

HOUSE SUBSTITUTE TO SENATE BILL 195

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1 To amend Title 25, Title 26, and Title 43 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating
2 to fire protection and safety, food, drugs, and cosmetics, and professions and businesses,
3 respectively, so as to provide for the regulation of certain professions and businesses; to
4 provide for definitions; to provide for an exception to certain provisions regarding requiring
5 an architect's seal for certain plans and specifications for all buildings; to clarify that the
6 applications submitted for certain professions and businesses are to be made in the form
7 prescribed and not necessarily as a written document; to change the definition of the term
8 "electronic data prescription drug order"; to change provisions relating to examinations to
9 obtain a license to engage in the practice of pharmacy; to provide that when a substitution
10 is made, certain information relative to the substitution must appear on the prescription label
11 and be affixed to the container or an auxiliary label; to change certain provisions relating to
12 the general powers of the division director; to change certain provisions relating to veteran
13 examinations; to provide for notification of current laws, rules, and regulations and standards
14 of conduct relating to the practice of architecture; to clarify the types of construction projects
15 within planned or existing structures for which documents may be prepared, certified, and
16 submitted for building permits by a Georgia registered interior designer; to provide that the
17 service upon the division director on behalf of the State Board of Barbers or the State Board
18 of Physical Therapy shall be at his or her office; to change certain provisions regarding the
19 training, utilization, and licensing of apprentices in barbershops; to revise certain provisions
20 relating to the record of revocation of chiropractic licenses; to change certain provisions
21 relating to the rules and regulations as to sanitary requirements and inspections relative to
22 cosmetologists; to revise certain requirements for application for low-voltage electrical
23 contracting licenses; to require the examination for the land surveyor-in-training certificate
24 be board approved; to change provisions as to notice of meetings of the State Board of
25 Hearing Aid Dealers and Dispensers; to revise the general powers and duties of the State
26 Board of Hearing Aid Dealers and Dispensers and the division director; to change certain
27 provisions relating to the issuance of licenses relative to hearing aid dealers and dispensers;
28 to amend provisions relating to the qualifications and examination of hearing aid dispenser

29 apprentices; to provide for notice to the hearing aid dealer licensee or permit holder; to
 30 change certain provisions relating to fees for licensure of landscape architects; to provide that
 31 applicants for licensure as dispensing opticians may be required to pass a board approved
 32 examination; to change certain provisions relating to examinations and examination fees
 33 relative to dispensing opticians; to amend certain provisions as to continuing education
 34 requirements relative to license renewals of dispensing opticians; to change certain
 35 provisions relating to examinations for licenses to practice podiatric medicine; to change
 36 certain provisions relating to the examination of applicants and appeals relative to
 37 psychologists; to provide for continuing eligibility for licensure without examination for
 38 residential and general contractors under certain circumstances; to change certain provisions
 39 relating to the test an applicant for a used motor vehicle and parts dealer license must pass;
 40 to provide for board approved examinations for applicants for certification as operators or
 41 laboratory analysts of treatment plants; to provide for related matters; to provide for an
 42 effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

43 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

44 **SECTION 1.**

45 Title 25 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to fire protection and safety, is
 46 amended by revising Code Section 25-2-1, relating to "commissioner" defined, as follows:

47 "25-2-1.

48 As used in this chapter, the term:

49 (1) 'Commissioner' means the Safety Fire Commissioner.

50 (2) 'Proposed building' means any new structure or substantial renovation.

51 (3) 'Substantial renovation' means any construction project involving exits or internal
 52 features of such building or structure costing more than the building's or structure's
 53 assessed value according to county tax records at the time of such renovation."

54 **SECTION 2.**

55 Said title is further amended by revising paragraph (1) of subsection (a) and subsection (d)
 56 of Code Section 25-2-14, relating to buildings presenting special hazards to persons, as
 57 follows:

58 "(a)(1) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (5) of subsection (b) of Code
 59 Section 43-4-14, plans ~~Plans~~ and specifications for all proposed buildings which come
 60 under classification in paragraph (1) of subsection (b) of Code Section 25-2-13 and which
 61 come under the jurisdiction of the office of the Commissioner pursuant to Code Section
 62 25-2-12 shall be submitted to and receive approval by either the state fire marshal, the

63 proper local fire marshal, or state inspector before any state, municipal, or county
 64 building permit may be issued or construction started. All such plans and specifications
 65 submitted as required by this subsection shall be accompanied by a fee in the amount
 66 provided in Code Section 25-2-4.1 and shall bear the seal and Georgia registration
 67 number of the drafting architect or engineer or shall otherwise have the approval of the
 68 Commissioner."

69 "(d) For purposes of this chapter, any existing building or structure listed in paragraph (1)
 70 of subsection (b) of Code Section 25-2-13 and which comes under the jurisdiction of the
 71 office of the Commissioner pursuant to Code Section 25-2-12 shall be deemed to be a
 72 proposed building in the event such building or structure is subject to substantial
 73 renovation, a fire or other hazard of serious consequence, or a change in the classification
 74 of occupancy. ~~For purposes of this subsection, the term 'substantial renovation' means any~~
 75 ~~construction project involving exits or internal features of such building or structure costing~~
 76 ~~more than the building's or structure's assessed value according to county tax records at the~~
 77 ~~time of such renovation."~~

78 SECTION 3.

79 Title 26 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to food, drugs, and cosmetics,
 80 is amended by revising paragraph (14.1) of Code Section 26-4-5, relating to definitions
 81 relative to pharmacists and pharmacies, as follows:

82 (14.1) 'Electronic data prescription drug order' means any digitalized prescription drug
 83 order transmitted to a pharmacy, by a means other than by facsimile, which contains the
 84 secure, personalized digital key, code, number, or other identifier used to identify and
 85 authenticate the prescribing practitioner in a manner required by state laws and board
 86 regulations and includes all other information required by state laws and board
 87 regulations. Electronic data prescription drug order also includes any digitalized
 88 prescription drug order transmitted to a pharmacy that is converted into a visual image
 89 of a prescription order during the transmission process, received by the pharmacy
 90 through a facsimile, and includes the practitioner's electronic signature."

