

# HOUSE BILL 485

C3

6lr2050  
CF SB 256

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By: **Delegate S. Johnson**

Introduced and read first time: January 23, 2026

Assigned to: Economic Matters

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

### 2 **State Board of Professional Landscape Architects – Revisions**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the name of the State Board of Examiners of Landscape  
4 Architects to be the State Board of Professional Landscape Architects; altering the  
5 defined term “licensed landscape architects” to be “professional landscape  
6 architects”; altering certain qualifications for membership on the Board; altering  
7 certain duties of the Board; altering certain educational and experience  
8 requirements of applicants for a license to practice landscape architecture; altering  
9 certain examination administration requirements; altering certain term, renewal,  
10 and fee payment requirements for certain licenses or permits issued by the Board;  
11 authorizing the Board to issue a certain emeritus status license; and generally  
12 relating to the State Board of Professional Landscape Architects.

13 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
14 Article – Business Occupations and Professions  
15 Section 9–101(a) and 9–206.1(a)  
16 Annotated Code of Maryland  
17 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

18 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
19 Article – Business Occupations and Professions  
20 Section 9–101(b), (h), (i), and (j); 9–201, 9–202(a) and (b), 9–206, and 9–206.1(b) and  
21 (d) to be under the amended subtitle “Subtitle 2. State Board of Professional  
22 Landscape Architects”; and 9–301 through 9–305, 9–308, 9–309(f), 9–310,  
23 9–311(b), 9–314(b), 9–402(a) and (b), 9–403, 9–404(b), 9–407, 9–410, 9–414(a),  
24 9–501, 9–602 through 9–604, and 9–701  
25 Annotated Code of Maryland  
26 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

27 BY repealing  
28 Article – Business Occupations and Professions

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1                   Section 9–101(g), 9–305.1, 9–309(a), and 9–408(a)  
2                   Annotated Code of Maryland  
3                   (2018 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

4    BY adding to  
5                   Article – Business Occupations and Professions  
6                   Section 9–101(j), 9–309(a), 9–309.1, and 9–408(a)  
7                   Annotated Code of Maryland  
8                   (2018 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

9    BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
10                  Article – Business Regulation  
11                  Section 2–106.1(a)(3) and 2–108(a)(17)  
12                  Annotated Code of Maryland  
13                  (2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

14   BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
15                  Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings  
16                  Section 3–2C–01(c)(3)  
17                  Annotated Code of Maryland  
18                  (2020 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

19   BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
20                  Article – Environment  
21                  Section 4–308(a)  
22                  Annotated Code of Maryland  
23                  (2013 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

24   BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
25                  Article – Natural Resources  
26                  Section 5–1604(a) and 5–1605(b)  
27                  Annotated Code of Maryland  
28                  (2023 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

29   BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
30                  Article – Public Utilities  
31                  Section 12–101(a)  
32                  Annotated Code of Maryland  
33                  (2025 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

34   BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
35                  Article – Public Utilities  
36                  Section 12–101(i)  
37                  Annotated Code of Maryland  
38                  (2025 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

39   BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

1                   Article – State Government  
2                   Section 8–403(34)  
3                   Annotated Code of Maryland  
4                   (2021 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

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

7                   **Article – Business Occupations and Professions**

8   9–101.

9                   (a)    In this title the following words have the meanings indicated.

10                  (b)    “Board” means the State Board of [Examiners of] **PROFESSIONAL** Landscape  
11   Architects.

12                  [(g)    “Licensed landscape architect” means a landscape architect who is licensed by  
13   the Board to practice landscape architecture.]

14                  [(h)] **(G)**    “Permit” means a permit issued by the Board to allow a partnership or  
15   corporation to operate a business through which an individual may practice landscape  
16   architecture.

17                  [(i)] **(H)**    “Permit fee” means, as applicable, the fee paid in connection with the  
18   issuance and renewal of a permit.

