

1 SB388  
2 117446-3  
3 By Senator Orr  
4 RFD: Governmental Affairs  
5 First Read: 09-FEB-10

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4 ENGROSSED

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7 A BILL  
8 TO BE ENTITLED  
9 AN ACT

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11 To amend Section 34-11-4, Code of Alabama 1975,  
12 relating to the requirements for licensure for engineers and  
13 land surveyors; to provide further for the graduation and  
14 experience qualifications for licensure as a professional  
15 engineer.

16 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

17 Section 1. Section 34-11-4 of the Code of Alabama  
18 1975, is amended to read as follows:

19 "§34-11-4.

20 "The board may approve engineering, land surveying,  
21 and related science programs which shall be accepted under the  
22 following criteria:

23 "(1) PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER. The following shall be  
24 considered as minimum evidence satisfactory to the board that  
25 the applicant is qualified for licensure as a professional  
26 engineer:

27 "a. Graduation and experience plus examination.

1           "1. Graduation in an approved engineering curriculum  
2 plus four years experience. A graduate of an approved  
3 engineering curriculum of four years or more from a school or  
4 college approved by the board who has successfully passed the  
5 eight-hour written examination in the fundamental engineering  
6 subjects and who has a specific record of an additional four  
7 years or more of progressive experience in engineering work of  
8 a grade and character satisfactory to the board shall be  
9 admitted to an eight-hour written examination in the  
10 principles and practice of engineering. Upon passing this  
11 examination, the applicant shall be granted a certificate of  
12 licensure to practice engineering in this state, provided the  
13 applicant is otherwise qualified.

14           "2. Graduation in an unapproved engineering  
15 curriculum plus six years experience. A graduate of an  
16 unapproved engineering curriculum of four years or more who  
17 has successfully passed the eight-hour written examination in  
18 the fundamental engineering subjects and who has a specific  
19 record of an additional six years or more of progressive  
20 experience in engineering work of a grade and character  
21 satisfactory to the board shall be admitted to an eight-hour  
22 written examination in the principles and practice of  
23 engineering. Upon passing this examination, the applicant  
24 shall be granted a certificate of licensure to practice  
25 engineering in this state, provided the applicant is otherwise  
26 qualified.

1           "3. Before December 31, 2015, an applicant who is a  
2 graduate of an approved bachelor's engineering curriculum with  
3 a doctorate in engineering plus four years' experience. A  
4 graduate of an approved bachelor's engineering curriculum and  
5 of an engineering doctorate program and who has a specific  
6 record of four years or more of progressive experience in  
7 engineering work of a grade and character satisfactory to the  
8 board shall be admitted to an eight-hour written examination  
9 in the principles and practice of engineering. Upon passing  
10 this examination, the applicant shall be granted a certificate  
11 of licensure to practice engineering in this state, provided  
12 the applicant is otherwise qualified.

13           "b. Comity. The board may, upon application, issue a  
14 certificate of licensure as a professional engineer to any  
15 person who holds a valid professional engineering certificate  
16 issued by any jurisdiction of the United States or of any  
17 country; provided, that the education, experience, and  
18 examination qualifications of the applicant are, in the  
19 judgment of the board, of a standard not lower than that  
20 specified in the applicable licensure act in effect in Alabama  
21 at the time such certificate was issued. The board may  
22 authorize an applicant to practice engineering on a temporary  
23 basis upon issuance of an interim permit which shall remain in  
24 effect until the board acts upon the application. The interim  
25 permit may be issued upon submission of documentation and a  
26 fee which shall be established by the board, not to exceed  
27 fifty dollars (\$50).

1           "(2) ENGINEER INTERN. The following shall be  
2 considered as minimum evidence satisfactory to the board that  
3 the applicant is qualified for certification as an engineer  
4 intern:

5           "a. Graduation and examination. A graduate of an  
6 approved engineering curriculum of four years or more from a  
7 school or college approved by the board who has successfully  
8 passed an eight-hour written examination in the fundamental  
9 engineering subjects shall be certified as an engineer intern,  
10 if otherwise qualified.

11           "b. Graduation and examination plus experience.  
12 Graduation in an unapproved engineering curriculum plus two  
13 years experience. A graduate of an unapproved engineering  
14 curriculum of four years or more who has successfully passed  
15 an eight-hour written examination in the fundamental  
16 engineering subjects and who has a specific record of two  
17 years or more of progressive experience in engineering work of  
18 a grade and character satisfactory to the board shall be  
19 certified as an engineer intern, if otherwise qualified.

