

SENATE BILL NO. 59—COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND LABOR

(ON BEHALF OF THE STATE BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL
ENGINEERS AND LAND SURVEYORS)

FEBRUARY 15, 2005

Referred to Committee on Commerce and Labor

SUMMARY—Revises provisions governing regulation and licensure of professional engineers and land surveyors. (BDR 54-176)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.
Effect on the State: No.

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EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to professions; increasing the number of members of the State Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors; allowing an applicant for licensure as a professional engineer to take certain licensing examinations before the applicant meets the active experience requirements for licensure; providing that graduation from a college or university with certain advanced degrees satisfies part of the active experience requirements for licensure; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

- 1 Existing law establishes the State Board of Professional Engineers and Land
- 2 Surveyors and provides for the Board to consist of seven members appointed by the
- 3 Governor. (NRS 625.100)
- 4 This bill increases the number of members on the State Board to nine and
- 5 would require that six of those members be practicing or teaching professional
- 6 engineers.
- 7 Existing law requires that applicants for licensure as a professional engineer
- 8 attain the specified educational and active experience requirements before taking
- 9 the licensing examination on the principles and practices of engineering.
- 10 (NRS 625.183)
- 11 This bill allows applicants to take the licensing examination on the principles
- 12 and practices of engineering before meeting the active experience requirements for



13 licensure. However, the applicant is not qualified for licensure until all additional
14 requirements for licensure are met.

15 Existing law provides that applicants may use graduation from a college or
16 university in a field other than engineering to satisfy 2 years of the active
17 experience requirements for licensure. (NRS 625.183)

18 This bill provides that certain applicants may use graduation with a master's or
19 doctoral degree in a discipline of engineering to satisfy 2 years of the active
20 experience requirements for licensure. However, this bill provides that those
21 applicants may be credited with only 2 years of active experience for their
22 academic degrees, regardless of the number of degrees earned.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1 **Section 1.** NRS 625.100 is hereby amended to read as follows:
2 625.100 1. The Governor shall appoint ~~seven persons, four~~
3 *nine persons, six* of whom must be engaged in the practice or
4 teaching of professional engineering in any of its disciplines except
5 military engineering, and two of whom must be engaged in the
6 practice or teaching of land surveying and one of whom must be a
7 member of the general public. The members must be citizens of the
8 United States and residents of this State, and constitute the State
9 Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors.

10 2. All appointments made for members who are engaged in the
11 practice or teaching of professional engineering or land surveying
12 must be made from the current roster of professional engineers and
13 professional land surveyors as issued by the Board and on file in the
14 office of the Secretary of State. Insofar as practicable, membership
15 on the Board of those members must be distributed proportionately
16 among the recognized disciplines of the profession. The members
17 who are professional land surveyors must not be professional
18 engineers.

19 3. Within 30 days after his appointment, each member shall
20 take and subscribe to the oath of office as prescribed by the laws of
21 Nevada and shall file the oath with the Secretary of State.

22 **Sec. 2.** NRS 625.110 is hereby amended to read as follows:
23 625.110 1. The Board shall elect officers from its members
24 and, by regulation, establish the:

- 25 (a) Offices to which members may be elected;
26 (b) Title and term for each office; and
27 (c) Procedure for electing members to each office.

28 2. At any meeting, ~~four~~ *five* members constitute a quorum.

29 3. Each member is entitled to receive:

- 30 (a) A salary of not more than \$80 per day, as fixed by the Board,
31 while engaged in the business of the Board; and



1 (b) A per diem allowance and travel expenses , at a rate fixed by
2 the Board, while engaged in the business of the Board. The rate
3 must not exceed the rate provided for state officers and employees
4 generally.

5 4. While engaged in the business of the Board, each employee
6 of the Board is entitled to receive a per diem allowance and travel
7 expenses at a rate fixed by the Board. The rate must not exceed the
8 rate provided for state officers and employees generally.

9 5. The salaries of members of the Board and employees of the
10 Board must be paid from the fees received by the Board pursuant to
11 the provisions of this chapter, and no part of those salaries may be
12 paid out of the State General Fund.

13 6. The Board shall appoint an Executive Director who serves at
14 the pleasure of the Board and is entitled to receive such
15 compensation as may be fixed by the Board.