91 SECTION 4.

92 Said title is further amended by revising subsections (a) and (b) of Code Section 26-4-41,
 93 relating to qualifications for license, examination, and internships and other training
 94 programs relative to pharmacists and pharmacies, as follows:

95 "(a) *Qualifications.* To obtain a license to engage in the practice of pharmacy, an applicant
 96 for licensure by examination shall:

97 (1) Have submitted ~~a written~~ an application in the form prescribed by the board;

- 98 (2) Have attained the age of majority;
- 99 (3) Be of good moral character;
- 100 (4) Have graduated and received a professional undergraduate degree from a college or
 101 school of pharmacy as the same may be approved by the board; provided, however, that,
 102 since it would be impractical for the board to evaluate a school or college of pharmacy
 103 located in another country, the board may accept a graduate from such a school or college
 104 as so long as the graduate has completed all requirements of the Foreign Pharmacy
 105 Equivalency Certification Program administered by the National Association of Boards
 106 of Pharmacy. This shall include successful completion of all required examinations and
 107 the issuance of the equivalency certificate and be based upon an individual evaluation by
 108 the board of the applicant's educational experience, professional background, and
 109 proficiency in the English language;
- 110 (5) Have completed an internship or other program that has been approved by the board
 111 or demonstrated to the board's satisfaction that experience in the practice of pharmacy
 112 which meets or exceeds the minimum internship requirements of the board;
- 113 (6) Have successfully passed an examination or examinations approved by the board;
 114 and
- 115 (7) Have paid the fees specified by the board for the examination and any related
 116 materials and have paid for the issuance of the license.

117 (b) *Examinations.*

- 118 (1) The examination for licensure required under paragraph (6) of subsection (a) of this
 119 Code section shall be made available ~~by the board~~ at least two times during each year.
 120 The board shall determine the content and subject matter of each examination, and the
 121 place, time, and date of administration of the examination; ~~and~~
- 122 (2) The examination shall be prepared to measure the competence of the applicant to
 123 engage in the practice of pharmacy. The board may employ, cooperate, and contract with
 124 any organization or consultant in the preparation and grading of an examination, but shall
 125 retain the sole discretion and responsibility for determining which applicants have
 126 successfully passed such an examination; ~~and~~
- 127 (3) Any person who takes the board approved examination and fails the examination may
 128 repeat the examination at regular intervals of administration; however, a person may not
 129 take the examination more than three times without permission from the board. A person
 130 who has taken the board approved examination and failed the examination for the third
 131 time may not practice as a pharmacy intern. A person who takes the board approved
 132 examination and successfully completes the examination must become licensed within
 133 two years of the examination date or the results of the examination shall become invalid."

134 **SECTION 5.**

135 Said title is further amended by revising subsection (c) of Code Section 26-4-42, relating to
 136 license transfers for pharmacists licensed in another jurisdiction relative to pharmacists and
 137 pharmacies, as follows:

138 "(c) To obtain a license to engage in the practice of pharmacy in this state, a pharmacist
 139 who is a graduate of a pharmacy school or college located in another country must
 140 complete all requirements of the Foreign Pharmacy Equivalency Certification Program
 141 administered by the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy. This shall include
 142 without being limited to successful completion of all required examinations and the
 143 issuance of the equivalency certificate, and an individual evaluation by the board of the
 144 applicant's proficiency in the English language. Additionally, a foreign pharmacy graduate
 145 applicant shall:

- 146 (1) Have submitted ~~a written~~ an application in the form prescribed by the board;
- 147 (2) Have attained the age of majority;
- 148 (3) Be of good moral character;
- 149 (4) Have possessed at the time of initial licensure as a pharmacist all qualifications
 150 necessary to have been eligible for licensure at that time in this state;
- 151 (5) Have graduated and been granted a pharmacy degree from a college or school of
 152 pharmacy recognized by the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy Foreign
 153 Pharmacy Graduate Examination Committee;
- 154 (6) Have successfully passed an examination approved by the board; and
- 155 (7) Have paid the fees specified by the board."

156 **SECTION 6.**

157 Said title is further amended by revising subsection (a) of Code Section 26-4-46, relating to
 158 pharmacy interns, eligibility, and requirements for licenses, as follows:

159 "(a) To obtain a license as a pharmacy intern, an applicant shall:

- 160 (1) Have submitted ~~a written~~ an application in the form prescribed by the board of
 161 pharmacy;
- 162 (2) Have attained the age of majority;
- 163 (3) Be of good moral character; and
- 164 (4) Have paid the fees specified by the board for the issuance of the license."

165 **SECTION 6A.**

166 Said title is further amended by revising subsection (d) of Code Section 26-4-81, relating to
 167 substitution of generic drugs for brand name drugs, as follows:

168 "(d)(1) Whenever a substitution is made, the pharmacist shall record on the original
 169 prescription the fact that there has been a substitution and the identity of the dispensed
 170 drug product and its manufacturer. Such prescription shall be made available for
 171 inspection by the board or its representative in accordance with the rules of the board.
 172 (2) If a pharmacist substitutes a generic drug product for a brand name prescribed drug
 173 product when dispensing a prescribed medication, the brand name and the generic name
 174 of the drug product, with an explanation of 'generic for (insert name of brand name
 175 prescribed drug product)' or similar language to indicate substitution has occurred, must
 176 appear on the prescription label and be affixed to the container or an auxiliary label,
 177 unless the prescribing practitioner indicated that the name of the drug may not appear
 178 upon the prescription label; provided, however, that this paragraph shall not apply to
 179 medication dispensed for in-patient hospital services or to medications in specialty
 180 packaging for dosing purposes as defined by the board."

181 **SECTION 7.**

182 Title 43 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to professions and businesses,
 183 is amended by revising subsection (j) of Code Section 43-1-2, relating to appointment and
 184 general powers of division director, members and meetings of professional licensing boards,
 185 examination standards, roster of licenses, and funding, as follows:

186 "(j) The division director ~~shall~~ may establish administrative standards for the examination
 187 of applicants for licensure by the various professional licensing boards, notwithstanding
 188 any other provisions of law to the contrary. These administrative standards ~~shall~~ may
 189 include the setting of date, time, and location of examinations, subject to the approval of
 190 the respective professional licensing boards. Notwithstanding any other provisions of law
 191 to the contrary, examination criteria, examination grading procedures, examination fees,
 192 examination passing score requirements, and other matters pertaining to the examination
 193 of applicants for licensure may be adopted by rules of the respective professional licensing
 194 boards as necessary to implement such examination standards. Examination standards,
 195 including examination criteria, grading procedures, and passing score requirements,
 196 developed in agreement or in conjunction with a national association of state boards or
 197 other related national association for the administration of a nationally recognized uniform
 198 examination may be adopted in lieu of state standards by the respective professional
 199 licensing boards."

200

SECTION 8.

201 Said title is further amended by revising Code Section 43-1-9, relating to point credit for
202 veterans taking examination given by professional licensing boards, as follows:

203 "43-1-9.