19                  [(j)] **(I)**    (1)    “Practice landscape architecture” means:

20                          (i)    to provide any service or creative work in the analysis or design  
21   of land and natural resources that requires training and experience in the application of  
22   the biological, physical, mathematical, and social sciences; and

23                          (ii)    to perform design coordination of a project or portion of a project  
24   provided that the [licensed] **PROFESSIONAL** landscape architect holds a current license  
25   issued by the Board and has adequate education and experience in, and understanding of,  
26   the project or portion of the project being coordinated.

27                  (2)    “Practice landscape architecture” includes:

28                          (i)    consultation, research, analysis, assessment, selection, and  
29   allocation of land and natural resources;

30                          (ii)    development of graphic, written, digital, and other appropriate  
31   criteria to govern the planning and design of land development and construction programs,  
32   including:

3. construction, observation, administration, and project  
6 management;

14 (iii) in conjunction with site plan preparation, the performance of the  
15 following:

## 16 1. determining a grade;

17 2. determining drainage; and

24 (J) "PROFESSIONAL LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT" MEANS A LANDSCAPE  
25 ARCHITECT WHO IS LICENSED BY THE BOARD TO PRACTICE LANDSCAPE  
26 ARCHITECTURE.

27 Subtitle 2. State Board of [Examiners of] **PROFESSIONAL** Landscape Architects.

28 9-201.

29 There is a State Board of [Examiners of] **PROFESSIONAL** Landscape Architects in  
30 the Department.

1 9-202.

2 (a) (1) The Board consists of **[5] FIVE** members.

3 (2) Of the **[5] FIVE** members of the Board:

4 (i) **[3] THREE** shall be **[licensed] PROFESSIONAL** landscape  
5 architects; and

6 (ii) **[2] TWO** shall be consumer members.

7 (3) The Governor shall appoint the members with the advice of the  
8 Secretary and the advice and consent of the Senate.

9 (b) **[Each] OF THE PROFESSIONAL** landscape architect **[member] MEMBERS:**

10 (1) **TWO MEMBERS** shall be **[a licensed] PROFESSIONAL** landscape  
11 **[architect] ARCHITECTS** who **[has] HAVE** practiced landscape architecture in the State for  
12 at least **10 YEARS, WITH 5 years OF EXPERIENCE AS RESPONSIBLE CHARGE; AND**

13 (2) **ONE MEMBER SHALL BE A PROFESSIONAL LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT**  
14 **WHO HAS PRACTICED LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE IN THE STATE FOR AT LEAST 5**  
15 **YEARS.**

16 9-206.

17 (a) In addition to any powers set forth elsewhere, the Board may adopt:

18 (1) any regulation to carry out this title; and

19 (2) a seal.

20 (b) In addition to any duties set forth elsewhere, the Board shall keep a record of  
21 its proceedings.

22 (c) (1) **[With the advice of the established landscape architect associations,**  
23 **the] THE** Board shall adopt, by regulation, a code of ethics for practicing landscape  
24 architecture.

25 (2) The Board shall distribute a copy of the code of ethics:

26 (i) to each applicant for a license; and

27 (ii) on each renewal of a license, to each licensee.

(3) In addition to complying with the publication requirements of Title 10, Subtitle 1 of the State Government Article, the Board shall distribute a copy of any amendment to the code of ethics to each licensee.

4 9-206.1.

5 (a) In this section, "code official" means a public official responsible for the review  
6 of building permit documents or the issuance of building permits.

7 (b) The Board shall:

8 (1) keep a list of the names and mailing addresses of all licensees;

9 (2) provide each code official with:

(I) a copy of the list annually; and

**(II) ACCESS TO THE LIST UPON REQUEST; AND**

(3) provide any other person who makes a request with a copy of the list at a reasonable fee set by the Board.

4 (d) The Board shall distribute:

5 (1) to each applicant for a license and each code official, a copy of the  
6 Maryland **PROFESSIONAL** Landscape Architects Act and the Board's [rules and]  
7 regulations;

(2) on each renewal of a license, to each licensee, a copy of any amendments to the Maryland **PROFESSIONAL** Landscape Architects Act and the Board's [rules and] regulations that took effect during the 2-year period ending on the date of renewal; and

(3) to each code official, a copy of any amendments to the Maryland  
PROFESSIONAL Landscape Architects Act and the Board's [rules and] regulations.

