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SENATE BILL 5910

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State of Washington

64th Legislature

2015 Regular Session

By Senator Keiser

Read first time 02/09/15. Referred to Committee on Commerce & Labor.

1 AN ACT Relating to waiver of the fundamentals of engineering  
2 examination; and amending RCW 18.43.040.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 18.43.040 and 2007 c 193 s 1 are each amended to  
5 read as follows:

6 (1) The following will be considered as minimum evidence  
7 satisfactory to the board that the applicant is qualified for  
8 registration as a professional engineer, engineer-in-training,  
9 professional land surveyor, or land-surveyor-in-training,  
10 respectively:

11 (a)(i) As a professional engineer: A specific record of eight  
12 years or more of experience in engineering work of a character  
13 satisfactory to the board and indicating that the applicant is  
14 competent to practice engineering; and successfully passing a written  
15 or oral examination, or both, in engineering as prescribed by the  
16 board.

17 (ii) Graduation in an approved engineering curriculum of four  
18 years or more from a school or college approved by the board as of  
19 satisfactory standing shall be considered equivalent to four years of  
20 such required experience. The satisfactory completion of each year of  
21 such an approved engineering course without graduation shall be

1 considered as equivalent to a year of such required experience.  
2 Graduation in a curriculum other than engineering from a school or  
3 college approved by the board shall be considered as equivalent to  
4 two years of such required experience. However, no applicant shall  
5 receive credit for more than four years of experience because of  
6 undergraduate educational qualifications. The board may, at its  
7 discretion, give credit as experience not in excess of one year, for  
8 satisfactory postgraduate study in engineering.

9 (iii) Structural engineering is recognized as a specialized  
10 branch of professional engineering. To receive a certificate of  
11 registration in structural engineering, an applicant must hold a  
12 current registration in this state in engineering and have at least  
13 two years of structural engineering experience, of a character  
14 satisfactory to the board, in addition to the eight years' experience  
15 required for registration as a professional engineer. An applicant  
16 for registration as a structural engineer must also pass an  
17 additional examination as prescribed by the board.

18 (iv) An engineer must be registered as a structural engineer in  
19 order to provide structural engineering services for significant  
20 structures. The board may waive the requirements of this subsection  
21 (1)(a)(iv) until December 31, 2010, if:

22 (A) On January 1, 2007, the engineer is registered with the board  
23 as a professional engineer; and

24 (B) Within two years of January 1, 2007, the engineer  
25 demonstrates to the satisfaction of the board that the engineer has  
26 sufficient experience in the duties typically provided by a  
27 professional structural engineer regarding significant structures.

28 (b)(i) As an engineer-in-training: An applicant for registration  
29 as a professional engineer shall take the prescribed examination in  
30 two stages. The first stage of the examination may be taken upon  
31 submission of his or her application for registration as an engineer-  
32 in-training and payment of the application fee prescribed in RCW  
33 18.43.050 at any time after the applicant has completed four years of  
34 the required engineering experience, as defined in this section, or  
35 has achieved senior standing in a school or college approved by the  
36 board. The first stage of the examination shall test the applicant's  
37 knowledge of appropriate fundamentals of engineering subjects,  
38 including mathematics and the basic sciences. The board may waive the  
39 first stage of the examination specified under this subsection for an  
40 applicant requesting a waiver who has met the educational,

1 experience, and any other requirements established by rule by the  
2 board.

3 (ii) At any time after the completion of the required eight years  
4 of engineering experience, as defined in this section, the applicant  
5 may take the second stage of the examination upon submission of an  
6 application for registration and payment of the application fee  
7 prescribed in RCW 18.43.050. This stage of the examination shall test  
8 the applicant's ability, upon the basis of his or her greater  
9 experience, to apply his or her knowledge and experience in the field  
10 of his or her specific training and qualifications.

11 (c)(i) As a professional land surveyor: A specific record of  
12 eight years or more of experience in land surveying work of a  
13 character satisfactory to the board and indicating that the applicant  
14 is competent to practice land surveying, and successfully passing a  
15 written or oral examination, or both, in surveying as prescribed by  
16 the board.

17 (ii) Graduation from a school or college approved by the board as  
18 of satisfactory standing, including the completion of an approved  
19 course in surveying, shall be considered equivalent to four years of  
20 the required experience. Postgraduate college courses approved by the  
21 board shall be considered for up to one additional year of the  
22 required experience.

23 (d)(i) As a land-surveyor-in-training: An applicant for  
24 registration as a professional land surveyor shall take the  
25 prescribed examination in two stages. The first stage of the  
26 examination may be taken upon submission of his or her application  
27 for registration as a land-surveyor-in-training and payment of the  
28 application fee prescribed in RCW 18.43.050 at any time after the  
29 applicant has completed four years of the required land surveying  
30 experience, as defined in this section, or has achieved senior  
31 standing in a school or college approved by the board. The first  
32 stage of the examination shall test the applicant's knowledge of  
33 appropriate fundamentals of land surveying subjects, including  
34 mathematics and the basic sciences.

35 (ii) At any time after the completion of the required eight years  
36 of land surveying experience, as defined in this section, the  
37 applicant may take the second stage of the examination upon  
38 submission of an application for registration and payment of the  
39 application fee prescribed in RCW 18.43.050. This stage of the  
40 examination shall test the applicant's ability, upon the basis of

1 greater experience, to apply knowledge and experience in the field of  
2 land surveying.

3 (iii) The first stage shall be successfully completed before the  
4 second stage may be attempted. Applicants who have been approved by  
5 the board to take the examination based on the requirement for six  
6 years of experience under this section before July 1, 1996, are  
7 eligible to sit for the examination.

8 (2) No person shall be eligible for registration as a  
9 professional engineer, engineer-in-training, professional land  
10 surveyor, or land-surveyor-in-training, who is not of good character  
11 and reputation.

12 (3) Teaching, of a character satisfactory to the board shall be  
13 considered as experience not in excess of two years for the  
14 appropriate profession.

15 (4) The mere execution, as a contractor, of work designed by a  
16 professional engineer, or the supervision of the construction of such  
17 work as a foreman or superintendent shall not be deemed to be  
18 practice of engineering.

19 (5) Any person having the necessary qualifications prescribed in  
20 this chapter to entitle him or her to registration shall be eligible  
21 for such registration although the person may not be practicing his  
22 or her profession at the time of making his or her application.

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