16 **Sec. 3.** NRS 625.183 is hereby amended to read as follows:

17 625.183 1. A person who:

18 (a) Is 21 years of age or older; and

19 (b) Is a citizen of the United States or is lawfully entitled to
20 remain and work in the United States,

21 ↪ may apply to the Board, in accordance with the provisions of this
22 chapter and any regulations adopted by the Board, for licensure as a
23 professional engineer.

24 2. An applicant for licensure as a professional engineer must:

25 (a) Be of good character and reputation; and

26 (b) Pass the examination on the:

27 (1) Fundamentals of engineering or receive a waiver of that
28 requirement; and

29 (2) Principles and practices of engineering,

30 ↪ pursuant to NRS 625.193.

31 3. An applicant for licensure as a professional engineer ~~{may~~
32 ~~not take the examination on the principles and practices of~~
33 ~~engineering, unless he:~~

34 ~~—(a) Is}~~ *is not qualified for licensure unless the applicant meets*
35 *the requirements of one of the following paragraphs:*

36 (a) *The applicant must be* a graduate of an engineering
37 curriculum of 4 years or more that is approved by the Board and
38 ~~{has}~~ *must have* a record of 4 years or more of active experience in
39 engineering ~~{that}~~ *which* is satisfactory to the Board and *which*
40 indicates that ~~{he}~~ *the applicant* is competent to be placed in
41 responsible charge of engineering work. ~~{; or}~~



1 ~~—(b) Has~~ *An applicant who seeks to qualify for licensure*
2 *pursuant to this paragraph and who is eligible to take the*
3 *examination on the principles and practices of engineering*
4 *pursuant to subsection 2 of NRS 625.193 may take the*
5 *examination on the principles and practices of engineering before*
6 *the applicant meets the active experience requirements for*
7 *licensure set forth in this paragraph.*

8 (b) *The applicant must have* a record of 10 years or more of
9 active experience in engineering work ~~[that]~~ *which* is satisfactory to
10 the Board and *which* indicates that ~~[he]~~ *the applicant* is competent
11 to be placed in responsible charge of engineering work. *An*
12 *applicant who seeks to qualify for licensure pursuant to this*
13 *paragraph and who is eligible to take the examination on the*
14 *principles and practices of engineering pursuant to subsection 2 of*
15 *NRS 625.193 may take the examination on the principles and*
16 *practices of engineering only after the applicant has a record of 6*
17 *years or more of active experience in engineering work which is*
18 *satisfactory to the Board.*

19 4. To determine whether an applicant for licensure as a
20 professional engineer has an adequate record of active experience
21 pursuant to paragraph (a) of subsection 3:

22 (a) Graduation from a college or university ~~[is]~~:

23 (1) *In a discipline of engineering with a master's or*
24 *doctoral degree is equivalent to 2 years of active experience; and*

25 (2) *In a field other than engineering with an academic*
26 *degree is equivalent to 2 years of active experience [is],*

27 *except that, in the aggregate, not more than 2 years of active*
28 *experience may be satisfied by graduation from a college or*
29 *university with such degrees, regardless of the number of degrees*
30 *earned.*

31 (b) Two of the 4 years of active experience must have been
32 completed by working under the direct supervision of a professional
33 engineer who is licensed in the discipline in which the applicant is
34 applying for licensure, unless that requirement is waived by the
35 Board.

36 (c) The execution, as a contractor, of work designed by a
37 professional engineer, or the supervision of the construction of that
38 work as a foreman or superintendent, is not equivalent to active
39 experience in engineering.

40 5. To determine whether an applicant for licensure as a
41 professional engineer has an adequate record of active experience
42 pursuant to paragraph (b) of subsection 3:

43 (a) Satisfactory completion of 1 year of courses in engineering
44 that are approved by the Board, by a person who has not graduated



1 from an engineering curriculum, is equivalent to 1 year of active
2 experience in engineering.

3 (b) Graduation from a college or university in a field other than
4 engineering *with an academic degree* is equivalent to 2 years of
5 active experience.

6 (c) Two of the 10 years of active experience must have been
7 completed by working under the direct supervision of a professional
8 engineer who is licensed in the discipline in which the applicant is
9 applying for licensure, unless that requirement is waived by the
10 Board.

