

The Senate Regulated Industries and Utilities Committee offered the following substitute to SB 599:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

To amend Chapter 15 of Title 43 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to professional engineers and land surveyors, so as to change a definition; to change requirements for eligibility for certification as a land surveyor-in-training and for a certificate of registration as a land surveyor; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

SECTION 1.

Chapter 15 of Title 43 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to professional engineers and land surveyors, is amended by striking subparagraph (D) of paragraph (6) of Code Section 43-15-2, relating to definitions, and inserting a new subparagraph to read as follows:

"(D) The design, platting, and layout, ~~incidental to~~ including subdivisions of any tract of land by a land surveyor, of:

(i) Grading plans and site plans;

~~(ii) Erosion and sediment control plans, including detention ponds, provided that no impoundment shall be designed on a live (perennial) stream; provided, further, that such detention ponds:~~

~~(I) Contain no more than five acre-feet of water storage at maximum pool (top of dam) or are no more than ten feet in height for a dry storage pond;~~

~~(II) Are no more than six feet in height for a permanent (wet) storage pond; or~~

~~(III) Contain no more than three acre-feet of water storage at maximum pool (top of dam) if the height is more than ten feet but less than 13 feet for a dry storage pond;~~

~~(iii)~~(ii) Storm water management plans and facilities, including hydrologic studies and temporary sediment basins, provided that the contributing drainage area shall not be larger than 100 acres, including erosion, sedimentation, and pollution control

1 plans, retention ponds, water quality ponds and facilities, and any artificial barrier
 2 which is not in excess of six feet in height regardless of storage capacity or which has
 3 a storage capacity at maximum water storage elevation not in excess of 15 acre-feet
 4 regardless of height; and

5 ~~(iv)(iii)~~ Extension of existing water distribution piping and gravity sewers, ~~eight~~
 6 ~~inches in diameter or smaller, provided that off-site length shall not exceed 1,000 feet,~~
 7 ~~the design and construction of which shall conform to the local government~~
 8 ~~ordinances and regulations, and such extensions shall be subjected to the review and~~
 9 ~~approval of a local government which has been delegated approval authority by the~~
 10 ~~Environmental Protection Division of the Department of Natural Resources~~ not to
 11 include lift stations, pump stations, tanks, or other mechanical fixtures or structures;"

12 SECTION 2.

13 Said chapter is further amended by striking Code Section 43-15-12, relating to land
 14 surveyor-in-training certificates, and inserting in its place a new Code section to read as
 15 follows:

16 "43-15-12.

17 (a) To be eligible for certification as a land surveyor-in-training, an applicant applying
 18 prior to July 1, 2008, must meet the following minimum requirements:

19 (1)(A) Earn a bachelor's degree in a curriculum approved by the board; ~~or~~

20 (B) Earn an associate degree, or its equivalent, in a curriculum approved by the board
 21 and acquire not less than two years of combined office and field experience in land
 22 surveying of a nature satisfactory to the board; or

23 (C) Earn a high school diploma, or its equivalent and acquire not less than four years'
 24 experience in land surveying of a nature satisfactory to the board; and

25 (2) Acquire a minimum of ~~15 quarter~~ 12 semester hours' credit, or its equivalent, in land
 26 surveying subjects in a course of study approved by the board; provided, however, that
 27 ~~on and after January 1, 1995, the minimum requirement shall be 20 quarter hours' credit,~~
 28 ~~five of which shall be~~ three semester hours are in hydrology; and

29 (3) Subsequently pass the board's written examination in the fundamentals of land
 30 surveying (land surveyor-in-training examination) or any other examination as may be
 31 approved and required by the board.

32 (b) To be eligible for certification as a land surveyor-in-training, an applicant applying on
 33 or after July 1, 2008, must meet the following minimum requirements:

34 (1)(A) Earn a bachelor's degree in a curriculum approved by the board and acquire a
 35 minimum of 18 semester hours in land surveying subjects, including a minimum of
 36 three semester hours of hydrology;

1 (B) Earn an associate degree, or its equivalent, in a curriculum approved by the board
 2 and acquire a minimum of 18 semester hours in land surveying subjects, including a
 3 minimum of three semester hours of hydrology, and acquire not less than four years of
 4 combined office and field experience in land surveying of a nature satisfactory to the
 5 board; or

6 (C) Earn a high school diploma, or its equivalent, and acquire not less than eight years
 7 of progressive practical experience under a practicing professional land surveyor of a
 8 nature satisfactory to the board;

9 (2) Acquire a minimum of 18 semester hours in land surveying subjects, including a
 10 minimum of three semester hours in hydrology, from a curriculum approved by the
 11 board; and

12 (3) Subsequently pass the Fundamentals of Land Surveying (FLS) examination or any
 13 other examination as may be approved and required by the board."

14 SECTION 3.

15 Said chapter is further amended by striking Code Section 43-15-13, relating to land surveyor
 16 certificates of registration, and inserting in its place a new Code section to read as follows:

17 "43-15-13.