23 9-301.

24 (a) Except as otherwise provided in this title, an individual shall be licensed by  
25 the Board before the individual may practice landscape architecture in the State.

26 (b) This section does not apply to:

(1) an individual who practices landscape architecture while performing official duties as an employee of the federal government;

7 9-302.

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

10 (b) An applicant shall be at least 18 years old.

11 (c) An applicant shall meet the educational and experience requirements under  
12 § 9–303 of this subtitle.

13 (d) Except as otherwise provided in this subtitle, the applicant shall pass the  
14 examination [given] **REQUIRED** by the Board under this subtitle.

15 9-303.

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

(1) has [been] graduated from a college or school of landscape architecture that holds accredited status from the national Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board; and

23 (2) has at least 2 years of work experience in landscape architecture that  
24 is:

25 (i) under the responsible charge of a [licensed] PROFESSIONAL  
26 landscape architect or other [authorized individual] LICENSED DESIGN PROFESSIONAL;  
27 and

28 (ii) otherwise satisfactory to the Board.

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

30 (1) has [been] graduated on completion of at least a 4-year curriculum in  
31 a design-related discipline from a college or university that is accredited by, or is a

1 constituent unit of an institution accredited by, the [Middle States Association of Colleges  
2 and Schools] **COUNCIL FOR HIGHER EDUCATION ACCREDITATION** or the equivalent  
3 regional accrediting association of other regional areas; and

4 (2) has at least 4 years of work experience in landscape architecture that  
5 is:

6 (i) under the responsible charge of a [licensed] **PROFESSIONAL**  
7 landscape architect or other [authorized individual] **LICENSED DESIGN PROFESSIONAL**;  
8 and

9 (ii) otherwise satisfactory to the Board.

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

11 (1) has [been] graduated on completion of at least a 4-year curriculum in  
12 a nondesign-related discipline from a college or university that is accredited by, or is a  
13 constituent unit of an institution accredited by, the [Middle States Association of Colleges  
14 and Schools] **COUNCIL FOR HIGHER EDUCATION ACCREDITATION** or the equivalent  
15 regional accrediting association of other regional areas; and

16 (2) has at least 6 years of practical work experience in landscape  
17 architecture that is:

18 (i) under the responsible charge of a [licensed] **PROFESSIONAL**  
19 landscape architect or other [authorized individual] **LICENSED DESIGN PROFESSIONAL**;  
20 and

21 (ii) otherwise satisfactory to the Board.

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

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

24 (ii) has at least 8 years of practical work experience in landscape  
25 architecture that is:

26 1. under the responsible charge of a [licensed]  
27 **PROFESSIONAL** landscape architect or other [authorized individual] **LICENSED DESIGN**  
28 **PROFESSIONAL**; and

29 2. otherwise satisfactory to the Board.

30 (2) The Board may count each full year of study at a college or school of  
31 landscape architecture that meets the criteria set forth in subsection (b) of this section as  
32 one of the years of the work experience required under this subsection.

1 9-304.

2 An applicant for a license shall:

3 (1) submit to the Board an application on the form that the Board provides;  
4 and

5 (2) pay to the Board [or the Board's designee:

6 (i)] a nonrefundable application fee [set by the Board; and

7 (ii) an examination fee set by the Board in an amount not to exceed  
8 the cost of the required examination].

9 9-305.

10 (a) [Except as otherwise provided in § 9-305.1 of this subtitle, an] AN applicant  
11 who otherwise qualifies for a license is entitled to be examined as provided in this section.

12 (b) The Board **PERIODICALLY** shall [give written examinations] **OFFER THE**  
13 **EXAMINATIONS REQUIRED UNDER THIS SECTION** to qualified applicants at least once a  
14 year at the time and place that the Board determines.

15 (c) [The] **EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (D)(2)(I) OF THIS SECTION,**  
16 **THE** Board shall give each qualified applicant notice of the time and place of examination.

