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**SENATE BILL 5548**

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**State of Washington**

**54th Legislature**

**1995 Regular Session**

**By** Senators Fraser, Heavey, Hale, Newhouse, Deccio and Haugen

Read first time 01/26/95. Referred to Committee on Labor, Commerce & Trade.

1 AN ACT Relating to engineers and professional land surveyors;  
2 amending RCW 18.43.020, 18.43.040, 18.43.050, and 18.43.070; and  
3 providing an effective date.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 18.43.020 and 1991 c 19 s 1 are each amended to read  
6 as follows:

7 Engineer: The term "engineer" as used in this chapter shall mean  
8 a professional engineer as hereinafter defined.

9 Professional engineer: The term "professional engineer" within the  
10 meaning and intent of this chapter, shall mean a person who, by reason  
11 of his or her special knowledge of the mathematical and physical  
12 sciences and the principles and methods of engineering analysis and  
13 design, acquired by professional education and practical experience, is  
14 qualified to practice engineering as hereinafter defined, as attested  
15 by his or her legal registration as a professional engineer.

16 Engineer-in-training: The term "engineer-in-training" as used in  
17 this chapter (~~shall~~) means a candidate (~~for registration as a~~  
18 ~~professional engineer who is a graduate in an approved engineering~~  
19 ~~curriculum of four years or more from a school or college approved by~~

1 ~~the board as of satisfactory standing, or who has had four years or~~  
2 ~~more of experience in engineering work of a character satisfactory to~~  
3 ~~the board; and who, in addition, has))~~ who has: (1) Satisfied the  
4 experience requirements in RCW 18.43.040 for registration, (2)  
5 successfully passed the examination in the fundamental engineering  
6 subjects ((prior to completion of the requisite years of experience in  
7 engineering work as provided in RCW 18.43.060, and who shall have  
8 received a certificate stating that he or she has successfully passed  
9 this portion of the professional examination)), and (3) is enrolled by  
10 the board as an engineer-in-training.

11       Engineering: The term "engineering" as used in this chapter shall  
12 mean the "practice of engineering" as hereinafter defined.

13       Practice of engineering: The term "practice of engineering" within  
14 the meaning and intent of this chapter shall mean any professional  
15 service or creative work requiring engineering education, training, and  
16 experience and the application of special knowledge of the  
17 mathematical, physical, and engineering sciences to such professional  
18 services or creative work as consultation, investigation, evaluation,  
19 planning, design and supervision of construction for the purpose of  
20 assuring compliance with specifications and design, in connection with  
21 any public or private utilities, structures, buildings, machines,  
22 equipment, processes, works, or projects.

23       A person shall be construed to practice or offer to practice  
24 engineering, within the meaning and intent of this chapter, who  
25 practices any branch of the profession of engineering; or who, by  
26 verbal claim, sign, advertisement, letterhead, card, or in any other  
27 way represents himself or herself to be a professional engineer, or  
28 through the use of some other title implies that he or she is a  
29 professional engineer; or who holds himself or herself out as able to  
30 perform, or who does perform, any engineering service or work or any  
31 other professional service designated by the practitioner or recognized  
32 by educational authorities as engineering.

33       The practice of engineering shall not include the work ordinarily  
34 performed by persons who operate or maintain machinery or equipment.

35       Land surveyor: The term "land surveyor" as used in this chapter  
36 shall mean a ((~~person who, through technical knowledge and skill gained~~  
37 ~~by education and/or by experience, is qualified to practice land~~  
38 ~~surveying as hereinafter defined)) professional land surveyor.~~

1        Professional land surveyor: The term "professional land surveyor"  
2 as used in this chapter means a person who, by reason of his or her  
3 special knowledge of the mathematical and physical sciences and  
4 principles and practices of land surveying, which is acquired by  
5 professional education and practical experience, is qualified to  
6 practice land surveying and as attested to by his or her legal  
7 registration as a professional land surveyor.

8        Land-surveyor-in-training: The term "land-surveyor-in-training" as  
9 used in this chapter means a candidate who: (1) Has satisfied the  
10 experience requirements in RCW 18.43.040 for registration, (2)  
11 successfully passes the examination in the fundamental land surveying  
12 subjects, and (3) is enrolled by the board as a land-surveyor-in-  
13 training.

14        Practice of land surveying: The term "practice of land surveying"  
15 within the meaning and intent of this chapter, shall mean assuming  
16 responsible charge of the surveying of land for the establishment of  
17 corners, lines, boundaries, and monuments, the laying out and  
18 subdivision of land, the defining and locating of corners, lines,  
19 boundaries and monuments of land after they have been established, the  
20 survey of land areas for the purpose of determining the topography  
21 thereof, the making of topographical delineations and the preparing of  
22 maps and accurate records thereof, when the proper performance of such  
23 services requires technical knowledge and skill.