20           "c. Comity. The education, experience, and  
21 examination qualifications of the applicant are, in the  
22 judgment of the board, of a standard not lower than that  
23 specified in the applicable licensure act in effect in Alabama  
24 at the time such certificate was issued. Fundamentals of  
25 engineering examinations of comparable character taken and  
26 passed in another jurisdiction may be accepted by the board.

1           "(3) PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYOR. The following shall  
2 be considered as minimum evidence satisfactory to the board  
3 that the applicant is qualified for licensure as a  
4 professional land surveyor.

5           "a. Graduation and experience plus examination.

6           "1. Graduation in an approved land surveying  
7 curriculum plus four years experience. A graduate of an  
8 approved land surveying curriculum of four years or more  
9 including a minimum of 30 semester hours or 45 quarter hours  
10 of surveying courses from a school or college approved by the  
11 board who has successfully passed an eight-hour written  
12 examination in the fundamental land surveying subjects and who  
13 has a specific record of an additional four years or more of  
14 combined office and field experience in land surveying work of  
15 a grade and character satisfactory to the board shall be  
16 admitted to a six-hour written examination in the principles  
17 and practice of land surveying and a two-hour written  
18 examination on laws, procedures, and practices pertaining to  
19 land surveying in Alabama. Upon passing these examinations,  
20 the applicant shall be granted a certificate of licensure to  
21 practice land surveying, provided the applicant is otherwise  
22 qualified.

23           "2. Graduation in an approved curriculum related to  
24 surveying plus six years experience. A graduate of a  
25 curriculum related to surveying of four years or more  
26 including a minimum of 15 semester hours or 22.5 quarter hours  
27 of surveying courses from a school or college approved by the

1 board and who has successfully passed the eight-hour written  
2 examination in the fundamental land surveying subjects and who  
3 has a specific record of an additional six years or more of  
4 progressive office and field experience in land surveying work  
5 of a grade and character satisfactory to the board shall be  
6 admitted to a six-hour examination in the principles and  
7 practice of land surveying and a two-hour written examination  
8 of laws, procedures, and practices pertaining to land  
9 surveying in Alabama. Upon passing these examinations, the  
10 applicant shall be granted a certificate of licensure to  
11 practice land surveying in this state, provided the applicant  
12 is otherwise qualified.

13 "3. Graduation in a related science curriculum plus  
14 eight years experience. A graduate of a related science  
15 curriculum of four years or more from a school or college  
16 approved by the board who has successfully passed the  
17 eight-hour written examination in the fundamental land  
18 surveying subjects and who has a specific record of an  
19 additional eight years or more of progressive combined office  
20 and field experience in land surveying work of a grade and  
21 character satisfactory to the board shall be admitted to a  
22 six-hour examination in the principles and practice of land  
23 surveying and a two-hour written examination of laws,  
24 procedures, and practices pertaining to land surveying in  
25 Alabama. Upon passing these examinations, the applicant shall  
26 be granted a certificate of licensure to practice land

1 surveying in this state, provided the applicant is otherwise  
2 qualified.

3 "b. Experience plus examination. Before December 31,  
4 2007, an applicant who has a specific record of eight years or  
5 more of combined office and field experience in land surveying  
6 work of a grade and character satisfactory to the board shall  
7 be admitted to an eight-hour written examination in the  
8 fundamentals of land surveying, and after passing the  
9 fundamentals examination shall be admitted to a six-hour  
10 written examination in the principles and practice of land  
11 surveying and a two-hour written examination on laws,  
12 procedures, and practices pertaining to land surveying in  
13 Alabama. Upon passing these examinations, the applicant shall  
14 be granted a certificate of licensure to practice land  
15 surveying in this state, provided the applicant is otherwise  
16 qualified.

17 "c. Comity. The board may, upon application, grant  
18 to any person who holds a valid professional land surveying  
19 certificate issued by any jurisdiction of the United States or  
20 of any country, admission into a two-hour written examination  
21 of laws, procedures, and practices pertaining to land  
22 surveying in Alabama, provided that the education, experience,  
23 and examination qualifications of the applicant are, in the  
24 judgment of the board, of a standard not lower than that  
25 specified in the applicable licensure act in effect in Alabama  
26 at the time such certificate was issued. Upon passing the  
27 examination, the applicant shall be granted a certificate of



1 licensure to practice land surveying in this state, provided  
2 the applicant is otherwise qualified.