17 (D) (1) **THE BOARD MAY USE A TESTING SERVICE TO ADMINISTER THE**  
18 **EXAMINATIONS UNDER THIS SECTION.**

19 (2) **IF THE BOARD USES A TESTING SERVICE TO ADMINISTER**  
20 **EXAMINATIONS UNDER THIS SECTION, THE TESTING SERVICE, SUBJECT TO THE**  
21 **REQUIREMENTS SET BY THE BOARD, MAY:**

22 (I) **SET THE TIME AND PLACE OF EXAMINATIONS;**

23 (II) **SEND QUALIFIED APPLICANTS NOTICE OF THE TIME AND**  
24 **PLACE OF EXAMINATIONS; AND**

25 (III) **PROVIDE ANY OTHER INFORMATION THAT THE BOARD MAY**  
26 **REQUIRE THE TESTING SERVICE TO PROVIDE.**

27 (3) **IF NECESSARY TO DETERMINE THE COMPETENCY OF**  
28 **APPLICANTS, THE BOARD MAY USE A TESTING SERVICE TO ADMINISTER**  
29 **SUPPLEMENTAL EXAMINATIONS WITH ADDITIONAL SUBJECTS.**

1           **[(d) (1)] (E)**     The Board shall determine, by regulation, the subjects, scope,  
2 and form of and the passing score for examinations given under this title.

3           **[(2)]**     The Board shall structure the examination to test the competency of an  
4 applicant to plan, design, and supervise the installation of landscape projects.

5           **(3)**     The Board may supplement a written examination given under this  
6 section with an oral examination.]

7     [9–305.1.

8           (a)     The Board may use a testing service to administer the examinations given  
9 under this title.

10          (b)     If the Board uses a testing service under this subsection, the testing service,  
11 subject to the requirements set by the Board, may:

12           (1)     set the time and place of examinations;

13           (2)     give qualified applicants notice of the time and place of examinations;  
14 and

15           (3)     furnish any other information that the Board may require the testing  
16 service to provide.]

17     9–308.

18          (a)     While a license is in effect, it authorizes the licensee to practice landscape  
19 architecture.

20          (b)     A **licensed** **PROFESSIONAL** landscape architect is not authorized to practice  
21 architecture, engineering, or land surveying.

22     9–309.

23          [(a)     Unless a license is renewed for a 2–year term as provided in this section, the  
24 license expires on the first June 30 that comes:

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

26           (2)     in an even–numbered year.]

27          **(A) A LICENSE IS VALID FOR A 2–YEAR TERM FROM ISSUANCE OF THE**  
28 **LICENSE AS PROVIDED IN THIS SECTION.**

(f) (1) The Board shall adopt regulations[:]

2 (1)] to require a licensee to demonstrate continuing professional  
3 competency by completing at least 24 hours of professional development activities as a  
4 condition of renewal of a license under this section[; and

5 (2) in accordance with the following:

(i) the continuing professional competency requirement does not apply to the first renewal of a license;

10 (iii) if a license expires between October 1, 2015, and September 30,  
11 2016, a licensee is required to fulfill 50% of the continuing professional competency  
12 requirement as provided in regulations adopted by the Board under this subsection; and

13 (iv) if a license expires on or after October 1, 2016, a licensee is  
14 required to fulfill the full continuing professional competency requirement as provided in  
15 regulations adopted by the Board under this subsection].

19 9-309.1.

20 (A) THE BOARD MAY ISSUE AN EMERITUS STATUS LICENSE TO AN  
21 INDIVIDUAL WHO SUBMITS TO THE BOARD AN APPLICATION FOR EMERITUS STATUS  
22 ON THE FORM REQUIRED BY THE BOARD.

23 (B) THE BOARD MAY ISSUE AN EMERITUS STATUS LICENSE IF THE  
24 INDIVIDUAL:

25 (1) (i) IS CURRENTLY LICENSED BY THE BOARD TO PRACTICE  
26 LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE; OR

4 (4) PAYS TO THE BOARD A FEE SET BY THE BOARD.