18 (a) To be eligible for a certificate of registration as a land surveyor, an applicant applying
 19 before July 1, 2010, must meet the following minimum requirements:

20 (1)(A) Obtain certification as a land surveyor-in-training under subparagraph ~~(A)~~ of
 21 ~~paragraph (1) and paragraph (3)~~ (a)(1)(A) and paragraphs (2) and (3) of subsection (a)
 22 of Code Section 43-15-12;

23 (B) Acquire a specific record of the equivalent of not less than four years of combined
 24 office and field experience in land surveying with a minimum of three years´
 25 experience in responsible charge of land surveying projects under the supervision of a
 26 registered land surveyor or such other supervision deemed by the board to be the
 27 equivalent thereof; and

28 (C) Subsequently pass a written examination on the principles and practices of land
 29 surveying ~~and~~ or any other examination as may be approved and required by the board
 30 and a written examination on the laws of this state relating to land surveying (land
 31 surveyor examination);

32 (2)(A) Obtain certification as a land surveyor-in-training under subparagraph ~~(B)~~ of
 33 ~~paragraph (1) and paragraph (3)~~ (a)(1)(B) and paragraphs (2) and (3) of subsection (a)
 34 of Code Section 43-15-12;

35 (B) Acquire an additional specific record of the equivalent of not less than four years
 36 of combined office and field experience in land surveying which, together with the

1 qualifying experience under subparagraph ~~(B)~~ of paragraph ~~(1)~~ (a)(1)(B) of Code
 2 Section 43-15-12, includes not less than four years' experience in responsible charge
 3 of land surveying projects under the supervision of a registered land surveyor or such
 4 other supervision deemed by the board to be the equivalent thereof; and

5 (C) Subsequently pass a written examination on the principles and practices of land
 6 surveying ~~and (PLS) or any other examination as may be approved and required by the~~
 7 board and a written examination on the laws of Georgia relating to land surveying (land
 8 surveyor examination); or

9 (3)(A) Obtain certification as a land surveyor-in-training under subparagraph ~~(C)~~ of
 10 ~~paragraph (1) and paragraph (3)~~ (a)(1)(C) and paragraphs (2) and (3) of subsection (a)
 11 of Code Section 43-15-12;

12 (B) Acquire an additional specific record of not less than four years of experience in
 13 land surveying which, together with the qualifying experience under subparagraph ~~(C)~~
 14 ~~of paragraph (1)~~ (a)(1)(C) of Code Section 43-15-12, includes not less than six years'
 15 experience in responsible charge of land surveying under the supervision of a registered
 16 land surveyor or such other supervision deemed by the board to be the equivalent
 17 thereof and of a grade and character satisfactory to the board indicating that the
 18 applicant is competent to practice land surveying; and

19 (C) Subsequently pass a written examination on the principles and practices of land
 20 surveying ~~and (PLS) or any other examination as may be approved and required by the~~
 21 board and a written examination on the laws of this state relating to land surveying
 22 (land surveyor examination).

23 (b) To be eligible for a certificate of registration as a land surveyor, an applicant applying
 24 on or after July 1, 2010, must meet the following minimum requirements:

25 (1)(A) Obtain certification as a land surveyor-in-training under subparagraph (b)(1)(A)
 26 of Code Section 43-15-12;

27 (B) Acquire a specific record of the equivalent of not less than four years of combined
 28 office and field experience in land surveying with a minimum of three years'
 29 experience in responsible charge of land surveying projects under the supervision of a
 30 registered land surveyor or such other supervision deemed by the board to be the
 31 equivalent thereof; and

32 (C) Subsequently pass a written examination on the principles and practices of land
 33 surveying (PLS) or any other examination as may be approved and required by the
 34 board and a written examination on the laws of this state relating to land surveying
 35 (land surveyor examination);

36 (2)(A) Obtain certification as a land surveyor-in-training under subparagraph (b)(1)(B)
 37 of Code Section 43-15-12;

1 (B) Acquire an additional specific record of the equivalent of not less than four years
2 of combined office and field experience in land surveying which, together with the
3 qualifying experience under subparagraph (b)(1)(B) of Code Section 43-15-12, includes
4 not less than four years' experience in responsible charge of land surveying projects
5 under the supervision of a registered land surveyor or such other supervision deemed
6 by the board to be the equivalent thereof; and

7 (C) Subsequently pass a written examination on the principles and practices of land
8 surveying (PLS) or any other examination as may be approved and required by the
9 board and a written examination on the laws of this state relating to land surveying
10 (land surveyor examination); or

11 (3)(A) Obtain certification as a land surveyor-in-training under subparagraph (b)(1)(C)
12 of Code Section 43-15-12;

13 (B) Acquire an additional specific record of not less than four years of experience in
14 land surveying which, together with the qualifying experience under subparagraph
15 (b)(1)(C) of Code Section 43-15-12, includes not less than eight years' experience in
16 responsible charge of land surveying under the supervision of a registered land surveyor
17 or such other supervision deemed by the board to be the equivalent thereof and of a
18 grade and character satisfactory to the board indicating that the applicant is competent
19 to practice land surveying; and

20 (C) Subsequently pass a written examination on the principles and practices of land
21 surveying (PLS) or any other examination as may be approved and required by the
22 board and a written examination on the laws of this state relating to land surveying
23 (land surveyor examination)."

24 SECTION 4.

25 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.