204 Any applicant taking an examination ~~given~~ required by any professional licensing board
205 except the State Board of Accountancy shall receive points in the following manner:

206 (1) Any applicant who served on active duty in the armed forces of the United States or
207 on active duty in a reserve component of the armed forces of the United States, including
208 the National Guard, for a period of one year or more, of which at least 90 days were
209 served during wartime or during any conflict when military personnel were committed
210 by the President of the United States, shall be entitled to a credit of five points. Such
211 points shall be added by the person grading the examination to the grade made by the
212 applicant in answering the questions propounded in any such examination;

213 (2) Any applicant who is a disabled veteran and who served on active duty in the armed
214 forces of the United States or on active duty in a reserve component of the armed forces
215 of the United States, including the National Guard, during wartime or during any conflict
216 when military personnel were committed by the President of the United States shall be
217 entitled to a credit of five points if the disability was for an injury or illness incurred in
218 the line of duty and such disability is officially rated at less than 10 percent at the time
219 of taking the examination. Such points shall be added by the person grading the
220 examination to the grade made by the applicant in answering the questions propounded
221 in any such examination; and

222 (3) Any applicant who is a disabled veteran who served on active duty in the armed
223 forces of the United States or on active duty in a reserve component of the armed forces
224 of the United States, including the National Guard, during wartime or during any conflict
225 when military personnel were committed by the President of the United States shall be
226 entitled to a credit of ten points if the disability was for an injury or illness incurred in the
227 line of duty and such disability is officially rated at 10 percent or above at the time of
228 taking the examination. Such points shall be added by the person grading the
229 examination to the grade made by the applicant in answering questions propounded in
230 any such examination."

231

SECTION 9.

232 Said title is further amended by revising Code Section 43-1-10, relating to credit to veteran's
233 grades when examination given in parts or by subject, as follows:

234 "43-1-10.

235 If an examination given by a professional licensing board is ~~given~~ required in parts or by
 236 subjects and the applicant is required to make a minimum grade on each of the parts or
 237 subjects, the points to which the applicant is entitled shall be added to the grade made on
 238 each part or subject before the average of his or her grade on all of the parts or subjects is
 239 determined."

240 **SECTION 10.**

241 Said title is further amended by revising Code Section 43-1-11, relating to veteran's
 242 examination to be graded prior to determination of eligibility for credit, as follows:

243 "43-1-11.

244 A person grading an examination ~~given~~ required by a professional licensing board shall
 245 first grade the examination without reference to veteran credit, determining thereafter from
 246 the proof submitted whether an applicant is a veteran and is entitled to such credit; if so,
 247 the credit shall be added; and if after such addition the applicant equals or exceeds the
 248 grade required to pass the examination, the applicant shall be entitled to be certified as
 249 having passed the examination."

250 **SECTION 11.**

251 Said title is further amended by revising subsection (b) of Code Section 43-4-9, relating to
 252 adoption of rules, regulations, and standards of conduct and utilization of the Internet relative
 253 to architects, as follows:

254 "(b) The board shall post all current laws, rules, regulations, and standards of conduct
 255 relating to the practice of architecture in this state on the board's official website. The
 256 board shall also provide on the website notification of recent changes in such laws, rules,
 257 regulations, or standards and information pertaining to disciplinary actions taken by the
 258 board. ~~Individual notice of changes in such laws, rules, regulations, or standards shall be~~
 259 ~~sent by the board at least once a year to each registered architect and building official.~~
 260 ~~Individual notice may be sent by e-mail or regular mail."~~

261 **SECTION 12.**

262 Said title is further amended by revising paragraph (5) of subsection (b) of Code Section
 263 43-4-14, relating to the practice of architecture, qualifications and registration, exempt
 264 structures and persons, design-build contracts, predesign services, and construction contract
 265 administration services, as follows:

266 "(5) Nonload-bearing interior construction in existing or planned ~~office~~ structures which
 267 were designed by a registered architect, where drawings and specifications are prepared

268 by a Georgia registered interior designer who also submits to the responsible building
 269 official a notarized and signed statement on letterhead from a person in a position of
 270 authority within the interior design firm certifying that the plans and specifications as
 271 submitted are in full compliance with the current building codes, fire codes, accessibility
 272 laws, and regulations in effect."

273 **SECTION 13.**

274 Said title is further amended by revising Code Section 43-7-7, relating to board meetings,
 275 secretary of the board, service of process and documents, and records relative to barbers, as
 276 follows:

277 "43-7-7.

278 The board shall meet at least six days a year but shall not meet more than 36 days in one
 279 year. All meetings shall be open to the public except that the board may hold restricted
 280 attendance sessions to prepare, give, and grade examinations and to deliberate in
 281 connection with the decision in a contested case. The division director shall be secretary
 282 of the board and, in addition to his or her duties as prescribed by Code Section 43-1-3, shall
 283 perform such other administrative duties as may be prescribed by the board. All legal
 284 process and all documents required by law to be served upon or filed with the board shall
 285 be served upon or filed with the division director at his or her office ~~in Atlanta~~. All official
 286 records of the board, or affidavits by the division director as to the content of such records,
 287 shall be prima-facie evidence of all matters required to be kept therein."

288 **SECTION 14.**

289 Said title is further amended by revising Code Section 43-7-12 , relating to requirements for
 290 license to operate a barbershop, as follows:

291 "43-7-12.

292 A license to operate a barbershop shall be issued, renewed, or restored to any person who
 293 can show that such barbershop:

294 (1) Provides and maintains such physical and sanitary facilities and equipment as may
 295 be required by the rules and regulations of the board;

296 (2) ~~Does not train more than one apprentice at any one time, which apprentice shall be~~
 297 ~~under the supervision of a master barber~~ Trains and utilizes apprentices in a manner and
 298 number as required by the board; and

299 (3) Does business only at the location shown on the application for licensure."

300 **SECTION 15.**

301 Said title is further amended by revising subsection (a) of Code Section 43-7-16 , relating to
 302 requirement for license as apprentice barber and limitation on renewal, as follows:

303 "(a) A license to practice barbering as an apprentice shall be issued to any ~~person~~ applicant
 304 who shall furnish the board evidence that such applicant:

305 (1) ~~Evidence that he will~~ Will practice under the supervision of a licensed barber with
 306 at least 18 months' experience in the practice of barbering; and

307 (2) ~~Evidence that he has completed the fifth grade of school instruction or its equivalent~~
 308 Is 16 years of age or older."

309 SECTION 16.

310 Said title is further amended by revising subsections (a), (b), and (c) of Code Section 43-9-7,
 311 relating to qualifications of applicants for license to practice chiropractic, as follows:

312 "(a) Any person wishing to practice chiropractic in this state shall make ~~written~~ application
 313 to the board through the division director in such form as may be adopted and directed by
 314 the board.

