

House Bill 166

By: Representatives Powell of the 29<sup>th</sup>, Dickson of the 6<sup>th</sup>, Jerguson of the 22<sup>nd</sup>, Harbin of the 118<sup>th</sup>, and Maddox of the 127<sup>th</sup>

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Chapter 15 of Title 43 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to  
2 professional engineers and land surveyors, so as to change the requirements for eligibility for  
3 certification as an engineer-in-training and eligibility for a certificate of registration as a  
4 professional engineer; to change requirements for eligibility for certification as a land  
5 surveyor-in-training and for a certificate of registration as a land surveyor; to repeal  
6 conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 Chapter 15 of Title 43 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to professional  
10 engineers and land surveyors, is amended by revising Code Section 43-15-8, relating to  
11 engineer-in-training certificate, as follows:

12 "43-15-8.

13 (a) To be eligible for certification as an engineer-in-training, an applicant applying prior  
14 to July 1, 2012, must meet the following minimum requirements:

15 (1)(A) Graduate in an engineering curriculum of not less than four years from a school  
16 or college approved by the board; and

17 (B) Pass a written examination in fundamental engineering subjects  
18 (engineer-in-training examination);

19 (2)(A) Graduate in an engineering curriculum of not less than four years or in a  
20 curriculum of four or more years in engineering technology or related science; from a  
21 school or college approved by the board; and

22 (B) Pass a written examination in fundamental engineering subjects  
23 (engineer-in-training examination); or

24 (3)(A) Acquire not less than eight years of experience in engineering work of a nature  
25 satisfactory to the board; and

26 (B) Pass a written examination in fundamental engineering subjects  
27 (engineer-in-training examination).

28 (b) To be eligible for certification as an engineer-in-training, an applicant applying on or  
29 after July 1, 2012, must meet the following minimum requirements:

30 (1)(A) Graduate in an engineering curriculum of not less than four years from a school  
31 or college approved by the board; and

32 (B) Pass a written examination in fundamental engineering subjects  
33 (engineer-in-training examination); or

34 (2)(A) Graduate in an engineering curriculum of not less than four years or in a  
35 curriculum of four or more years in engineering technology or related science from a  
36 school or college approved by the board; and

37 (B) Pass a written examination in fundamental engineering subjects  
38 (engineer-in-training examination)."

39 **SECTION 2.**

40 Said chapter is further amended by revising Code Section 43-15-9, relating to professional  
41 engineer certificate of registration, as follows:

42 "43-15-9.

43 (a) To be eligible for a certificate of registration as a professional engineer, an applicant  
44 applying prior to July 1, 2014, must meet the following minimum requirements:

45 (1)(A) Obtain certification by the board as an engineer-in-training under paragraph (1)  
46 of subsection (a) of Code Section 43-15-8;

47 (B) Acquire a specific record of not less than four years' experience in engineering  
48 work of a character satisfactory to the board which indicates the applicant is competent  
49 to practice professional engineering; and

50 (C) Subsequently pass a written examination in the principles and practice of  
51 engineering (professional engineer's examination);

52 (2)(A) Obtain certification by the board as an engineer-in-training under paragraph (2)  
53 of subsection (a) of Code Section 43-15-8;

54 (B) Acquire a specific record of not less than seven years' experience in engineering  
55 work of a character satisfactory to the board which indicates the applicant is competent  
56 to practice professional engineering; and

57 (C) Subsequently pass a written examination in the principles and practice of  
58 engineering (professional engineer's examination);

59 (3)(A) Obtain certification by the board as an engineer-in-training under paragraph (3)  
60 of subsection (a) of Code Section 43-15-8;

61 (B) Acquire a specific record of not less than seven years' experience in engineering  
 62 work of a character satisfactory to the board which indicates the applicant is competent  
 63 to practice professional engineering; and

64 (C) Subsequently pass a written examination in the principles and practice of  
 65 engineering (professional engineer's examination); or

66 (4)(A) Graduate in an engineering or related science curriculum of not less than four  
 67 academic years;

68 (B) Acquire a specific record of not less than 16 years' experience in engineering work,  
 69 of which at least eight years have been in responsible charge of important engineering  
 70 work of a character satisfactory to the board, which indicates the applicant is competent  
 71 to practice professional engineering; and

72 (C) Subsequently pass a written examination in the principles and practice of  
 73 engineering (professional engineer's examination).

