

HB1311/390815/1

BY: Environment and Transportation Committee

AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL 1311
(First Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, strike line 2 in its entirety and substitute “Natural Resources – Tree Expert License – Eligibility Criteria”; strike beginning with the second “the” in line 3 down through “property” in line 7 and substitute “the eligibility criteria for an applicant for a tree expert license to be issued a license; making stylistic changes; providing for the termination of this Act”; and in line 11, strike “5-415” and substitute “5-418”.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 1, after line 16, insert:

“5-418.”

(a) The Department may examine an applicant for license as a tree expert and pass upon the competence of the applicant.

(B) [It] THE DEPARTMENT shall issue a “tree expert” license to any applicant, who:

(1) Pays the fee provided in § 5-419 of this subtitle;

(2) Has attained 18 years of age;

(3) (i) Has had 2 years of approved college education in forestry, arboriculture, horticulture, applied agricultural sciences, or the equivalent education and a minimum of 1 year of experience with a licensed tree expert in Maryland or with an acceptable tree expert company in another state; [or]

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(ii) HAS, WITHIN THE IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING 3 YEARS:

1. ACHIEVED ACTIVE MASTER LOGGER STATUS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND EXTENSION'S MARYLAND-DELAWARE MASTER LOGGER PROGRAM; AND

2. HELD A FOREST PRODUCT OPERATOR'S LICENSE ISSUED UNDER § 5-608 OF THIS TITLE; OR

(III) For at least 3 years immediately preceding the date of application has been engaged continuously in practice as a tree expert with a licensed tree expert in Maryland or with an acceptable tree expert company in another state; and

(4) Has passed the examination given by the Department.

[(b)] (C) (1) Every licensee shall carry and show proof of liability and property damage insurance, in the form and amount required by the Department at the time it issues the license.

(2) The licensee shall maintain the insurance protection for the period the license is in effect."

On pages 1 and 2, strike in their entirety the lines beginning with line 17 on page 1 through line 28 on page 2, inclusive.

On page 3, in line 1, after "2020." insert "It shall remain effective for a period of 2 years and, at the end of September 30, 2022, this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect."