

Senate Bill 374

By: Senators Walker III of the 20th, Strickland of the 17th, Ginn of the 47th, Halpern of the 39th, Anavitarte of the 31st and others

AS PASSED SENATE

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1 To amend Chapter 15 of Title 43 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, the
2 "Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors Act of 2021," so as to change provisions
3 relating to professional land surveyors; to provide new powers to the Georgia Professional
4 Engineers and Land Surveyors Board concerning land surveyor intern certificates; to repeal
5 provisions relating to land surveyor intern certificates; to provide for experience and
6 educational requirements for licensure as a professional land surveyor; to provide for related
7 matters; to provide for an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

9 **SECTION 1.**

10 Chapter 15 of Title 43 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, the "Professional
11 Engineers and Land Surveyors Act of 2021," is amended in Code Section 43-15-6, relating
12 to general powers of board, injunctions, and continuing education, by adding a new
13 subsection to read as follows:

14 "(c) In addition to the other powers conferred upon the board under this chapter, the board
15 shall be authorized to issue land surveyor intern certificates. To be eligible for such
16 certification, an applicant shall earn a high school diploma or its equivalent, subsequently

17 pass a board approved examination on the fundamentals of land surveying, and complete
18 such additional requirements as are required by the board through rules and regulations."

19 **SECTION 2.**

20 Said chapter is further amended by repealing Code Section 43-15-12, relating to surveyor
21 intern certificate and eligibility, and designating said Code section as reserved.

22 **SECTION 3.**

23 Said chapter is further amended by revising Code Section 43-15-13, relating to professional
24 land surveyor license and eligibility, as follows:

25 "43-15-13.

26 ~~To be eligible for a license as a professional land surveyor, an applicant must meet the~~
27 ~~following minimum requirements:~~

28 ~~(1)(A) Obtain certification as a land surveyor intern under subparagraph (A) of~~
29 ~~paragraph (1) and paragraph (3) of subsection (a) of Code Section 43-15-12;~~

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

35 ~~(C) Subsequently pass a written examination on the principles and practices of land~~
36 ~~surveying and the laws of this state relating to land surveying (professional land~~
37 ~~surveyor examination);~~

38 ~~(2)(A) Obtain certification as a land surveyor intern under subparagraph (B) of~~
39 ~~paragraph (1) and paragraph (3) of subsection (a) of Code Section 43-15-12;~~

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

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

~~(C) Subsequently pass a written examination on the principles and practices of land surveying and the laws of Georgia relating to land surveying (professional land surveyor examination); or~~

~~(3)(A) Obtain certification as a land surveyor intern under subparagraph (C) of paragraph (1) and paragraph (3) of subsection (a) of Code Section 43-15-12;~~

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

~~(C) Subsequently pass a written examination on the principles and practices of land surveying and laws of this state relating to land surveying (professional land surveyor examination).~~

To be eligible for licensure as a professional land surveyor, an applicant must meet the minimum requirements set forth in paragraphs (1), (2), or (3) of this Code section as follows:

(1) Complete the following:

(A) Earn a bachelor's degree in a curriculum approved by the board. Such education shall include a minimum of 18 semester hours of credit, or its equivalent, in land surveying subjects acceptable to the board. These credit hours may be a part of a degree requirement or unrelated to such requirement;

(B) Subsequent to satisfying the education requirements in subparagraph (A) of this paragraph, pass the board approved fundamentals of surveying examination. The applicant may, upon request to the board, obtain a certificate as a land surveyor intern after the requirements in subparagraph (A) of this paragraph and this subparagraph have been satisfied. Such certificate shall not be required for licensure;

(C) Subsequent to passing the fundamentals of surveying examination as provided in subparagraph (B) of this paragraph, pass the board approved principles and practices of land surveying examination;

(D) Subsequent to passing the principles and practices of land surveying examination as provided in subparagraph (C) of this paragraph, pass the board approved examination on the laws and history of land surveying in Georgia, the Georgia Professional Land Surveyor examination;

(E) Acquire not less than three years of combined office and field experience in land surveying of a nature satisfactory to the board; and

(F) When the requirements of subparagraphs (A) through (E) of this paragraph have been satisfied, the applicant shall be eligible for licensure as a professional land surveyor;

(2) Complete the following:

(A) Earn an associate's degree in a curriculum approved by the board. Such education shall include a minimum of 18 semester hours of credit, or its equivalent, in land surveying subjects acceptable to the board. These credit hours may be a part of a degree requirement or unrelated to such requirement;

(B) Subsequent to satisfying the education requirements in subparagraph (A) of this paragraph, pass the board approved fundamentals of surveying examination. The applicant may, upon request to the board, obtain a certificate as a land surveyor intern after the requirements in subparagraph (A) of this paragraph and this subparagraph have been satisfied. Such certificate shall not be necessary for licensure;

(C) Subsequent to passing the fundamentals of surveying examination, pass the board approved principles and practices of land surveying examination;

(D) Subsequent to passing the principles and practices of land surveying examination, pass the board approved examination on the laws and history of land surveying in Georgia, the Georgia Professional Land Surveyor examination;

(E) Acquire not less than five years of combined office and field experience in land surveying of a nature satisfactory to the board; and

(F) When the requirements of subparagraphs (A) through (E) of this paragraph have been satisfied, the applicant shall be eligible for licensure as a professional land surveyor; or

(3) Complete the following:

(A) Earn a high school diploma or its equivalent. In addition, such education shall include a minimum of 18 semester hours of credit, or its equivalent, in land surveying subjects acceptable to the board;

(B) Subsequent to satisfying the education requirements in subparagraph (A) of this paragraph, pass the board approved fundamentals of surveying examination. The applicant may, upon request to the board, obtain a certificate as a land surveyor intern after the requirements of subparagraph (A) of this paragraph and this subparagraph have been satisfied. This certificate is not necessary for licensure;

(C) Subsequent to passing the fundamentals of surveying examination, pass the board approved principles and practices of land surveying examination;

(D) Subsequent to passing the principles and practices of land surveying examination, pass the board approved examination on the laws and history of land surveying in Georgia, the Georgia Professional Land Surveyor examination;

(E) Acquire not less than eight years of combined office and field experience in land surveying of a nature satisfactory to the board; and

122 (F) When the requirements of subparagraphs (A) through (E) of this paragraph have
123 been satisfied, the applicant will be eligible for licensure as a professional land
124 surveyor."

125 **SECTION 4.**

126 This Act shall become effective on January 1, 2025.

127 **SECTION 5.**

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