74 (b) To be eligible for a certificate of registration as a professional engineer, an applicant  
 75 applying on or after July 1, 2014, must meet the following minimum requirements:

76 (1)(A) Obtain certification by the board as an engineer-in-training under paragraph (1)  
 77 of subsection (a) or paragraph (1) of subsection (b) of Code Section 43-15-8;

78 (B) Acquire a specific record of not less than four years' experience in engineering  
 79 work of a character satisfactory to the board which indicates the applicant is competent  
 80 to practice professional engineering; and

81 (C) Subsequently pass a written examination in the principles and practice of  
 82 engineering (professional engineer's examination); or

83 (2)(A) Obtain certification by the board as an engineer-in-training under paragraph (2)  
 84 of subsection (a) or paragraph (2) of subsection (b) of Code Section 43-15-8;

85 (B) Acquire a specific record of not less than seven years' experience in engineering  
 86 work of a character satisfactory to the board which indicates the applicant is competent  
 87 to practice professional engineering; and

88 (C) Subsequently pass a written examination in the principles and practice of  
 89 engineering (professional engineer's examination)."

90 **SECTION 3.**

91 Said chapter is further amended by revising Code Section 43-15-12, relating to land  
 92 surveyor-in-training certificate, as follows:

93 "43-15-12.

94 To be eligible for certification as a land surveyor-in-training, an applicant applying prior  
 95 to July 1, 2012, must meet the following minimum requirements:

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

- 97 (B) Earn an associate degree, or its equivalent, in a curriculum approved by the board  
 98 and acquire not less than two years of combined office and field experience in land  
 99 surveying of a nature satisfactory to the board; or
- 100 (C) Earn a high school diploma, or its equivalent, and acquire not less than four years'  
 101 experience in land surveying of a nature satisfactory to the board;
- 102 (2) Acquire a minimum of ~~15 quarter~~ 12 semester hours' credit, or its equivalent, in land  
 103 surveying subjects in a course of study approved by the board; provided, however, that  
 104 ~~on and after January 1, 1995, the minimum requirement shall be 20 quarter hours' credit,~~  
 105 ~~five of which shall be~~ three hours are in hydrology; and
- 106 (3) Subsequently pass the ~~board approved examination in the fundamentals of land~~  
 107 ~~surveying (land surveyor-in-training examination)~~ Fundamentals of Land Surveying  
 108 (FLS) examination, prepared and graded by the National Council of Examiners for  
 109 Engineering and Surveying (NCEES), or any other examination as may be approved and  
 110 required by the board.
- 111 (b) To be eligible for certification as a land surveyor-in-training, an applicant applying on  
 112 or after July 1, 2012, must meet the following minimum requirements:
- 113 (1)(A) Earn a bachelor's degree in a curriculum approved by the board consisting of  
 114 a minimum of 18 semester hours' or 30 quarter hours' credit, or the equivalent, in land  
 115 surveying subjects, including a minimum of three semester hours or five quarter hours  
 116 of hydrology; or
- 117 (B) Earn a bachelor's degree in a curriculum approved by the board and separately  
 118 acquire a minimum of 18 semester hours' or 30 quarter hours' credit, or the equivalent,  
 119 in land surveying subjects, including a minimum of three semester hours or five quarter  
 120 hours of hydrology from a curriculum approved by the board; and
- 121 (2) Subsequently pass the Fundamentals of Land Surveying (FLS) examination, prepared  
 122 and graded by the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying  
 123 (NCEES), or any other examination as may be approved and required by the board."

