter in order to maintain certification.

2.3 (b) The commissioner must develop an approval process for training providers under  
2.4 this subdivision and may suspend or revoke the approval of any training provider that fails  
2.5 to demonstrate consistent delivery of approved curriculum or success in preparing participants  
2.6 to complete the examination.

2.7 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment."

2.8 Amend the title accordingly