315 (b) ~~Application shall be in writing and shall be signed by the applicant in his own~~
 316 ~~handwriting; shall be sworn to before some officer authorized under the laws to administer~~
 317 ~~oaths; The application shall recite the history of the applicant's educational qualifications,~~
 318 how long he has studied chiropractic, what collateral branches, if any, he has studied, and
 319 the length of time he has engaged in clinical practice, with proof thereof in the form of
 320 diplomas, certificates, etc.;, and shall accompany the application with satisfactory evidence
 321 of good character and reputation.

322 (c) Each applicant shall ~~send~~ provide with his application an application fee in an amount
 323 established by the board."

324 SECTION 17.

325 Said title is further amended by revising Code Section 43-9-14, relating to record of license
 326 revocation relating to chiropractors, as follows:

327 "43-9-14.

328 ~~In all cases wherein a license has been revoked and no appeal has been taken within the~~
 329 ~~time allowed by law, it shall be the duty of the division director, immediately after the~~
 330 ~~expiration of the time allowed for appeal, to transmit to the clerk of the superior court in~~
 331 ~~whose office the revoked license is recorded a copy of the order of the board revoking the~~
 332 ~~license, certified by the division director, and it shall be the duty of the clerk to cancel the~~
 333 ~~record of the license by entering upon the face thereof a copy of the certified order. In cases~~
 334 ~~wherein appeal proceedings are had and not sustained, the revoked license shall be~~

335 ~~canceled in the manner provided in this Code section immediately after the final~~
 336 ~~termination of such case. Reserved.~~"

337 **SECTION 18.**

338 Said title is further amended by revising Code Section 43-10-6, relating to rules and
 339 regulations as to sanitary requirements, instruction on HIV and AIDS, inspections, and
 340 unsanitary conditions as nuisances relative to cosmetologists, as follows:

341 "43-10-6.

342 (a) The board is authorized to adopt reasonable rules and regulations prescribing the
 343 sanitary requirements of beauty shops, beauty salons, schools of cosmetology, schools of
 344 esthetics, schools of hair design, and schools of nail care, subject to the approval of the
 345 Department of Human Resources, and to cause the rules and regulations or any subsequent
 346 revisions to be in suitable form, ~~and to transmit a copy thereof~~ The board shall make the
 347 rules and regulations available to the proprietor of each beauty shop, beauty salon, school
 348 of cosmetology, school of esthetics, school of hair design, or school of nail care. It shall
 349 be the duty of every proprietor or person operating a beauty shop, salon, school of
 350 cosmetology, school of esthetics, school of hair design, and school of nail care in this state
 351 to keep a copy of such rules and regulations posted in a conspicuous place in his or her
 352 business, so as to be easily read by his or her customers.

353 (b) The board is authorized to adopt reasonable rules and regulations requiring that persons
 354 licensed under this chapter undergo instruction on Human Immunodeficiency Virus and
 355 Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome.

356 (c) Any inspector employed by the ~~division director~~ Secretary of State shall have the
 357 power to enter and make reasonable examination of any beauty shop, salon, and school in
 358 the state during business hours for the purpose of enforcing the rules and regulations of the
 359 board and for the purpose of ascertaining the sanitary conditions thereof.

360 (d) Any beauty shop, salon, or school in which tools, appliances, and furnishings used
 361 therein are kept in an unclean and unsanitary condition so as to endanger health is declared
 362 to be a public nuisance."

363 **SECTION 19.**

364 Said title is further amended by revising subsection (c) of Code Section 43-14-8.1, relating
 365 to license requirement for low-voltage electrical contracting, businesses conducted by
 366 partnerships, limited liability companies, and corporations, and applications relative to
 367 electrical contracting, as follows:

368 "(c) Any person desiring to qualify under the provisions of this subsection who meets the
 369 requirements of this subsection, submits proper application prior to and including

370 December 31, 1984, and pays or has paid the required fees and is not otherwise in violation
 371 of this chapter shall be issued a state-wide Low-voltage Contractor Class LV-A, LV-G,
 372 LV-U, or LV-T license without examination. An individual desiring to obtain Low-voltage
 373 Contractor Class LV-T shall submit to the division an affidavit ~~sworn before a notary~~
 374 ~~public~~ which outlines the experience of said individual in the practice of low-voltage
 375 wiring relating to telecommunication systems. An individual desiring to obtain a
 376 Low-voltage Contractor Class LV-A license shall submit to the division an affidavit, ~~sworn~~
 377 ~~before a notary public~~, which outlines the experience of said individual in the practice of
 378 low-voltage wiring relating to alarm systems. An individual desiring to obtain a
 379 Low-voltage Contractor Class LV-G license shall submit to the division an affidavit, ~~sworn~~
 380 ~~before a notary public~~, which outlines the experience of said individual in the practice of
 381 low-voltage wiring relating to general systems. Each such affidavit for licensure shall
 382 describe in detail the installation of at least three complete low-voltage wiring jobs which
 383 shall demonstrate that the individual has successfully performed low-voltage wiring in the
 384 area of licensure requested for a period of at least one year immediately prior to the time
 385 of application. An individual desiring to obtain a Low-voltage Contractor Class LV-U
 386 license shall submit to the division an affidavit, ~~sworn before a notary public~~, which
 387 outlines the experience of said individual in the practice of low-voltage wiring relating to
 388 alarm and telecommunication systems and which describes in detail the installation of at
 389 least six complete low-voltage wiring jobs, three in alarm and three in telecommunication
 390 systems, which shall demonstrate that the individual has successfully performed
 391 low-voltage wiring in those areas for a period of at least one year immediately prior to the
 392 time of application."

393 **SECTION 20.**

394 Said title is further amended by revising Code Section 43-15-12, relating to land
 395 surveyor-in-training certificate and eligibility, as follows:

396 "43-15-12.

397 To be eligible for certification as a land surveyor-in-training, an applicant must meet the
 398 following minimum requirements:

- 399 (1)(A) Earn a bachelor's degree in a curriculum approved by the board; ~~or~~
 400 (B) Earn an associate degree, or its equivalent, in a curriculum approved by the board
 401 and acquire not less than two years of combined office and field experience in land
 402 surveying of a nature satisfactory to the board; or
 403 (C) Earn a high school diploma, or its equivalent, and acquire not less than four years'
 404 experience in land surveying of a nature satisfactory to the board; ~~and~~

405 (2) Acquire a minimum of 15 quarter hours' credit, or its equivalent, in land surveying
 406 subjects in a course of study approved by the board; provided, however, that on and after
 407 January 1, 1995, the minimum requirement shall be 20 quarter hours' credit, five of which
 408 shall be in hydrology; and

409 (3) Subsequently pass the ~~board's written~~ board approved examination in the
 410 fundamentals of land surveying (land surveyor-in-training examination)."

