

Senate Bill 205

By: Senators Crane of the 28th, Gooch of the 51st, Hill of the 32nd, Albers of the 56th,  
Loudermilk of the 14th and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Chapter 1 of Title 43 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to  
2 general provisions relative to professions and businesses, so as to change the expiration and  
3 renewal dates for certain licenses and certificates issued by certain professional licensing  
4 boards; to prohibit professional licensing boards from requiring continuing education and  
5 training once a license has been issued except in the event disciplinary action has been taken  
6 against the licensee; to provide for exceptions and for applicability; to provide for the  
7 division director of the Secretary of State to adopt rules and regulations to effectuate such  
8 provisions; to provide for related matters; to provide effective dates; to repeal conflicting  
9 laws; and for other purposes.

10 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

11 style="text-align:center">**SECTION 1.**

12 Chapter 1 of Title 43 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to general  
13 provisions relative to professions and businesses, is amended by revising Code  
14 Section 43-1-4, relating to expiration, renewal, and penalty dates of licenses and certificates  
15 and duration of validity, as follows:

16 "43-1-4.

17 (a) The division director shall determine the expiration, renewal, and penalty dates for  
18 each license and certificate issued by the professional licensing boards through the office  
19 of the division director which is subject to renewal. Before becoming effective, these  
20 expiration, renewal, and penalty dates ~~must~~ shall be approved by the respective  
21 professional licensing boards.

22 (b) ~~Each~~ On and before December 31, 2013, each license and certificate issued by the  
23 professional licensing boards through the office of the division director which ~~are~~ is subject  
24 to renewal shall be valid for up to ~~two~~ six years and shall be renewable ~~biennially~~  
25 renewal date established by the division director, as approved by the respective  
26 professional licensing boards. On and after January 1, 2014, each license and certificate  
27 issued by the professional licensing boards through the office of the division director which

28 is subject to renewal shall be valid for six years and shall be renewable on the renewal date  
 29 established by the division director, as approved by the respective professional licensing  
 30 boards.

31 (c) The division director is authorized to adopt the necessary rules and regulations to  
 32 implement the ~~biennial~~ renewal of licenses and certificates in such manner as to ensure that  
 33 the number of renewals is reasonably evenly distributed throughout each ~~two-year~~ six-year  
 34 period.

35 (d) The provisions of this Code section shall not be applicable to the renewal of licenses  
 36 and certificates under the professional licensing boards established under Chapter 4 of  
 37 Title 26 and Chapters 9, 10A, 11, 11A, 26 through 30, 33, 34, 35, 39, 44, and 50 of this  
 38 title. Instead, each license and certificate issued by such professional licensing boards  
 39 through the office of the division director which is subject to renewal shall be valid for up  
 40 to two years and shall be renewable biennially on the renewal date established by the  
 41 division director, as approved by the respective professional licensing boards."

## 42 SECTION 2.

43 Said chapter is further amended by adding a new Code section to read as follows:

44 "43-1-4.1.

45 (a) Except as provided in subsection (c) of this Code section and notwithstanding any other  
 46 provisions of law to the contrary, once a licensee has been issued a license by a  
 47 professional licensing board, such licensee shall not be required to obtain any additional  
 48 continuing education or training in order to maintain such license unless disciplinary action  
 49 has been taken against such licensee, and all appeals contesting any such disciplinary  
 50 action afforded to the licensee have been exhausted. The division director, with the  
 51 approval of the respective professional licensing boards, shall determine what type of  
 52 disciplinary action shall warrant mandatory continuing education or training, the nature and  
 53 extent of such continuing education or training, and the time in which it must be completed.

54 (b) The division director and each of the respective professional licensing boards are  
 55 authorized to adopt the necessary rules and regulations to implement the provisions of this  
 56 Code section.

57 (c) This Code section shall not apply to any continuing education or training required by  
 58 professional licensing boards established under Chapter 4 of Title 26 and Chapters 9, 10A,  
 59 11, 11A, 26 through 30, 33, 34, 35, 39, 44, and 50 of this title."

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**SECTION 3.**

61 For purposes of proposing rules and regulations, this Act shall become effective upon its  
62 approval by the Governor or upon its becoming law without such approval. For all other  
63 purposes, this Act shall become effective on July 1, 2013.

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**SECTION 4.**

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