SENATE BILL 655

By: Senator Simonaire
Introduced and read first time: February 4, 2019
Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

A BILL ENTITLED

AN ACT concerning

Business Occupations and Professions – Professional Engineers – Examination
and Continuing Professional Competency Requirements

FOR the purpose of requiring a certain applicant for a license to practice engineering to
pass a certain examination in the fundamentals of engineering before passing a
certain examination in the principles and practice of engineering; repealing certain
provisions of law regarding the fulfillment of continuing professional competency
requirements by certain licensees; requiring that a licensee who resides in a certain
state who satisfactorily completes certain continuing professional competency
requirements in that state be deemed to have completed the continuing professional
competency requirements established by the State Board for Professional Engineers
under certain circumstances; and generally relating to licensure requirements for
professional engineers.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
Article – Business Occupations and Professions
Section 14–305(a)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2018 Replacement Volume)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Business Occupations and Professions
Section 14–305(d) and 14–314(f)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2018 Replacement Volume)

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

Article – Business Occupations and Professions

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.
In addition to the other qualifications for a license set forth in this subtitle, an applicant shall qualify under this section by meeting the educational and experience requirements set forth in subsection (b), (c), or (d) of this section.

(d) (1) An applicant qualifies under this section if the applicant:

(i) subject to paragraph (2) of this subsection, has at least 12 years of work experience in engineering that is satisfactory to the Board, in at least 5 years of which the applicant has been in responsible charge, if the collective experience indicates to the Board that the applicant may be competent to practice engineering; and

(ii) 1. has passed the examination IN THE FUNDAMENTALS OF ENGINEERING GIVEN BY THE BOARD UNDER THIS SUBTITLE; AND

2. AFTER PASSING THE EXAMINATION IN FUNDAMENTALS, HAS PASSED THE EXAMINATION IN the principles and practice of engineering given by the Board under this subtitle.

(2) If an applicant has completed 1 or more years of a college or university curriculum in engineering that the Board approves, it may allow, for each of those years, a 1–year credit towards the experience requirement of paragraph (1)(i) of this subsection.

(3) If an applicant has completed 1 or more years of a college or university curriculum in engineering that has not been approved by the Board, the Board may allow, for each of those years, a credit of up to 6 months towards the experience requirement under paragraph (1)(i) of this subsection.

(f) (1) [The] EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, THE Board shall adopt regulations to require a demonstration of continuing professional competency for a licensee as a condition of renewal of a license under this section in accordance with the following:

[(1)] (I) continuing professional competency requirements do not apply to the first renewal of a license; AND

[(2)] (II) [if a license expires on or before September 30, 2012, a licensee is not required to fulfill the continuing professional competency requirements;]

[(3) if a license expires between October 1, 2012, and September 30, 2013, a licensee is required to fulfill 50% of the continuing professional competency requirements as provided in the regulations adopted by the Board under this subsection; and]
(4) if a license expires on or after October 1, 2013] BEGINNING WITH THE SECOND RENEWAL OF A LICENSE AND EACH RENEWAL THEREAFTER, a licensee is required to fulfill the full continuing professional competency requirements as provided in the regulations adopted by the Board under this subsection.

(2) A LICENSEE WHO RESIDES IN ANOTHER STATE SHALL BE DEEMED TO HAVE COMPLETED THE CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCY REQUIREMENTS ESTABLISHED BY THE BOARD IF:

(i) THE LICENSEE COMPLIES WITH THE CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCY REQUIREMENTS OF THE OTHER STATE;

(ii) THE OTHER STATE REQUIRES COMPLETION OF CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCY REQUIREMENTS; AND

(iii) THE OTHER STATE PROVIDES RECIPROCITY FOR INDIVIDUALS LICENSED IN THE OTHER STATE AND RESIDING IN THIS STATE.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2019.