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

Introduced and read first time: February 3, 2005

Assigned to: Economic Matters

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Committee Report: Favorable

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 8, 2005

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CHAPTER\_\_\_\_\_

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

1 (2) in an even-numbered year.

2 (b) At least 1 month before a license expires, the Board shall mail to the  
3 licensee, at the last known address of the licensee:

4 (1) a renewal application form; and

5 (2) a notice that states:

6 (i) the date on which the current license expires;

7 (ii) the date by which the Board must receive the renewal  
8 application for the renewal to be issued and mailed before the license expires; and

9 (iii) the amount of the license fee.

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

12 (1) otherwise is entitled to be licensed;

13 (2) pays to the Board a license fee set by the Board;

14 (3) submits to the Board a renewal application on the form that the  
15 Board provides; and

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

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

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

24 (1) otherwise is entitled to have the license renewed;

25 (2) pays to the Board the license fee set by the Board; and

26 (3) meets the continuing education requirement for renewal of a license  
27 under § 3-309.1 of this subtitle.

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

30 3-309.1.

31 (a) (1) To qualify for renewal of a license under this subtitle, a licensee shall  
32 complete [12] 24 continuing education contact hours per [12-month] 24-MONTH

1 period since the last renewal of a license, including [8] 16 continuing education  
2 contact hours that are related to the protection of the health, safety, and welfare of  
3 the general public.

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

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

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

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

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