HOUSE BILL NO. 243

INTRODUCED BY N. WILSON

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT REVISING ENGINEER AND SURVEYOR LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION LAWS; MODIFYING THE REQUIREMENTS FOR LICENSURE OF A PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER OR PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYOR; MODIFYING THE REQUIREMENTS FOR CERTIFICATION AS AN ENGINEER INTERN OR LAND SURVEYOR INTERN; PROVIDING RULEMAKING AUTHORITY; AND AMENDING SECTIONS 37-67-306, 37-67-307, AND 37-67-311, MCA."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

Section 1. Section 37-67-306, MCA, is amended to read:

"37-67-306. Qualifications of applicant for licensure as professional engineer. The following is considered minimum evidence satisfactory to the board that the applicant is qualified for licensure as a professional engineer:

(1) A graduate of an engineering or engineering technology curriculum of 4 years or more approved by the board as being of satisfactory standing, with a specific record of an additional 4 years or more of progressive experience on engineering projects under the direct supervision of a professional engineer, unless exempt under 37-67-320(2), and whose qualifications indicate to the board that the applicant may be competent to practice engineering, must be admitted to an ~~8-hour written~~ examination in the fundamentals of engineering and an ~~8-hour written~~ examination in the principles and practices of engineering. Upon passing the examinations, the applicant must be granted a license to practice engineering in this state if the applicant is otherwise qualified.

(2) A graduate of a related science curriculum of 4 years or more, other than engineering or engineering technology, with a specific record of 8 years or more of progressive experience on engineering projects of a grade and character that indicate to the board that the applicant may be competent to practice engineering, may be admitted to an ~~8-hour written~~ examination in the fundamentals of engineering and an ~~8-hour written~~ examination in the principles and practices of engineering. Upon passing the examinations, the applicant must be granted a license to practice engineering in this state if the applicant is otherwise qualified.

(3) A graduate of an engineering or related science curriculum of 4 years or more, with a specific record of 20 years or more of progressive experience on engineering projects, of which at least 10 of those years the

applicant has been in charge of important engineering projects, of a grade and character that indicate to the board that the applicant may be competent to practice engineering, must be admitted to an ~~8-hour written~~ examination in the principles and practices of engineering. Upon passing the examination, the applicant must be granted a license to practice engineering in this state if the applicant is otherwise qualified.

(4) Teaching engineering in a college or university offering an approved engineering curriculum of 4 years or more may be considered as engineering experience in these requirements if research, product development, or consulting has been a concurrent activity.

(5) A person who holds a doctorate degree in engineering from an institution with an engineering program approved by the board and the engineering accreditation commission of the accreditation board for engineering and technology or the Canadian engineering accreditation board and who provides a specific record of at least 4 years of progressive experience on engineering projects of a grade and character that indicate to the board that the applicant may be competent to practice engineering must be admitted to an ~~8-hour written~~ examination in the principles and practices of engineering. Upon passing the examination, the applicant must be issued a license to practice engineering in this state if the applicant is otherwise qualified."

Section 2. Section 37-67-307, MCA, is amended to read:

"37-67-307. Qualifications of applicant for registration as engineer intern. The following must be considered as minimum evidence that the applicant is qualified for certification as an engineer intern:

(1) A graduate of an engineering or engineering technology curriculum of 4 years or more, approved by the board as being of satisfactory standing, must be admitted to an ~~8-hour written~~ examination in the fundamentals of engineering. Upon passing the examination, the applicant must be certified or enrolled as an engineer intern if the applicant is otherwise qualified.

(2) A graduate of a related science curriculum of 4 years or more, other than engineering or engineering technology, with a specific record of 4 or more years of progressive experience on engineering projects of a grade and character satisfactory to the board must be admitted to an ~~8-hour written~~ examination in the fundamentals of engineering. Upon passing the examination, the applicant must be certified or enrolled as an engineer intern if the applicant is otherwise qualified."

Section 3. Section 37-67-311, MCA, is amended to read:

"37-67-311. Examinations -- fees -- third-party services. Examination requirements are as follows:

(1) The examinations must be held at times and places that the board directs. ~~The board shall determine the acceptable grade on examinations.~~

(2) The board shall determine by rule the fees to be charged an applicant for each examination and reexamination. The fees must be commensurate with costs.

(3) The board may use a third party to provide examination and grading services.

(4) Examinations may be taken only after the applicant has met the other minimum requirements as provided in 37-67-305 through 37-67-310 and has been approved by the board for admission to the following examinations as ~~follows~~ prescribed by the board:

(a) ~~The examination on engineering fundamentals consists of an 8-hour examination.~~ the fundamentals of engineering examination. Passing the examination qualifies the examinee for an engineer intern certificate if the examinee has met all other requirements for certification required by this chapter.

(b) ~~The~~ the ~~examination on~~ principles and practice of engineering ~~consists of an 8-hour~~ examination on applied engineering. Passing this examination qualifies the examinee for licensure as a professional engineer if the examinee has met the other requirements for licensure required by this chapter.

(c) ~~The~~ the examinations for land surveyor intern ~~consist of two 4-hour examinations, designated as parts I and II,~~ on the basic disciplines of land surveying. Passing these examinations qualifies the examinee for a land surveyor intern certificate if the examinee has met all other requirements for certification required by this chapter.

(d) ~~The requirements and~~ the examinations for professional land surveyor ~~consist of being a land surveyor intern, two examinations, designated as parts III and IV,~~ on the applied disciplines of land surveying~~,~~ and an examination specifically related to land surveying in Montana. Passing these examinations qualifies the examinee for licensure as a professional land surveyor if the examinee has met the other requirements for licensure required by this chapter."

- END -