24        Board: The term "board" as used in this chapter shall mean the  
25 state board of registration for professional engineers and land  
26 surveyors, provided for by this chapter.

27        **Sec. 2.** RCW 18.43.040 and 1991 c 19 s 2 are each amended to read  
28 as follows:

29        The following will be considered as minimum evidence satisfactory  
30 to the board that the applicant is qualified for registration as a  
31 professional engineer, engineer-in-training, ~~((or))~~ professional land  
32 surveyor, or land-surveyor-in-training, respectively~~((, to wit))~~:

33        As a professional engineer: A specific record of eight years or  
34 more of experience in engineering work of a character satisfactory to  
35 the board and indicating that the applicant is competent to practice  
36 engineering; and successfully passing a written or oral examination, or  
37 both, in engineering as prescribed by the board.

1 Graduation in an approved engineering curriculum of four years or  
2 more from a school or college approved by the board as of satisfactory  
3 standing shall be considered equivalent to four years of such required  
4 experience. The satisfactory completion of each year of such an  
5 approved engineering course without graduation shall be considered as  
6 equivalent to a year of such required experience. Graduation in a  
7 curriculum other than engineering from a school or college approved by  
8 the board shall be considered as equivalent to two years of such  
9 required experience: PROVIDED, That no applicant shall receive credit  
10 for more than four years of experience because of undergraduate  
11 educational qualifications. The board may, at its discretion, give  
12 credit as experience not in excess of one year, for satisfactory  
13 postgraduate study in engineering.

14 As an engineer-in-training: ~~((The board shall permit))~~ An  
15 applicant for registration as a professional engineer(~~(, upon his or~~  
16 ~~her request, to))~~ shall take the prescribed examination in two stages.  
17 The first stage of the examination may be taken upon submission of his  
18 or her application for registration as an engineer-in-training and  
19 payment of the application fee ~~((herein))~~ prescribed~~((,))~~ in RCW  
20 18.43.050 at any time after the applicant has completed four years of  
21 the required engineering experience, as defined ~~((above))~~ in this  
22 section, or has achieved senior standing in a school or college  
23 approved by the board. The first stage of the examination shall test  
24 the applicant's knowledge of appropriate fundamentals of engineering  
25 subjects, including mathematics and the basic sciences.

26 At any time after the completion of the required eight years of  
27 engineering experience, as defined ~~((above))~~ in this section, the  
28 applicant may take the second stage of the examination~~((,))~~ upon  
29 submission of an application for registration and payment of the  
30 application fee ~~((herein))~~ prescribed in RCW 18.43.050. This stage of  
31 the examination shall test the applicant's ability, upon the basis of  
32 his or her greater experience, to apply his or her knowledge and  
33 experience in the field of his or her specific training and  
34 qualifications.

35 As a professional land surveyor: A specific record of ~~((six))~~  
36 eight years or more of experience in land surveying work of a character  
37 satisfactory to the board and indicating that the applicant is  
38 competent to practice land surveying, and successfully passing a

1 written or oral examination, or both, in surveying as prescribed by the  
2 board.

3 Graduation from a school or college approved by the board as of  
4 satisfactory standing, including the completion of an approved course  
5 in surveying, shall be considered equivalent to four years of ((such))  
6 the required experience. Postgraduate college courses approved by the  
7 board shall be considered for up to one additional year of the required  
8 experience.

9 As a land-surveyor-in-training: An applicant for registration as  
10 a professional land surveyor shall take the prescribed examination in  
11 two stages. The first stage of the examination may be taken upon  
12 submission of his or her application for registration as a land-  
13 surveyor-in-training and payment of the application fee prescribed in  
14 RCW 18.43.050 at any time after the applicant has completed four years  
15 of the required land surveying experience, as defined in this section,  
16 or has achieved senior standing in a school or college approved by the  
17 board. The first stage of the examination shall test the applicant's  
18 knowledge of appropriate fundamentals of land surveying subjects,  
19 including mathematics and the basic sciences.

20 At any time after the completion of the required eight years of  
21 land surveying experience, as defined in this section, the applicant  
22 may take the second stage of the examination upon submission of an  
23 application for registration and payment of the application fee  
24 prescribed in RCW 18.43.050. This stage of the examination shall test  
25 the applicant's ability, upon the basis of greater experience, to apply  
26 knowledge and experience in the field of land surveying.

