

SENATE BILL 49

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1999 Regular Session  
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(PRE-FILED)

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By: **Chairman, Economic and Environmental Affairs Committee**  
**(Departmental - Labor, Licensing and Regulation)**

Requested: July 27, 1998

Introduced and read first time: January 13, 1999

Assigned to: Economic and Environmental Affairs

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Professional Land Surveyors - Licensing**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the requirements for individuals seeking licensure as  
4 professional land surveyors; authorizing the State Board for Professional Land  
5 Surveyors to take certain actions against an individual who has had a license to  
6 practice land surveying or property line surveying revoked or suspended by  
7 another state under certain circumstances; and generally relating to licensing  
8 qualifications for professional land surveyors and property line surveyors.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
10 Article - Business Occupations and Professions  
11 Section 15-305 and 15-318(a)  
12 Annotated Code of Maryland  
13 (1995 Replacement Volume and 1998 Supplement)

14 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
15 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

16 **Article - Business Occupations and Professions**

17 15-305.

18 (a) (1) In addition to the other qualifications for a license to practice land  
19 surveying, an applicant shall qualify under this section by meeting the educational  
20 [and], experience, AND EXAMINATION requirements set forth in subsection (b), (c),  
21 (d), OR (e) [or (f)] of this section.

22 (2) AN APPLICANT SHALL COMPLETE THE REQUIREMENTS OF  
23 SUBSECTION (B), (C), (D), OR (E) OF THIS SECTION IN THE ORDER THE REQUIREMENTS  
24 ARE LISTED.

25 (b) An applicant qualifies under this section if the applicant:

1 (1) has been graduated from a college or university on completion of at  
2 least a 4-year curriculum in [civil engineering or] land surveying [, or their  
3 equivalent,] that the Board approves;

4 (2) has passed a written examination in the fundamentals of land  
5 surveying;

6 (3) [after having completed the examination in the fundamentals of land  
7 surveying,] has at least [4] 2 years of [work] experience in land surveying that is  
8 satisfactory to the Board and that indicates to the Board that the applicant may be  
9 competent to practice land surveying; and

10 (4) [after having met the other requirements,] has passed a written  
11 examination in the principles and practice of land surveying.

12 [(c) An applicant qualifies under this section if the applicant:

13 (1) has been graduated from a college or university on completion of at  
14 least a 4-year curriculum in civil engineering or land surveying, or their equivalent,  
15 that the Board has not approved;

16 (2) has passed a written examination in the fundamentals of land  
17 surveying;

18 (3) after having completed the examination in the fundamentals of land  
19 surveying, has at least 6 years of work experience in land surveying that is  
20 satisfactory to the Board and that indicates to the Board that the applicant may be  
21 competent to practice land surveying; and

22 (4) after having met the other requirements, has passed a written  
23 examination in the principles and practice of land surveying.

24 (d)] (C) An applicant qualifies under this section if the applicant:

25 (1) has been graduated upon completion of at least a 4-year curriculum  
26 from a college or university that is accredited by, or is a constituent unit of an  
27 institution accredited by, the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools or the  
28 equivalent regional accrediting association of other regional areas;

29 (2) has passed a written examination in the fundamentals of land  
30 surveying;

31 (3) [after having completed the examination in the fundamentals of land  
32 surveying,] has at least [8] 4 years of [work] experience in land surveying that is  
33 satisfactory to the Board and that indicates to the Board that the applicant may be  
34 competent to practice land surveying; and

35 (4) [after having met the other requirements,] has passed a written  
36 examination in the principles and practice of land surveying.

1 [(e)] (D) (1) An applicant qualifies under this section if the applicant:

2 (i) is a high school graduate or the equivalent;

3 (ii) subject to paragraph (2) of this subsection, has at least 12 years  
4 of [work] experience in land surveying that is satisfactory to the Board and that  
5 indicates to the Board that the applicant may be competent to practice land  
6 surveying; and

7 (iii) has passed a written examination in the principles and  
8 practices of land surveying [given by the Board under this subtitle].

9 (2) For each 30 semester hours OR ITS EQUIVALENT that an applicant  
10 completes in [civil engineering or] land surveying courses that the Board approves  
11 [at a college or university, including a community college], the Board may allow a  
12 1-year credit towards the experience requirements of paragraph (1)(ii) of this  
13 subsection for a maximum of 3 years.

14 [(f)] (E) (1) An applicant qualifies under this section if the applicant:

15 (i) is a high school graduate or the equivalent;

16 (ii) subject to paragraph (2) of this subsection, has at least [6] 4  
17 years of [work] experience in land surveying that is satisfactory to the Board and  
18 that indicates to the Board that the applicant may be competent to practice land  
19 surveying;

20 (iii) [after having completed at least 6 years of work experience,]  
21 has passed a written examination in the fundamentals of land surveying;

22 (iv) [after having passed the written examination in the  
23 fundamentals of land surveying,] has completed at least 4 years of [work] experience  
24 in land surveying that is satisfactory to the Board and that indicates to the Board  
25 that the applicant may be competent to practice land surveying; and

26 (v) [after having met the other requirements,] has passed a  
27 written examination in the principles and practice of land surveying.

28 (2) For each 30 semester hours OR ITS EQUIVALENT that an applicant  
29 completes in [civil engineering or] land surveying courses that the Board approves  
30 [at a college or university, including a community college], the Board may allow a  
31 1-year credit towards the experience requirements of paragraph (1)(ii) of this  
32 subsection for a maximum of 3 years.

33 [(g)] If an applicant has taught land surveying as an associate professor, or in a  
34 higher position, in a college or university, including a community college, the Board  
35 may count the teaching experience as work experience for purposes of the experience  
36 requirements under any subsection of this section.]

1 15-318.

2 (a) Subject to the hearing provisions of § 15-320 of this subtitle, the Board, on  
3 the affirmative vote of a majority of its members then serving, may deny a license to  
4 any applicant, reprimand any licensee, or suspend or revoke a license if:

5 (1) the applicant or licensee fraudulently or deceptively obtains,  
6 RENEWS, or attempts to obtain OR RENEW a license OR PERMIT for the applicant or  
7 licensee or for another;

8 (2) the applicant or licensee fraudulently or deceptively uses a license;

9 (3) under the laws of the United States or of any state, the applicant or  
10 licensee is convicted of:

11 (i) a felony; or

12 (ii) a misdemeanor that is directly related to the fitness and  
13 qualification of the applicant or licensee to practice land surveying or property line  
14 surveying;

15 (4) the applicant or licensee is guilty of gross negligence, incompetence,  
16 or misconduct while practicing land surveying or property line surveying;

17 (5) the applicant or licensee knowingly violates any provision of the code  
18 of ethics adopted by the Board; [or]

19 (6) the applicant or licensee knowingly violates any provision of this  
20 title; OR

21 (7) THE APPLICANT OR LICENSEE HAS HAD A LICENSE TO PRACTICE  
22 LAND SURVEYING OR PROPERTY LINE SURVEYING IN ANOTHER STATE REVOKED OR  
23 SUSPENDED BY THE OTHER STATE FOR A CAUSE THAT WOULD JUSTIFY REVOCATION  
24 OR SUSPENSION UNDER THIS TITLE, EXCEPT FOR THE FAILURE TO PAY A LICENSE  
25 OR LICENSE RENEWAL FEE.

26 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
27 October 1, 1999.