411 **SECTION 21.**

412 Said title is further amended by revising subsection (c) of Code Section 43-18-41, relating
 413 to qualifications of embalmer or funeral director applicants, as follows:

414 "(c) In addition to the qualifications set out in subsection (a) of this Code section, an
 415 applicant for a funeral director's license shall have, prior to the issuance of said license, a
 416 valid embalmer's license; shall furnish an affidavit which lists the names of the 50 funerals
 417 at which the apprentice assisted as provided in Code Section 43-18-50; and, effective
 418 January 1, 1991, must pass ~~a written~~ an examination approved by the board which tests
 419 knowledge of the law of this state relating to funeral directors."

420 **SECTION 22.**

421 Said title is further amended by revising paragraph (1) of subsection (a) Code Section
 422 43-18-42, relating to reciprocity and examination upon meeting qualifications relative to
 423 funeral directors and establishments, as follows:

424 "(1)(A) On or after January 1, 1991, such person successfully passes ~~a written~~ an
 425 examination approved by the board which tests knowledge of the law of this state
 426 relating to funeral directors; and

427 (B) Such person satisfied in another state, territory, country, or District of Columbia
 428 the requirements for licensure which are:

429 (i) In effect in Georgia on the date of application; or

430 (ii) Substantially equal to the requirements for a similar license in Georgia; or"

431 **SECTION 23.**

432 Said title is further amended by revising subsection (b) of Code Section 43-20-5, relating to
 433 meetings, reimbursement of members, and notice of meetings relating to the State Board of
 434 Hearing Aid Dealers and Dispensers, as follows:

435 "(b) The division director shall notify each member of the board ~~by certified mail or~~
 436 ~~statutory overnight delivery~~ not less than ten days in advance of the time and place of any
 437 meeting of the board."

438

SECTION 24.

439 Said title is further amended by revising Code Section 43-20-6, relating to general powers
 440 and duties of the State Board of Hearing Aid Dealers and Dispensers and the division
 441 director, as follows:

442 "43-20-6.

443 (a) The board shall have the responsibility and duty of administering and enforcing this
 444 chapter. ~~The board shall be responsible for preparing the examinations required by this~~
 445 ~~chapter, and the division director shall assist the board in carrying out this chapter.~~ The
 446 board shall have the power to establish and to revise minimal procedure and equipment
 447 requirements which shall be used in the dispensing of hearing aids.

448 (b) The board shall:

449 ~~(1) Authorize, with the advice of the division director, all disbursements necessary to~~
 450 ~~carry out this chapter and the rules and regulations promulgated by the board;~~

451 ~~(2)~~(1) Supervise the issuance of licenses and administer qualifying examinations;

452 ~~(3)~~(2) License persons who make proper application to the division director and who
 453 meet the qualifications for licensure;

454 ~~(4) Purchase and maintain or rent facilities necessary to carry out the examination of~~
 455 ~~applicants as provided in this chapter;~~

456 ~~(5)~~(3) Issue and renew licenses;

457 ~~(6)~~(4) Suspend, revoke, or otherwise sanction licenses in the manner provided in this
 458 chapter;

459 ~~(7)~~(5) Appoint representatives to conduct or supervise examinations; and

460 ~~(8)~~(6) ~~Provide to each licensed dealer~~ Make available to the public a copy of this chapter,
 461 any amendments thereto, and all adopted rules.

462 (c) The division director shall be guided by the recommendations of the board in all
 463 matters relating to this chapter and shall assist the board in carrying out this chapter.

464 (d) In the administration and enforcement of this chapter, the board shall have the power
 465 to adopt reasonable rules and regulations not inconsistent with this chapter and the
 466 Constitution and laws of this state or of the United States for governing its times and places
 467 of meetings; for organization and reorganization; for the holding of examinations; for
 468 governing all other matters requisite to the exercising of its powers; for the performance
 469 of its duties relating to examinations; for granting, suspending, revoking, or otherwise
 470 sanctioning licenses; and for the transaction of its business under this chapter.

471 (e) The board may provide, by regulation, for the general scope of the examination
 472 described in Code Section 43-20-9. The board may approve the examination and obtain
 473 advice and assistance in providing for and grading such examination; and the division

474 director may contract with third parties to perform administrative services related to the
 475 examination as he or she deems appropriate."

476 **SECTION 25.**

477 Said title is further amended by revising subsection (b) of Code Section 43-20-8, relating to
 478 issuance of licenses and fees relative to hearing aid dealers and dispensers, as follows:

479 "(b) The board may issue a dispenser's license to an applicant only when the applicant has
 480 satisfactorily completed ~~an~~ a board approved examination ~~administered under the direction~~
 481 ~~of the board~~ and when proof of age has been verified. The license shall authorize the holder
 482 to dispense hearing aids under the general supervision of a licensed dealer."

483 **SECTION 26.**

484 Said title is further amended by revising Code Section 43-20-9, relating to qualifications,
 485 examinations, and apprentice dispensers relative to hearing aid dealers and dispensers, as
 486 follows:

487 "43-20-9.

488 (a) An applicant may obtain a license by successfully passing a qualifying board approved
 489 examination ~~administered by the board~~, provided that the applicant:

490 (1) Is at least 18 years of age; and

491 (2) Is of good moral character.

492 ~~(b) The division director shall schedule at least four examinations each year, one of which~~
 493 ~~will be in each calendar quarter.~~

494 ~~(c) The division director shall schedule every~~ Every apprentice dispenser who has held the
 495 permit over 30 days shall be scheduled to stand for the written examination at every
 496 scheduled examination until all sections have been passed, the permit has been revoked by
 497 the board, or the permit has expired. The board shall have the power to revoke a permit
 498 without a hearing if the holder of an apprentice dispenser permit fails to stand for the
 499 examination. The board shall also have the power to revoke a permit without a hearing if
 500 the holder of an apprentice dispenser permit fails to pass the written portion of the
 501 examination on two occasions. The board may include the fee for an initial examination
 502 as a condition for approval of an applicant for an apprentice dispenser's permit.

503 ~~(d) Each applicant desiring to become licensed as a dispenser, other than holders of~~
 504 ~~apprentice dispensers' permits, shall make application for examination to the division~~
 505 ~~director, accompanied by the examination fee as provided by the board in its rules and~~
 506 ~~regulations.~~

507 ~~(e) The qualifying examination shall be compiled by or at the direction of the board.~~

508 ~~(f)~~(c) The board shall establish uniform criteria for passing and failing candidates."