124 **SECTION 4.**

125 Said chapter is further amended by revising Code Section 43-15-13, relating to land surveyor  
 126 certificate of registration, as follows:

127 "43-15-13.

- 128 (a) To be eligible for a certificate of registration as a land surveyor, an applicant applying  
 129 before July 1, 2014, must meet the following minimum requirements:
- 130 (1)(A) Obtain certification as a land surveyor-in-training under subparagraph (a)(1)(A)  
 131 of paragraph (1) and paragraph and paragraphs (2) and (3) of subsection (a) of Code  
 132 Section 43-15-12;

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

138 (C) Subsequently pass a written examination on the principles and practices of land  
 139 surveying (PLS), prepared and graded by the National Council of Examiners for  
 140 Engineering and Surveying (NCEES), or any other examination as may be approved  
 141 and required by the board, and a written examination on the laws of this state relating  
 142 to land surveying (land surveyor examination);

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

146 (B) Acquire an additional specific record of the equivalent of not less than four years  
 147 of combined office and field experience in land surveying which, together with the  
 148 qualifying experience under subparagraph (a)(1)(B) of paragraph (1) of Code Section  
 149 43-15-12, includes not less than four years' experience in responsible charge of land  
 150 surveying projects under the supervision of a registered land surveyor or such other  
 151 supervision deemed by the board to be the equivalent thereof; and

152 (C) Subsequently pass a written examination on the principles and practices of land  
 153 surveying (PLS), prepared and graded by the National Council of Examiners for  
 154 Engineering and Surveying (NCEES), or any other examination as may be approved  
 155 and required by the board, and a written examination on the laws of Georgia relating  
 156 to land surveying (land surveyor examination); or

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

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

167 (C) Subsequently pass a written examination on the principles and practices of land  
 168 surveying (PLS), prepared and graded by the National Council of Examiners for  
 169 Engineering and Surveying (NCEES), or any other examination as may be approved

170 and required by the board, and a written examination on the laws of this state relating  
 171 to land surveying (land surveyor examination); or  
 172 (4)(A) Obtain certification as a land surveyor-in-training under subsection (b) of Code  
 173 Section 43-15-12;  
 174 (B) Acquire a specific record of the equivalent of not less than four years of combined  
 175 office and field experience in land surveying with a minimum of three years' experience  
 176 in responsible charge of land surveying projects under the supervision of a registered  
 177 land surveyor or such other supervision deemed by the board to the equivalent thereof;  
 178 and  
 179 (C) Subsequently pass a written examination on the principles and practices of land  
 180 surveying (PLS), prepared and graded by the National Council of Examiners for  
 181 Engineering and Surveying (NCEES), or any other examination as may be approved  
 182 and required by the board, and a written examination on the laws of this state relating  
 183 to land surveying (land surveyor examination).  
 184 (b) To be eligible for a certificate of registration as a land surveyor, an applicant applying  
 185 on or after July 1, 2014, must meet the following minimum requirements:  
 186 (1)(A) Obtain certification as a land surveyor-in-training under subsection (b) of Code  
 187 Section 43-15-12;  
 188 (B) Acquire a specific record of the equivalent of not less than four years of combined  
 189 office and field experience in land surveying with a minimum of three years' experience  
 190 in responsible charge of land surveying projects under the supervision of a registered  
 191 land surveyor or such other supervision deemed by the board to be the equivalent  
 192 thereof; and  
 193 (C) Subsequently pass a written examination on the principles and practices of land  
 194 surveying (PLS), prepared and graded by the National Council of Examiners for  
 195 Engineering and Surveying (NCEES), or any other examination as may be approved  
 196 and required by the board, and a written examination on the laws of this state relating  
 197 to land surveying (land surveyor examination)."

198 **SECTION 5.**

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