

# HOUSE BILL 342

C3

(6lr1822)

## ENROLLED BILL

— *Environment and Transportation/Education, Energy, and the Environment* —

Introduced by ~~Delegate Behler~~ **Delegates Behler, Boyce, and Odom**

Read and Examined by Proofreaders:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Proofreader.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Proofreader.

Sealed with the Great Seal and presented to the Governor, for his approval this

\_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ o'clock, \_\_\_\_\_ M.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Speaker.

### CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

#### 2 **Forestry Licenses – Applicant Qualifications – Alterations**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring that an institution from which an applicant for a forestry  
4 license graduates on completion of a certain curriculum has certain approval and  
5 accreditation; authorizing an applicant to qualify for a forestry license if the State  
6 Board of Foresters determines the applicant’s education is substantially equivalent  
7 to certain requirements; ~~repealing a certain experience requirement for applicants~~  
8 ~~for a forestry license~~ and generally relating to requirements for forestry licenses.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
10 Article – Business Occupations and Professions  
11 Section 7–304  
12 Annotated Code of Maryland  
13 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

---

#### EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.

*Italics indicate opposite chamber/conference committee amendments.*



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

3 **Article – Business Occupations and Professions**

4 7–304.

5 (a) To qualify for a license, an applicant shall be an individual who meets the  
6 requirements of this section.

7 (b) ~~(1) An~~ **SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION PARAGRAPH**  
8 **(2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, AN** applicant shall have graduated on completion of a 4–year  
9 curriculum in forestry from a college or university that is:

10 ~~(1)~~ **(I)** approved by the Board [or]; AND

11 ~~(2)~~ **(II)** accredited by:

12 ~~(1)~~ the Society of American Foresters; ~~OR~~

13 ~~(2)~~ **AN EQUIVALENT ACCREDITING ENTITY.**

14 ~~(c) (2) The applicant shall have at least 2 years of experience in forestry that~~  
15 ~~indicates to the Board that the applicant is competent to practice forestry.~~ **AN APPLICANT**  
16 **MAY MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION SUBSECTION IF THE BOARD**  
17 **DETERMINES THAT THE APPLICANT’S EDUCATION, INCLUDING A COMPARABLE**  
18 **GRADUATE DEGREE OR INTERNATIONAL DEGREE, IS SUBSTANTIALLY EQUIVALENT**  
19 **TO THE REQUIREMENTS UNDER SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION PARAGRAPH (1)**  
20 **OF THIS SUBSECTION.**

21 *(c) The applicant shall have at least 2 years of experience in forestry that indicates*  
22 *to the Board that the applicant is competent to practice forestry.*

23 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
24 October 1, 2026.