

2015 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 156

BY SENATOR MARTINY

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

ENGINEERS. Provides for the qualifications of professional engineers. (8/1/15)

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AN ACT

To enact R.S. 37:695.1, relative to engineers; to provide for powers and duties of the Louisiana Professional Engineering and Land Surveying Board; to provide for qualifications; to provide for waivers of certain requirements; to provide certain procedures and conditions; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 37:695.1 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§695.1. Waiver of the fundamentals of engineering exam

A. On and after January 1, 2016, an applicant shall not be required to take the examination in the fundamental engineering subjects if he meets all of the following requirements:

(1) Holds an engineering degree. The board shall by rule set forth the types of approved or recognized engineering degrees, including baccalaureate and graduate degrees.

(2) Possesses qualifying engineering work experience. The board shall by rule set forth the type and minimum number of years of qualifying engineering work experience and, based upon the level of engineering degree

1 held by the applicant, the requisite work experience required under this
 2 Paragraph.

3 (3) Has successfully completed the principles and practice of engineering
 4 examination.

5 (4) Holds an active license to engage in the practice of engineering issued
 6 to him by proper authority of another state, territory, or possession of the
 7 United States, or the District of Columbia, or within the past five years from the
 8 date of application has held an active license to engage in the practice of
 9 engineering issued to him by proper authority of another state, territory, or
 10 possession of the United States, or the District of Columbia. The board shall by
 11 rule set forth the minimum number of years of engineering licensure in the
 12 other jurisdiction.

13 (5) Has no history of disciplinary action and no disciplinary proceeding
 14 pending against him by an engineering licensing authority of another state,
 15 territory, or possession of the United States, or the District of Columbia.

16 B. The board shall adopt rules in accordance with the Administrative
 17 Procedure Act to implement the provisions of this Section by January 1, 2016.

The original instrument was prepared by Michelle D. Ridge. The following digest, which does not constitute a part of the legislative instrument, was prepared by Cathy R. Wells.

DIGEST

SB 156 Reengrossed

2015 Regular Session

Martiny

Present law provides for qualifications of professional engineers in La.

Proposed law provides that on and after January 1, 2016, an applicant shall not be required to take the examination in the fundamental engineering subjects if he meets all of the following requirements:

- (1) Holds an engineering degree. The board shall by rule set forth the types of approved or recognized engineering degrees, including baccalaureate and graduate degrees.
- (2) Possesses qualifying engineering work experience. The board shall by rule set forth the type and minimum number of years of qualifying engineering work experience and, based upon the level of engineering degree held by the applicant, the requisite work experience required under this Paragraph.
- (3) Has successfully completed the principles and practice of engineering examination.

- (4) Holds an active license to engage in the practice of engineering issued to him by proper authority of another state, territory, or possession of the United States, or the District of Columbia, or within the past five years from the date of application has held an active license to engage in the practice of engineering issued to him by proper authority of another state, territory, or possession of the United States, or the District of Columbia. The board shall by rule set forth the minimum number of years of engineering licensure in the other jurisdiction.
- (5) Has no history of disciplinary action and no disciplinary proceeding pending against him by an engineering licensing authority of another state, territory, or possession of the United States, or the District of Columbia.

Proposed law provides that the board shall adopt rules in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act to implement the provisions of proposed law by January 1, 2016.

Effective August 1, 2015.

(Adds R.S. 37:695.1)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and International Affairs to the original bill

1. Exempts an applicant for an engineering license from taking the fundamental engineering examination if he meets the following requirements:
 - (a) Holds an engineering degree.
 - (b) Possesses qualifying engineering work experience.
 - (c) Has passed the principles and practice of engineering examination.
 - (d) Holds an active engineering license or has held an active engineering license.
 - (e) Has no history of disciplinary action and no disciplinary proceeding pending against him by another engineering licensing authority.

Senate Floor Amendments to engrossed bill

1. Changes effective date of exemption for certain applicants from taking the fundamental engineering examination from December 1, 2015 to January 1, 2016.
2. Clarifies types of degrees.
3. Changes effective date of requirement for board to adopt rules to implement provisions of proposed law from December 1, 2015, to January 1, 2016.