509 **SECTION 27.**

510 Said title is further amended by revising Code Section 43-20-12, relating to notice to division
 511 director of place of practice and identification of dispensers, apprentice dispensers, and
 512 trainees, and notice to holders of licenses and permits, as follows:

513 "43-20-12.

514 (a) A person holding a dealer's license shall notify the division director in writing of the
 515 regular addresses of places of business operated by the dealer for dispensing hearing aids.
 516 Furthermore, the dealer is required to notify the division director in writing as to the names
 517 and license or permit numbers of all dispensers, apprentice dispensers, and trainees
 518 employed or otherwise practicing at each of his or her places of business. The dealer is
 519 required to notify the division director in writing of any changes of the foregoing within
 520 seven calendar days of such change. Any failure shall be considered a violation of this
 521 chapter by the dealer.

522 (b) Any notice required to be given by the division director or by the board to any person
 523 who holds a license or permit issued by the board shall be mailed to such licensee or permit
 524 holder ~~by certified mail or statutory overnight delivery~~ to the address of the place of
 525 practice last recorded with the division director; and such mailing shall constitute sufficient
 526 notice to such licensee."

527 **SECTION 28.**

528 Said title is further amended by revising subsection (a) of Code Section 43-23-8, relating to
 529 examination fee, issuance of licenses, biennial renewal of licenses, renewal fee, and effect
 530 of nonpayment of check submitted as license fee relative to landscape architects, as follows:

531 "(a) Every applicant for licensure as a landscape architect shall submit with his or her
 532 application for such licensure a fee in an amount established by the board, ~~which shall be~~
 533 ~~sufficient to cover the costs of examination~~. If the applicant successfully passes the
 534 examination and is otherwise qualified for licensure as a landscape architect, the board
 535 shall thereafter, upon payment of a license fee to be determined by the board, issue a
 536 license to the applicant, which shall be valid for up to two years and shall be renewable
 537 biennially. All licenses shall expire on the renewal date established by the division director.
 538 The biennial license renewal fees shall be an amount established by the board."

539 **SECTION 29.**

540 Said title is further amended by revising Code Section 43-28-9, relating to qualifications of
 541 license applicants and waiver relative to occupational therapists, as follows:

542 "43-28-9.

543 (a) An applicant applying for a license as an occupational therapist or as an occupational
544 therapy assistant shall file ~~written~~ an application, on forms provided by the board, showing
545 to the satisfaction of the board that such applicant ~~meets the following requirements:~~

546 (1) Is of good moral character;

547 (2) Has successfully completed the academic requirements of an educational program
548 in occupational therapy recognized by the board, with concentration in biological or
549 physical science, psychology, and sociology and with education in selected manual skills.

550 For an occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant, such a program shall be
551 accredited by a recognized accrediting agency acceptable to the board. Other comparable
552 educational programs such as those approved by the World Federation of Occupational
553 Therapists may be recognized by the board upon evaluation of detailed program and
554 course content;

555 (3) Has successfully completed a period of supervised field work experience at a
556 recognized educational institution or a training program accredited as provided in
557 paragraph (2) of this ~~Code section~~ subsection. For an occupational therapist, a minimum
558 of six months of supervised field work experience is required. For an occupational
559 therapy assistant, a minimum of two months of supervised field work experience is
560 required; and

561 (4) Has passed an examination as provided for in Code Section 43-28-10.

562 (b) An applicant not meeting the requirements of subsection (a) of this Code section must
563 indicate to the board that he or she has obtained a waiver of such requirements pursuant to
564 Code Section 43-28-11."

565 **SECTION 30.**

566 Said title is further amended by revising subsection (e) of Code Section 43-29-7, relating to
567 license requirements, qualifications of applicants, subjects to be listed on examination, and
568 issuance and display of license relative to dispensing opticians, as follows:

569 "(e) Applicants for examination may be examined ~~by the board~~ upon matters pertaining
570 to mathematics and physics, ophthalmic materials and laboratory technique, ophthalmic
571 optics, ophthalmic dispensing, and practical subjects. When any applicant passes the
572 necessary examination and meets the qualifications set out, the board shall issue a license
573 to such person to practice the trade or occupation of dispensing optician."

574

SECTION 31.

575 Said title is further amended by revising Code Section 43-29-8, relating to examination,
 576 examination fee, and the effect of failure of two examinations relative to dispensing
 577 opticians, as follows:

578 "43-29-8.

579 (a) ~~Examination of applicants~~ An applicant applying for a license to practice the trade or
 580 occupation of dispensing optician shall be required to pass a board approved examination
 581 ~~made by the board according to the methods and covering subject matter deemed by the~~
 582 ~~board to be the most practical and expeditious to test the applicant's specific job~~
 583 ~~performance requirements. Such examinations shall be written.~~

584 (b) ~~There shall be paid to the division director by each applicant for a license an~~
 585 ~~examination fee in an amount determined by the board, which fee shall accompany the~~
 586 ~~application for examination.~~

587 (c) Failure to pass a satisfactory examination shall not prevent any applicant from
 588 participating in subsequent examinations ~~before the board~~ upon complying with this
 589 chapter, but any applicant who has failed two examinations shall not be permitted to take
 590 any further examination for licensure under this chapter until such applicant has furnished
 591 sufficient proof of having taken such additional education and training as shall be required
 592 by the board."

593

SECTION 32.

594 Said title is further amended by revising Code Section 43-29-11, relating to continuing
 595 education requirement, waiver, and effect of failure to complete required course hours
 596 relative to dispensing opticians, as follows:

597 "43-29.11.

598 (a) Each person who holds a license as a dispensing optician shall be required to complete
 599 ten hours of continuing education prior to each renewal of such license.

600 (b) With his or her application for license renewal, each licensed dispensing optician ~~must~~
 601 shall submit ~~a certificate or certificates of attendance for~~ an affidavit of course hours
 602 completed as proof that his or her education requirements have been satisfied. The board
 603 shall give credit for any course given by any recognized national, regional, or state
 604 dispensing society or association if such course increases the education of a dispensing
 605 optician and is made available to all licensed opticians on a reasonably nondiscriminatory
 606 fee basis. The board may also approve, in accordance with the objectives of this chapter,
 607 other courses held within or outside of this state which are available to all persons on a
 608 reasonably nondiscriminatory fee basis. Any group of ten or more licensed opticians may
 609 arrange for an educational course and request board approval thereof. Any such request

610 shall be made at least 90 days prior to the proposed date of the course and shall include full
 611 details as to the contents of the course, the instructors, and the charge to be made for
 612 attendance, as well as any other information which the board may require. The board shall
 613 endeavor to act upon any request for approval at least 45 days prior to the proposed date
 614 therefor and shall thereupon notify all licensed opticians of the time, place, contents, and
 615 charges for any such approved course. The certificate of attendance required under this
 616 ~~chapter~~ Code section shall be issued to the optician upon completion of the approved
 617 course. Credit ~~will~~ shall be allowed on the basis of an hour for an hour. To receive one hour
 618 of credit, one must attend one full hour. No fractional hour credits ~~will~~ shall be allowed.