**5 (C) THE HOLDER OF AN EMERITUS STATUS LICENSE UNDER THIS SECTION:**

6 (1) MAY USE THE DESIGNATION OF "LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT  
7 EMERITUS"; AND

(2) MAY NOT ENGAGE IN THE PRACTICE OF LANDSCAPE  
ARCHITECTURE.

10 (D) THE BOARD MAY REINSTATE THE LICENSE TO PRACTICE LANDSCAPE  
11 ARCHITECTURE OF THE HOLDER OF AN EMERITUS STATUS LICENSE IF THE  
12 INDIVIDUAL:

20 (4) PAYS TO THE BOARD A REINSTATEMENT FEE SET BY THE BOARD.

21 9-310.

25 (i) the [applicant or licensee] INDIVIDUAL AGAINST WHOM THE  
26 ACTION IS CONTEMPLATED fraudulently or deceptively obtains or attempts to obtain a  
27 license for the applicant or licensee or for another;

28 (ii) the [applicant or licensee] INDIVIDUAL AGAINST WHOM THE  
29 ACTION IS CONTEMPLATED fraudulently or deceptively uses a license;

4 1. a felony; or

7 (iv) the [applicant or licensee] INDIVIDUAL AGAINST WHOM THE  
8 ACTION IS CONTEMPLATED is guilty of gross negligence, incompetence, or misconduct  
9 while practicing landscape architecture;

14 (vi) the [applicant or licensee] INDIVIDUAL AGAINST WHOM THE  
15 ACTION IS CONTEMPLATED violates any regulation adopted by the Board; or

16 (vii) the [applicant or licensee] INDIVIDUAL AGAINST WHOM THE  
17 ACTION IS CONTEMPLATED violates any provision of this title.

22 (ii) To determine the amount of the penalty imposed under this  
23 subsection, the Board shall consider:

24 1. the seriousness of the violation;

25 2. the harm caused by the violation;

26 3. the good faith of the licensee; and

27 4. any history of previous violations by the licensee.

30 (b) The Board shall consider the following facts in the granting, denial, renewal,  
31 suspension, or revocation of a license or the reprimand of [a licensee] **AN INDIVIDUAL**

1 AGAINST WHOM THE ACTION IS CONTEMPLATED when an applicant or licensee is  
2 convicted of a felony or misdemeanor described in subsection (a)(1)(iii) of this section:

3 (1) the nature of the crime;  
4 (2) the relationship of the crime to the activities authorized by the license;  
5 (3) with respect to a felony, the relevance of the conviction to the fitness  
6 and qualification of the [applicant or licensee] INDIVIDUAL AGAINST WHOM THE ACTION  
7 IS CONTEMPLATED to practice landscape architecture;  
8 (4) the length of time since the conviction; and  
9 (5) the behavior and activities of the [applicant or licensee] INDIVIDUAL  
10 AGAINST WHOM THE ACTION IS CONTEMPLATED before and after the conviction.

11 9–311.

12 (b) (1) A complaint shall:  
13 (i) be in writing;  
14 (ii) state specifically the facts on which the complaint is based; and  
15 (iii) be submitted to [the Secretary of] the Board.

16 (2) If the complaint is made by any person other than a member of the  
17 Board, the complaint shall be made under oath by the person who submits the complaint.

18 9–314.

19 (b) (1) If an individual has failed to renew a license for any reason and then  
20 applies to the Board for reinstatement more than 2 years after the license has expired, the  
21 Board may:

22 (i) require the individual to reapply for a license in the same manner  
23 that an applicant applies for an original license under this subtitle; or  
24 (ii) subject to paragraph (2) of this subsection, reinstate the license.

25 (2) The Board may reinstate a license under paragraph (1)(ii) of this  
26 subsection, if the individual:

27 (i) meets the renewal requirements of § 9–309 of this subtitle,  
28 INCLUDING THE PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCY REQUIREMENTS THAT WOULD HAVE  
29 BEEN REQUIRED FOR RENEWAL OF THE LICENSE;

1 (ii) if required by the Board, states reasons why reinstatement  
2 should be granted; and

3 (iii) pays to the Board a reinstatement fee set by the Board.

