PROPOSED REGULATION OF THE STATE BOARD OF

PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS AND LAND SURVEYORS

LCB File No. R079-23

November 20, 2023

EXPLANATION – Matter in *italics* is new; matter in brackets [omitted material] is material to be omitted.

AUTHORITY: §§ 1 and 2, NRS 625.140.

A REGULATION relating to professions; reorganizing and clarifying the requirements necessary for the renewal of an inactive license to practice professional engineering or land surveying; repealing provisions relating to a licensee or firm which conducts business under an assumed or fictitious name or designation; repealing certain notification requirements relating to a change in information of a licensee; repealing certain provisions related to the representation of a party in a proceeding before the Board; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Existing law authorizes the State Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors to adopt all regulations which are necessary for the proper performance of the duties of the Board, the regulation of the proceedings before it and the maintenance of a high standard of integrity and dignity in the profession. (NRS 625.140)

Existing regulations authorize, under certain circumstances, a licensee to apply to the Board to change his or her status to inactive. (NAC 625.420) Existing regulations further provide that if a licensee has changed his or her status to inactive: (1) the Board will issue an identification card indicating that the licensee is inactive; and (2) such an identification card expires on the same date his or her license would expire if the licensee were on active status. (NAC 625.420, 625.460) To renew an identification card, existing regulations require a licensee to complete certain professional development hours in the same manner as a licensee who is on active status. Existing regulations also provide that to reinstate a license from inactive to active status, a licensee must submit proof that he or she has completed certain professional development hours. (NAC 625.460) Sections 1 and 2 of this regulation reorganize provisions relating to licenses that are on inactive status. Section 1 also provides that: (1) a license on inactive status expires on the same date that the license would expire if such a license were on active status; (2) to renew a license that is on inactive status, a licensee is required to complete certain professional development hours in the same manner as a licensee who is on active status; and (3) a licensee who has changed his or her status to inactive may reinstate the license to active status under certain circumstances.

Existing regulations require a licensee or firm which conducts business under a fictitious name to submit a certificate of fictitious name to the Board within 30 days after the first use of the name or designation. (NAC 625.620) **Section 2** repeals this requirement.

Existing regulations require a licensee to submit a written notice to the Board within 30 days after a change in the information on file with the Board concerning the licensee's: (1) employer; or (2) category or discipline of engineering or land surveying. (NAC 625.625) **Section 2** repeals this requirement.

Existing regulations provide that a party may represent himself or herself or be represented by an attorney or any other person the party designates in any proceeding before the Board. (NAC 625.635) If an attorney represents a party in a proceeding before the Board, existing regulations require the attorney to be admitted to practice and in good standing before the highest court of any state. (NAC 625.635) Existing regulations further require an attorney who is not admitted to practice in Nevada to associate with an attorney who is so admitted. (NAC 625.635) **Section 2** repeals all requirements regarding who may represent a party in a proceeding before the Board.

Section 1. NAC 625.420 is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 625.420 1. In lieu of the renewal of his or her license, a licensee may apply to the Board to change his or her status to:
- (a) Retired, by filing with the Board a notice in writing that states the licensee's intention to retire from practice. The Board will issue an identification card indicating that the licensee is retired.
- (b) Inactive, by filing with the Board a notice in writing that states the licensee's intention to change his or her status to inactive and paying a fee that is equal to the fee required for a licensee who wishes to renew his or her license. The Board will issue an identification card indicating that the licensee is inactive. A license that is on inactive status pursuant to this section expires on the same date that the license would expire pursuant to NAC 625.410 if such license were on active status. To renew a license that is on inactive status pursuant to this section, a licensee must comply with the requirements of NAC 625.430 in the same manner as a licensee who is on active status.

- 2. If [an identification card is issued to] a licensee places his or her license on retired or inactive status pursuant to this section, [his or her license expires and] he or she is not licensed to continue to practice.
- 3. A licensee who has changed his or her status to retired pursuant to this section may reinstate his or her license to active status by complying with the requirements for the issuance of an original license and submitting proof that he or she has completed at least 30 professional development hours *as described in NAC 625.430* within the 2 years immediately preceding the date of the licensee's request to reinstate his or her license to active status.
- 4. A licensee who has changed his or her status to inactive pursuant to this section may reinstate his or her license to active status [by submitting proof that he or she has completed at least 30 professional development hours within the 2 years immediately preceding the date of the licensee's request to reinstate his or her license to active status.] *if*:
- (a) He or she has complied with the requirements of NAC 625.430 in the same manner as a licensee who is on active status during the period in which his or her license has been on inactive status; and
 - (b) Either:
 - (1) The inactive license has not expired; or
 - (2) The license has been expired for 6 months or less.
 - **Sec. 2.** NAC 625.460, 625.620, 625.625 and 625.635 are hereby repealed.

TEXT OF REPEALED SECTIONS

625.460 Inactive status: Requirements for renewal of identification card. (NRS 625.140, 625.398) The identification card issued to a licensee who has changed his or her status to inactive status pursuant to NAC 625.420 expires on the same date as his or her license would expire if the licensee were on active status. To renew the identification card, a licensee who has changed his or her status to inactive pursuant to NAC 625.420 must comply with the requirements of NAC 625.430 in the same manner as a licensee who is on active status.

625.620 Fictitious names. (NRS 625.140) Any licensee or firm which conducts business under an assumed or fictitious name or designation and which does not show the real name of the firm or names of the persons engaged or interested in the business shall file with the Board a certificate of fictitious name in the form required by chapter 602 of NRS within 30 days after the first use of the name or designation.

625.625 Notice of change in licensee's employer, category or discipline. (NRS 625.140)

- 1. If any information on file with the Board concerning a licensee's:
- (a) Employer; or
- (b) Category or discipline of engineering or land surveying,
- → changes, the licensee shall submit written notice of the change to the Board within 30 days.

 The notice must include any change of the contact information of the licensee's principal place of business.

2. As used in this section, "contact information" means the address, telephone number and electronic mail address of the licensee's principal place of business.

625.635 Representation of parties; qualifications of attorneys. (NRS 625.140)

- 1. A party may, in any proceeding before the Board, represent himself or herself or be represented by an attorney or any other person he or she designates.
- 2. If a party chooses to be represented by an attorney, the attorney must be admitted to practice and in good standing before the highest court of any state. If the attorney is not admitted and entitled to practice before the Supreme Court of Nevada, he or she must associate with an attorney who is so admitted and entitled to practice.