

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT
House Bill No. 222 By Representative Tim Burns

May 28, 2013

To the Honorable Speaker and Members of the House of Representatives and the Honorable President and Members of the Senate.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We, the conferees appointed to confer over the disagreement between the two houses concerning House Bill No. 222 by Representative Tim Burns, recommend the following concerning the Engrossed bill:

1. That the set of Senate Committee Amendments proposed by the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and International Affairs and adopted by the Senate on May 13, 2013 be rejected.

Respectfully submitted,

Representative Timothy G. Burns

Senator Daniel "Danny" Martiny

Representative Erich E. Ponti

Senator Edwin R. Murray

Representative Julie Stokes

Senator Barrow Peacock

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT DIGEST

House Bill No. 222 by Representative Tim Burns

Keyword and oneliner of the instrument as it left the House

ACCOUNTANTS/CPA: Provides relative to qualifications for and enforcement of certificates of certified public accountants

Report rejects Senate amendments which would have:

1. Allowed any person adversely affected by any order of the board who prevails on judicial review to recover reasonable costs, attorney fees and other expenses incurred as a result of administrative investigation, adjudication and judicial review.

Digest of the bill as proposed by the Conference Committee

Present law requires applicants for initial certification as a certified public accountant to show at least one year of experience which shall be obtained during the four-year period preceding the application and must be supervised and verified by a licensee.

Proposed law retains present law except deletes the requirement that the experience be supervised by a licensee thereby requiring only verification.

Present law allows the State Board of Certified Public Accountants to enforce the provisions regulating certified public accountants and allows the board to revoke or suspend certificates to practice for various reasons. Further allows the board additional remedies for enforcement such as requiring the licensee to pay the costs of any proceedings involving the imposition of a remedy.

Proposed law retains present law and clarifies that the board may require the licensee to pay all costs of board proceedings, including investigation fees, stenographer fees, and attorney fees involved in the imposition of a remedy.

(Amends R.S. 37:75(G) and 79(B)(3))