4 9-402.

(iii) a limited liability company as a member, an employee, or an agent of the limited liability company.

15 (b) A [licensed] PROFESSIONAL landscape architect who practices landscape  
16 architecture through a corporation, partnership, or limited liability company under this  
17 subtitle is subject to all of the provisions of this title that relate to practicing landscape  
18 architecture.

19 9-403.

20        [a] Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, a] A corporation,  
21 partnership, or limited liability company shall hold a permit issued by the Board before the  
22 corporation, partnership, or limited liability company may operate a business through  
23 which landscape architecture is practiced.

24        [b] A corporation, partnership, or limited liability company may provide  
25 landscape architectural services for itself or for an affiliated corporation, partnership, or  
26 limited liability company without a permit issued by the Board.]

27 9-404.

28       (b) (1) A corporation, partnership, or limited liability company shall appoint  
29 at least one person in responsible charge of the landscape architectural services performed  
30 or offered to be performed through the corporation, partnership, or limited liability  
31 company.

(2) A person in responsible charge shall be:

7 (iii) a [licensed] PROFESSIONAL landscape architect in good  
8 standing **WHO IS LICENSED BY THE BOARD.**

12 9-407.

13           (a) Subject to subsection (b) of this section and while a permit is in effect, it  
14 authorizes the holder to:

15 (1) operate a business through which a [licensed] PROFESSIONAL  
16 landscape architect practices landscape architecture; and

17 (2) represent to the public that the business provides the services of a  
18 [licensed] PROFESSIONAL landscape architect.

19 (b) A permit authorizes the holder to provide a service that constitutes practicing  
20 landscape architecture only if the service is performed by an individual who is licensed or  
21 otherwise authorized to practice landscape architecture under this title.

22 9-408.

23        [(a) Unless a permit is renewed for a 2-year term as provided in this section, the  
24 permit expires on the first June 30 that comes:

25 (1) after the effective date of the permit; and

26 (2) in an even-numbered year.]

27 (A) A PERMIT IS VALID FOR A 2-YEAR TERM FROM ISSUANCE OF THE  
28 PERMIT AS PROVIDED IN THIS SECTION

29 9-410

4 (1) the [applicant or permit holder] INDIVIDUAL AGAINST WHOM THE  
5 ACTION IS CONTEMPLATED fraudulently or deceptively obtains or attempts to obtain a  
6 permit; or

(2) the [permit holder] INDIVIDUAL AGAINST WHOM THE ACTION IS  
CONTEMPLATED fraudulently or deceptively uses a permit.

(i) each violation for which a denial, reprimand, suspension, or revocation was imposed under subsection (a) of this section; and

15 (2) To determine the amount of the penalty imposed under this subsection,  
16 the Board shall consider:

17 (i) the seriousness of the violation;

18 (ii) the harm caused by the violation;

19 (iii) the good faith of the permit holder or the applicant; and

20 (iv) any history of previous violations by the [permit holder or the  
21 applicant] **INDIVIDUAL AGAINST WHOM THE ACTION IS CONTEMPLATED.**

22 (c) The Board shall pay any penalty collected under subsection (b) of this section  
23 into the General Fund of the State.

24 9-414.

25 (a) Subject to the provisions of this section **AND REGULATIONS ADOPTED BY**  
26 **THE BOARD**, the Board may reinstate:

27 (1) a permit that has been revoked; or

28 (2) before fulfillment of the conditions of the suspension, a permit that has  
29 been suspended.

30 9-501.

1        Before a [licensed] PROFESSIONAL landscape architect issues to a client or submits  
2 to a public authority any final drawing, plan, specification, report, or other document, the  
3 [licensed] PROFESSIONAL landscape architect who prepared or approved the document  
4 shall sign, seal, and date the document.

5 9-602.

