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This bill establishes a gross misdemeanor for building activities performed by unlicensed residential contractors, remodelers, or roofers.

The current statute requires residential contractors, remodelers, and roofers to be licensed and prohibits unlicensed individuals from holding themselves out as residential builders, remodelers, or roofers. Contractors and remodelers must be licensed if they perform two or more “special skills” as defined in the section. Those skills fall under eight categories (1) excavation, (2) masonry and concrete, (3) carpentry, (4) interior finishing, (5) exterior finishing, (6) drywall and plaster, (7) residential roofing, and (8) general installation specialties. Roofers must be licensed if they complete work on residential roof coverings, but not construction of new roof systems.

To obtain and maintain a license, applicants must pay a fee, take an examination, provide specific information, and complete continuing education courses. The license requirement does not apply to certain individuals including mechanical contractors, specialty contractors, professions licensed under other provisions, and individuals whose gross annual receipts from performing tasks that would otherwise require a license do not exceed \$15,000.

It is a misdemeanor for non-exempt, unlicensed individuals to hold themselves out as residential contractors, remodelers, or roofers (section 326B.082, subdivision 16). The current statute does not address activities by those unlicensed individuals. This bill would maintain the current misdemeanor and create a separate crime, punishable as a gross misdemeanor, for building activities performed by unlicensed individuals regardless of whether they also held themselves out as residential contractors, remodelers, or roofers.