3 "(4) LAND SURVEYOR INTERN. The following shall be  
4 considered as minimum evidence satisfactory to the board that  
5 the applicant is qualified for certification as a land  
6 surveyor intern:

7 "a. Graduation plus examination. Graduation in an  
8 approved land surveying curriculum. A graduate of a land  
9 surveying curriculum of four years or more including a minimum  
10 of 30 semester hours or 45 quarter hours of surveying courses  
11 from a school or college approved by the board who has  
12 successfully passed an eight-hour written examination in the  
13 fundamentals of land surveying shall be certified as a land  
14 surveyor intern, if otherwise qualified.

15 "b. Graduation and examination plus experience.

16 "1. Graduation in an approved curriculum related to  
17 surveying plus two years experience. A graduate of a  
18 curriculum related to surveying of four years or more  
19 including a minimum of 15 semester hours or 22.5 quarter hours  
20 of surveying courses from a school or college approved by the  
21 board who has successfully passed an eight-hour written  
22 examination in the fundamentals of land surveying and who has  
23 a specific record of an additional two years or more of  
24 combined office and field experience in land surveying work of  
25 a grade and character satisfactory to the board shall be  
26 certified as a land surveyor intern, if otherwise qualified.

1           "2. Graduation in a related science curriculum plus  
2 four years experience. A graduate of a related science  
3 curriculum of four years or more who has successfully passed  
4 an eight-hour written examination in the fundamentals of land  
5 surveying and who has a specific record of an additional four  
6 years or more of combined office and field experience in land  
7 surveying work of a grade and character satisfactory to the  
8 board shall be certified as a land surveyor intern, if  
9 otherwise qualified.

10           "c. Comity. The education, experience, and  
11 examination qualifications of the applicant are, in the  
12 judgment of the board, of a standard not lower than that  
13 specified in the applicable licensure act in effect in Alabama  
14 at the time such certificate was issued. The board may accept  
15 fundamentals of land surveying examinations of comparable  
16 character taken and passed in another jurisdiction.

17           "(5) CHARACTER. No person shall be eligible for  
18 licensure as a professional engineer, certification as an  
19 engineer intern, licensure as a professional land surveyor, or  
20 certification as a land surveyor intern who is not of good  
21 character and reputation.

22           "(6) TEACHING CREDITS. In considering the  
23 qualifications of applicants, teaching in an engineering  
24 curriculum approved by the board may be considered as  
25 engineering experience. Teaching land surveying subjects in a  
26 land surveying curriculum approved by the board may be  
27 considered as land surveying experience.

1           "(7) GRADUATE STUDY. In counting years of experience  
2 for professional engineer licensure, the board may give  
3 credit, not in excess of one year, for successful completion  
4 of graduate study leading to a master's degree in engineering.  
5 If a Ph.D. in engineering is completed, a total of two year's  
6 experience may be credited. The two-year credit shall include  
7 one year for the master's degree. If the Ph.D. is obtained  
8 without the master's degree, the credit for experience shall  
9 be two years. In counting years of experience for professional  
10 land surveyor licensure, the board may give credit, not in  
11 excess of one year, for successful completion of graduate  
12 study leading to a master's degree in land surveying. If a  
13 Ph.D. in land surveying is completed, a total of two years'  
14 experience may be credited. The credit of two years shall  
15 include one year for the master's degree. If the Ph.D. is  
16 obtained without the master's degree, the credit for  
17 experience shall be two years.

18           "(8) NONPRACTICING APPLICANTS. Any person having the  
19 necessary qualifications prescribed in this chapter to entitle  
20 the applicant to licensure shall be eligible for licensure  
21 although the applicant may not be practicing engineering or  
22 land surveying at the time of making application.

23           "(9) RECOGNITION OF PREVIOUSLY TAKEN EXAMINATIONS.  
24 The board may accept fundamentals and principles and practice  
25 examinations of comparable character taken and passed in  
26 another jurisdiction."

1                   Section 2. This act shall become effective  
2 immediately following its passage and approval by the  
3 Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.

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Senate

Read for the first time and referred to the Senate  
committee on Governmental Affairs ..... 09-FEB-10

Read for the second time and placed on the calen-  
dar 1 amendment ..... 23-FEB-10

Read for the third time and passed as amended ... 14-APR-10

Yeas 28  
Nays 0

McDowell Lee  
Secretary