619 (c) The board may waive the requirements of this Code section for any license period for
 620 any dispensing optician upon proof of such optician's hardship or disability, provided that
 621 such optician's license may be revoked upon failure of the licensee to complete the required
 622 number of hours, not to exceed 20 hours, of continuing education within 12 months
 623 immediately following renewal.

624 (d) A dispensing optician failing to complete the course hours required under this Code
 625 section shall have his or her license restored upon proof of subsequent completion of
 626 required course hours and, except in the case of a waiver granted under subsection (c) of
 627 this Code section, upon payment of a penalty fee in an amount established by the board."

628

SECTION 33.

629 Said title is further amended by revising Code Section 43-33-9, relating to division director
 630 as secretary of board, subpoena power, service of process and documents, and official
 631 records as prim-facie evidence relative to physical therapists, as follows:

632 "43-33-9.

633 The division director shall be secretary of the board and shall perform such other
 634 administrative duties as may be prescribed by the board. In a contested case, the division
 635 director on behalf of the board shall have the power to subpoena, throughout the state,
 636 witnesses, designated documents, papers, books, accounts, letters, photographs, objects,
 637 or other tangible things. All legal process and all documents required by law to be served
 638 upon or filed with the board shall be served upon or filed with the division director at his
 639 or her office ~~in Atlanta~~. All official records of the board or affidavits by the division
 640 director certifying the content of such records shall be prima-facie evidence of all matters
 641 required to be kept therein."

642

SECTION 34.

643 Said title is further amended by revising 43-35-12, relating to eligibility for license relative
 644 to podiatry practice, as follows:

645 "43-35-12.

646 A license to practice podiatric medicine shall be issued to any person who:

647 (1) Is a graduate of an accredited college of podiatric medicine approved by the board;

648 (2) Holds a doctoral degree or its equivalent;

649 (3) Satisfactorily passes ~~an examination prepared or approved~~ a board approved
650 examination, if an examination is required by the board;

651 (4) Successfully completes postdoctoral training of no less than 12 months as a resident
652 in podiatric medicine and surgery in a program or institution approved by, and in good
653 standing with, the board;

654 (5) Has attained the age of 21 years;

655 (6) Is not disqualified to receive a license under the provisions of Code Section
656 43-35-16; and

657 (7) Pays the required fee to the board."

658 **SECTION 35.**

659 Said title is further amended by revising Code Section 43-35-14, relating to examination of
660 applicants relative to podiatry practice, as follows:

661 "43-35-14.

662 The board ~~shall examine applicants~~ may require applicants to be examined upon the
663 subjects required for the practice of podiatric medicine ~~at least twice each year and shall~~
664 ~~use any method or procedure which the board deems necessary to test the applicant's~~
665 ~~qualifications to practice podiatric medicine.~~ Any standardized examination which the
666 board shall approve may be administered to all applicants in lieu of or in conjunction with
667 any other examination which the board ~~shall administer~~ may require."

668 **SECTION 36.**

669 Said title is further amended by revising subsections (a), (c), and (f) of Code Section 43-38-6,
670 relating to licenses, qualifications, criminal records, fingerprints, bond, insurance, or net
671 worth affidavit, display of license, suspension, temporary permits, and license recognition
672 agreements relative to private detectives and security agencies, as follows:

673 "43-38-6.

674 (a) Any individual, firm, association, company, partnership, limited liability company, or
675 corporation desiring to engage in the private detective or private security business in this
676 state shall make a verified application ~~in writing~~ to the division director for a license
677 therefor. If the applicant is a firm, association, company, partnership, limited liability
678 company, or corporation, the person filing the application on behalf of such firm,
679 association, company, partnership, limited liability company, or corporation shall be a

680 corporate officer of such corporation or an officer of such firm, association, partnership,
 681 or limited liability company; and such individual shall meet the qualifications set out in this
 682 Code section."

683 "(c) The application for a license shall be made ~~in writing~~, under oath, on a form to be
 684 furnished by the division director. The application shall state the applicant's full name, age,
 685 date and place of birth; residences and employment within the past five years, with the
 686 names and addresses of employers; present occupation; date and place of conviction or
 687 arrest for any crime, including the plea of nolo contendere or a plea entered pursuant to
 688 Article 3 of Chapter 8 of Title 42 or other first offender treatment; and such additional
 689 information as the board may require to investigate the qualifications, character,
 690 competency, and integrity of the applicant. Each applicant shall submit with the application
 691 two complete sets of fingerprints on forms specified and furnished by the board and one
 692 photograph, two inches wide by three inches high, full face, taken within six months prior
 693 to the application; provided, however, that the board may waive the submission of
 694 fingerprints and photograph for any employee who has been employed by a person licensed
 695 under this chapter within the previous 12 months. The application shall contain such
 696 additional documentation as the board may prescribe by rule. The board shall have the
 697 discretion to deny a license to an applicant who fails to provide the information and
 698 supporting documentation required by this subsection."

699 "(f) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this Code section, an applicant for a license
 700 shall agree ~~in writing on the application~~ that if such applicant makes a false statement in
 701 the application or if such applicant has been found to have been convicted of a felony and
 702 has not had all his or her civil rights restored pursuant to law, then the board shall be
 703 authorized to suspend any license granted to such applicant without a prior hearing as
 704 required in Code Section 43-38-11. Upon request, any such person shall be entitled to a
 705 hearing on such matter subsequent to the suspension."

706 **SECTION 37.**

707 Said title is further amended by revising subsections (d) and (g) of Code Section 43-38-7,
 708 relating to registration of armed employees, qualifications, continuing education,
 709 fingerprints, registration card, and suspension relative to private detectives and security
 710 agencies, as follows:

711 "(d) The application for registration shall be made ~~in writing~~, under oath, on a form to be
 712 furnished by the division director. The application shall state the employee's full name,
 713 age, and date and place of birth; residences and employment within the past five years;
 714 experience in the position applied for or held; the date and place of conviction or arrest for
 715 any crime, including the entry of a plea of nolo contendere or the entry of a plea entered

716 pursuant to Article 3 of Chapter 8 of Title 42 or other first offender treatment; and such
 717 other information as the board may require. The application for registration shall be
 718 accompanied by two sets of fingerprints of the employee and one photograph of the
 719 employee, two inches wide by three inches high, full face, taken within six months prior
 720 to the application. The board shall have discretion to deny registration to any individual
 721 when the information and supporting documentation required by this subsection are not
 722 provided."