11 (d) The execution, as a contractor, of work designed by a
12 professional engineer, or the supervision of the construction of that
13 work as a foreman or superintendent, is not equivalent to active
14 experience in engineering.

15 (e) ~~Not~~ *In the aggregate, not* more than 4 years of active
16 experience may be satisfied by the completion of educational course
17 work ~~or by graduation from a college or university, regardless~~
18 *of the number of courses completed or degrees earned.*

19 6. A person who is not working in the field of engineering
20 when he applies for licensure is eligible for licensure as a
21 professional engineer if he complies with the requirements for
22 licensure prescribed in this chapter.

23 **Sec. 4.** NRS 625.183 is hereby amended to read as follows:

24 625.183 1. A person who:

25 (a) Is 21 years of age or older; and

26 (b) Is a citizen of the United States or is lawfully entitled to
27 remain and work in the United States,

28 ↪ may apply to the Board, in accordance with the provisions of this
29 chapter and any regulations adopted by the Board, for licensure as a
30 professional engineer.

31 2. An applicant for licensure as a professional engineer must:

32 (a) Be of good character and reputation; and

33 (b) Pass the examination on the:

34 (1) Fundamentals of engineering or receive a waiver of that
35 requirement; and

36 (2) Principles and practices of engineering,

37 ↪ pursuant to NRS 625.193.

38 3. An applicant for licensure as a professional engineer ~~may~~
39 ~~not take the examination on the principles and practices of~~
40 ~~engineering, unless he~~ *is not qualified for licensure unless the*
41 *applicant* is a graduate of an engineering curriculum of 4 years or
42 more that is approved by the Board and has a record of 4 years or
43 more of active experience in engineering ~~that~~ *which* is satisfactory
44 to the Board and *which* indicates that ~~he~~ *the applicant* is
45 competent to be placed in responsible charge of engineering work.



1 *An applicant who is eligible to take the examination on the*
2 *principles and practices of engineering pursuant to subsection 2 of*
3 *NRS 625.193 may take the examination on the principles and*
4 *practices of engineering before the applicant meets the active*
5 *experience requirements for licensure set forth in this subsection.*

6 4. To determine whether an applicant for licensure as a
7 professional engineer has an adequate record of active experience
8 pursuant to subsection 3:

9 (a) *Graduation from a college or university in a discipline of*
10 *engineering with a master's or doctoral degree is equivalent to 2*
11 *years of active experience, except that, in the aggregate, not more*
12 *than 2 years of active experience may be satisfied by graduation*
13 *from a college or university with such degrees, regardless of the*
14 *number of degrees earned.*

15 (b) Two of the 4 years of active experience must have been
16 completed by working under the direct supervision of a professional
17 engineer who is licensed in the discipline in which the applicant is
18 applying for licensure, unless that requirement is waived by the
19 Board.

20 ~~(b)~~ (c) The execution, as a contractor, of work designed by a
21 professional engineer, or the supervision of the construction of that
22 work as a foreman or superintendent, is not equivalent to active
23 experience in engineering.

24 5. A person who is not working in the field of engineering
25 when he applies for licensure is eligible for licensure as a
26 professional engineer if he complies with the requirements for
27 licensure prescribed in this chapter.

28 **Sec. 5.** 1. As soon as practicable after passage and approval
29 of this act, the Governor shall appoint two additional members to
30 the State Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors in
31 accordance with the provisions of section 1 of this act. For the initial
32 terms of those members, the Governor shall appoint:

33 (a) One member who is engaged in the practice or teaching of
34 professional engineering, except military engineering, whose term
35 begins on October 1, 2005, and expires on September 30, 2008; and

36 (b) One member who is engaged in the practice or teaching of
37 professional engineering, except military engineering, whose term
38 begins on October 1, 2005, and expires on September 30, 2007.

39 2. The provisions of this act do not abrogate or affect the term
40 of office of any other member of the State Board of Professional
41 Engineers and Land Surveyors.

42 **Sec. 6.** 1. This section and section 5 of this act become
43 effective upon passage and approval.

44 2. Sections 1, 2 and 3 of this act become effective on
45 October 1, 2005.



- 1 3. Section 3 of this act expires by limitation on June 30, 2010.
- 2 4. Section 4 of this act becomes effective on July 1, 2010.

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