
By: **Delegates Love, Feldman, Jameson, Kirk, Krysiak, and Moe**

Introduced and read first time: February 3, 2005

Assigned to: Economic Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Business Occupations and Professions - Architects - Continuing Education**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the number of certain continuing education contact hours

4 a licensed architect is required to complete to qualify for renewal of a license;

5 altering the time frame within which continuing education contact hours must

6 be completed to qualify for renewal of a license; making a certain requirement

7 for submitting verification of completion of certain continuing education

8 requirements subject to the request of the State Board of Architects; and

9 generally relating to the continuing education requirements of architects.

10 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

11 Article - Business Occupations and Professions

12 Section 3-309 and 3-309.1(a)

13 Annotated Code of Maryland

14 (2004 Replacement Volume and 2004 Supplement)

15 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF

16 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

17 **Article - Business Occupations and Professions**

18 3-309.

19 (a) Unless a license is renewed for a 2-year term as provided in this section,

20 the license expires on the first June 30 that comes:

21 (1) after the effective date of the license; and

22 (2) in an even-numbered year.

23 (b) At least 1 month before a license expires, the Board shall mail to the

24 licensee, at the last known address of the licensee:

25 (1) a renewal application form; and

26 (2) a notice that states:

- 1 (i) the date on which the current license expires;
- 2 (ii) the date by which the Board must receive the renewal
3 application for the renewal to be issued and mailed before the license expires; and
- 4 (iii) the amount of the license fee.

5 (c) Before a license expires, the licensee periodically may renew it for an
6 additional 2-year term, if the licensee:

- 7 (1) otherwise is entitled to be licensed;
- 8 (2) pays to the Board a license fee set by the Board;
- 9 (3) submits to the Board a renewal application on the form that the
10 Board provides; and

11 (4) UPON REQUEST BY THE BOARD, submits to the Board the original
12 certificate of completion OR TRANSCRIPT OF COMPLETED COURSES verifying the
13 licensee has complied with the continuing education requirement under § 3-309.1 of
14 this subtitle.

15 (d) The Board shall renew the license of each licensee who meets the
16 requirements of this section.

17 (e) An architect has a grace period of 30 days after the architect's license
18 expires in which to renew it retroactively, if the architect:

- 19 (1) otherwise is entitled to have the license renewed;
- 20 (2) pays to the Board the license fee set by the Board; and
- 21 (3) meets the continuing education requirement for renewal of a license
22 under § 3-309.1 of this subtitle.

23 (f) The Secretary may determine that licenses issued under this subtitle shall
24 expire on a staggered basis.

25 3-309.1.

26 (a) (1) To qualify for renewal of a license under this subtitle, a licensee shall
27 complete [12] 24 continuing education contact hours per [12-month] 24-MONTH
28 period since the last renewal of a license, including [8] 16 continuing education
29 contact hours that are related to the protection of the health, safety, and welfare of
30 the general public.

31 (2) Notwithstanding paragraph (1) of this subsection:

32 (i) a licensee who is granted an initial license may renew a license
33 for the next full term without complying with the continuing education requirement
34 of this section;

1 (ii) a licensee serving on temporary active duty in the armed forces
2 of the United States for a period of time exceeding 120 consecutive days in a year, if
3 the activity restricts participation in a continuing education program, may renew a
4 license for the next full term without complying with the continuing education
5 requirement of this section; and

6 (iii) a licensee experiencing physical disability, illness, or other
7 extenuating circumstances as reviewed and approved by the Board may renew a
8 license for the next full term without complying with the continuing education
9 requirement of this section.

10 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
11 October 1, 2005.