6        Except for a [licensed] PROFESSIONAL landscape architect who operates a business  
7 as a sole practitioner, a person may not operate a business through which landscape  
8 architecture is practiced unless:

13 9-603.

14        Unless authorized under this title to practice landscape architecture, a person may  
15 not represent to the public, by use of a title, including "landscape architect",  
16 "**PROFESSIONAL LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT**", or "licensed landscape architect", by  
17 description of services, methods, or procedures, or otherwise, that the person is authorized  
18 to practice landscape architecture in the State.

19 9-604.

20       (a) Subject to subsection (b) of this section and unless a person holds a permit  
21 issued by the Board, the person may not represent to the public, by the use of a title,  
22 including "landscape architects", "**PROFESSIONAL LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS**", "licensed  
23 landscape architects", or "registered landscape architects", by the use of the term  
24 "landscape architecture", by description of services, methods, or procedures, or otherwise,  
25 that the person holds a permit or otherwise is authorized to operate a business through  
26 which landscape architecture is practiced in the State.

27 (b) Subsection (a) of this section does not apply to a [licensed] PROFESSIONAL  
28 landscape architect who operates the business as a sole practitioner.

29 9-701

30 This title may be cited as the "Maryland **PROFESSIONAL** Landscape Architects Act".

## Article – Business Regulation

32 2-106 1

(3) the State Board of [Examiners of] **PROFESSIONAL** Landscape Architects established under Title 9 of the Business Occupations and Professions Article;

5 2-108.

6 (a) The following units are in the Department:

(17) the State Board of [Examiners of] **PROFESSIONAL** Landscape Architects.

## Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings

10 3-2C-01.

11 (c) "Licensed professional" means:

12 (3) A **PROFESSIONAL** landscape architect licensed under Title 9 of the  
13 Business Occupations and Professions Article;

## Article – Environment

15 4-308.

16       (a) Anne Arundel County or the City of Annapolis may issue a grading or building  
17 permit within the Severn River Watershed only after the developer submits a plan of  
18 development approved by the soil conservation district. If the development plan contains  
19 any septic or private sewer facility, the Department of the Environment shall approve it  
20 only if the facility will not contribute in any way to pollution of the Severn River. The  
21 developer shall submit a certificate from a professional engineer, a professional land  
22 surveyor, or a [licensed] **PROFESSIONAL** landscape architect stating that the developer's  
23 plan to control silt and erosion is adequate to contain the silt and erosion on the property  
24 covered by the plan. Also, the developer shall submit another certificate stating that any  
25 construction or development will be done according to the plan. A subdivision developer  
26 shall obtain approval of the plan at the time of approving and recording of the subdivision  
27 plat. In addition to any other penalty provided in this subtitle, if a developer violates his  
28 certificate, then every permit issued pursuant to the certificate is void.

## Article – Natural Resources

30 5-1604.

1 this subtitle, whichever occurs first, a person making application for subdivision or grading  
2 or sediment control permits on areas greater than 40,000 square feet shall submit a forest  
3 stand delineation for the entire site prepared by a licensed forester, [licensed]  
4 **PROFESSIONAL** landscape architect, or other qualified professionals that may be approved  
5 by the State or a local authority in the manner required by the approved program.

6 5–1605.

7 (b) The forest conservation plan shall be developed by a licensed forester,  
8 [licensed] **PROFESSIONAL** landscape architect, or other qualified professionals that may  
9 be approved by the State or a local authority.

10 **Article – Public Utilities**

11 12–101.

12 (a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.

13 (i) “Designer” means a licensed architect, professional engineer, professional  
14 land surveyor, or [licensed] **PROFESSIONAL** landscape architect, as those terms are  
15 defined in the Business Occupations and Professions Article, who prepares a drawing for a  
16 project that may require excavation or demolition.

17 **Article – State Government**

18 8–403.

19 This subtitle applies only to the following governmental activities and units:

20 (34) Landscape Architects, State Board of [Examiners of] **PROFESSIONAL**  
21 (§ 9–201 of the Business Occupations and Professions Article);

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