723 "(g) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this Code section, any person who is to be
 724 registered under this Code section shall agree ~~in writing on the application~~ that if such
 725 person to be registered makes a false statement in the application or if such person has been
 726 found to have been convicted of a felony and has not had all his or her civil rights restored
 727 pursuant to law, then the board shall be authorized to suspend any registration granted to
 728 such applicant without a prior hearing as required in Code Section 43-38-11. Upon
 729 request, any such person shall be entitled to a hearing on such matter subsequent to the
 730 suspension."

731 **SECTION 38.**

732 Said title is further amended by revising Code Section 43-39-9, relating to examination of
 733 applicants and appeals relative to psychologists, as follows:

734 "43-39-9.

735 ~~Examination of applicants for a license to practice psychology shall be made by the board~~
 736 ~~at least once a year according to methods and in such subject fields as may be deemed by~~
 737 ~~the board to be the most practical and expeditious to test the applicant's qualifications. The~~
 738 ~~board shall require the examination to be written or oral, or both, provided that in any~~
 739 ~~written examination such applicant shall be designated by a number instead of the~~
 740 ~~applicant's name so that the applicant's identity shall not be disclosed to the members of the~~
 741 ~~board until the examination papers have been graded. Any unsuccessful candidate may,~~
 742 ~~within 14 days of notice of failure and upon written request to the board, appeal to the~~
 743 ~~board for review. Applicants shall take a board approved examination to test the~~
 744 ~~applicant's qualifications. The examination shall be written or oral or both.~~"

745 **SECTION 39.**

746 Said title is further amended by revising Code Section 43-41-8, relating to eligibility for
 747 licensure without examination, reciprocity, and burden upon applicant relative to residential
 748 and general contractors, to add a new subsection to read as follows:

749 "(c) Any business organization that had an applicant submit a complete and satisfactory
 750 application pursuant to this Code section, but was not issued a license due to the death of

751 the qualifying agent applicant prior to the issuance of the license, shall remain eligible for
 752 consideration under this Code section with the submission of a new qualifying agent
 753 applicant for such business entity."

754 **SECTION 40.**

755 Said title is further amended by revising subsections (d) and (l) of Code Section 43-47-8,
 756 relating to license applications, prerequisites, license fees, renewal, training or test,
 757 supplemental licenses, bonds, insurance, suspension for conviction or false statement, and
 758 meetings relative to used motor vehicle and parts dealers, as follows:

759 "(d) Each division may require either that within the preceding year the applicant has
 760 attended a training and information seminar approved by the division or that the applicant
 761 has passed a test approved by the division ~~and administered by the division director~~. Such
 762 seminar or test, if required, shall include, but shall not be limited to, dealer requirements
 763 of this chapter, including books and records to be kept; requirements of the Department of
 764 Revenue; and such other information as in the opinion of the division will promote good
 765 business practices. No seminar shall exceed one day in length."

766 "(l) Each division may authorize the division director to issue a license when he or she has
 767 received the bond required by subsections (g) and (h) of this Code section, the proof of
 768 insurance required by subsection (k) of this Code section, and a fingerprint card for
 769 submission to the Georgia Crime Information Center and to the Federal Bureau of
 770 Investigation. Each completed application for a permanent license shall be reviewed by
 771 the appropriate division, which may deny licensure for any good reason under this chapter.
 772 Any other provision of law to the contrary notwithstanding, each applicant for a license
 773 pursuant to the provisions of this Code section shall agree ~~in writing~~ in the application that
 774 if the applicant makes a false statement on the application or if the criminal record check
 775 returned from the Georgia Crime Information Center or from the Federal Bureau of
 776 Investigation reveals a conviction of or an entry of a plea of nolo contendere to a crime
 777 involving the use of violence, a used motor vehicle, or illegal drugs; tax evasion or failure
 778 to pay taxes; any crime involving the illegal use or possession of a dangerous weapon; or
 779 any crime involving moral turpitude, then the division shall be authorized to suspend the
 780 license without a prior hearing. The divisions shall each meet as needed, in their
 781 discretion. The board shall meet at least once each quarter and upon the call of the board
 782 chairperson for any special sessions."

783 **SECTION 41.**

784 Said title is further amended by revising subsection (a) of Code Section 43-50-31, relating
 785 to application for license, qualifications, determination as to admission or nonadmission to
 786 examination, and waiver relative to veterinarians and veterinary technicians, as follows:

787 "(a) Any person desiring a license to practice veterinary medicine in this state shall make
 788 ~~written~~ application to the board. The application shall include evidence, satisfactory to the
 789 board, that:

790 (1) The applicant has attained the age of 18;

791 (2) The applicant is of good moral character;

792 (3) The applicant is a graduate of an accredited college or school of veterinary medicine
 793 or possesses an ECFVG certificate or its substantial equivalent; provided, however, that
 794 a senior veterinary student may, in the discretion of the board, be allowed to sit for the
 795 examination during his or her senior year if he or she meets the other qualifications but
 796 shall not be issued a license unless and until he or she graduates; and

797 (4) The applicant meets such other qualifications or provides such other information as
 798 the board may require by rule."

799 **SECTION 42.**

800 Said title is further amended by revising subsection (b) of Code Section 43-50-40, relating
 801 to renewal of licenses and registrations, reinstatement, waiver of fee, continuing education,
 802 and inactive status relative to veterinarians and veterinary technicians, as follows:

803 "(b) Any person who shall practice veterinary medicine or veterinary technology after the
 804 expiration of his or her license or registration and willfully or by neglect fail to renew such
 805 license or registration shall be practicing in violation of this article, provided that any
 806 person may renew an expired license or registration within the period established by the
 807 division director in accordance with Code Section 43-1-4 by making ~~written~~ application
 808 for renewal and paying the applicable fees. After the time period established by the
 809 division director has elapsed, such license or registration may be reinstated in accordance
 810 with the rules of the board."

811 **SECTION 43.**

812 Said title is further amended by revising Code Section 43-51-7, relating to examinations
 813 relative to treatment plant operators, as follows:

814 "43-51-7.

815 ~~The board shall prepare examinations to~~ Board approved examinations shall be used in
 816 determining the knowledge, ability, and judgment of applicants for certification as
 817 operators or laboratory analysts except for applications submitted prior to July 1, 2000, for
 818 Class IV level certifications. Such examinations shall be given at least six times annually."

819 **SECTION 44.**

820 This Act shall become effective upon its approval by the Governor or upon its becoming law
821 without such approval.

822 **SECTION 45.**

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