27 The first stage shall be successfully completed before the second  
28 stage may be attempted. Applicants who have been approved by the board  
29 to take the examination based on the requirement for six years of  
30 experience under this section before the effective date of this act are  
31 eligible to sit for the examination.

32 No person shall be eligible for registration as a professional  
33 engineer, engineer-in-training, ((or)) professional land surveyor, or  
34 land-surveyor-in-training, who is not of good character and reputation.

35 ((Engineering)) Teaching, of a character satisfactory to the  
36 board((7)) shall be considered as experience not in excess of two years  
37 for ((professional engineering and one year for land surveying)) the  
38 appropriate profession.

1 The mere execution, as a contractor, of work designed by a  
2 professional engineer, or the supervision of the construction of such  
3 work as a foreman or superintendent shall not be deemed to be practice  
4 of engineering.

5 Any person having the necessary qualifications prescribed in this  
6 chapter to entitle him or her to registration shall be eligible for  
7 such registration although the person may not be practicing his or her  
8 profession at the time of making his or her application.

9 **Sec. 3.** RCW 18.43.050 and 1991 c 19 s 3 are each amended to read  
10 as follows:

11 Application for registration shall be on forms prescribed by the  
12 board and furnished by the director, shall contain statements made  
13 under oath, showing the applicant's education and detail summary of his  
14 or her technical work and shall contain not less than five references,  
15 of whom three or more shall be engineers having personal knowledge of  
16 the applicant's engineering experience.

17 The registration fee for professional engineers shall be determined  
18 by the director as provided in RCW 43.24.086, which shall accompany the  
19 application and shall include the cost of examination and issuance of  
20 certificate. The fee for engineer-in-training shall be determined by  
21 the director as provided in RCW 43.24.086, which shall accompany the  
22 application and shall include the cost of examination and issuance of  
23 certificate.

24 The registration fee for professional land surveyors shall be  
25 determined by the director as provided in RCW 43.24.086, which shall  
26 accompany the application and shall include the cost of examination and  
27 issuance of certificate. The fee for land-surveyor-in-training shall  
28 be determined by the director as provided in RCW 43.24.086, which shall  
29 accompany the application and shall include the cost of examination and  
30 issuance of certificate.

31 Should the board find an applicant ineligible for registration, the  
32 registration fee shall be retained as an application fee.

33 **Sec. 4.** RCW 18.43.070 and 1991 c 19 s 5 are each amended to read  
34 as follows:

35 The director of licensing shall issue a certificate of registration  
36 upon payment of a registration fee as provided for in this chapter, to  
37 any applicant who, in the opinion of the board, has satisfactorily met

1 all the requirements of this chapter. In case of a registered  
2 engineer, the certificate shall authorize the practice of "professional  
3 engineering" and specify the branch or branches in which specialized,  
4 and in case of a registered land surveyor, the certificate shall  
5 authorize the practice of "land surveying".

6 In case of engineer-in-training, the certificate shall state that  
7 the applicant has successfully passed the examination in fundamental  
8 engineering subjects required by the board and has been enrolled as an  
9 "engineer-in-training". In case of land-surveyor-in-training, the  
10 certificate shall state that the applicant has successfully passed the  
11 examination in fundamental surveying subjects required by the board and  
12 has been enrolled as a "land-surveyor-in-training." All certificates  
13 of registration shall show the full name of the registrant, shall have  
14 a serial number, and shall be signed by the chairman and the secretary  
15 of the board and by the director of licensing.

16 The issuance of a certificate of registration by the director of  
17 licensing shall be prima facie evidence that the person named therein  
18 is entitled to all the rights and privileges of a registered  
19 professional engineer or a registered land surveyor, while the said  
20 certificate remains unrevoked and unexpired.

21 Each registrant hereunder shall upon registration obtain a seal of  
22 the design authorized by the board, bearing the registrant's name and  
23 the legend "registered professional engineer" or "registered land  
24 surveyor". Plans, specifications, plats and reports prepared by the  
25 registrant shall be signed, dated, and stamped with said seal or  
26 facsimile thereof. Such signature and stamping shall constitute a  
27 certification by the registrant that the same was prepared by or under  
28 his or her direct supervision and that to his or her knowledge and  
29 belief the same was prepared in accordance with the requirements of the  
30 statute. It shall be unlawful for anyone to stamp or seal any document  
31 with said seal or facsimile thereof after the certificate of registrant  
32 named thereon has expired or been revoked, unless said certificate  
33 shall have been renewed or reissued.

34 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** This act shall take effect July 1, 1996.

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