

45:8-28 et al

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

NJSA 45:8-28 et al (Professional engineering and land survey--revision of law)

Laws of 1977 Chapter 340

Bill No. S1234

Sponsor(s) Merlino, Cafiero

Date Introduced March 22, 1976

Committee: Assembly Labor, Industry & Professions

Senate Labor, Industry & Professions

Amended during passage Yes ~~No~~ Amendments during passage denoted by asterisks

Date of passage: Assembly Nov. 21, 1977

Senate July 11, 1977

Date of approval January 25, 1978

Following statements are attached if available:

Sponsor statement Yes ~~No~~

Committee Statement: Assembly Yes ~~No~~

Senate Yes ~~No~~

Fiscal Note Yes ~~No~~

Veto message Yes ~~No~~

Message on signing Yes ~~No~~

Following were printed:

Reports Yes ~~No~~

Hearings Yes ~~No~~

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10/4/76

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED MARCH 22, 1976

By Senators MERLINO and CAFIERO

Referred to Committee on Labor, Industry and Professions

AN ACT to amend "An act concerning the practice of professional engineering and land surveying (Revision of 1938), and repealing chapter 8, Title 45, of the Revised Statutes," approved June 14, 1938 (P. L. 1938, c. 342) and repealing section 20 (C. 45:8-46) thereof.

1 BE IT ENACTED *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
2 *of New Jersey:*

1 1. Section 2 of P. L. 1938, c. 342 (C. 45:8-28) is amended to read
2 as follows:

3 2. Definitions. (a) The term "professional engineer" within the
4 meaning and intent of this chapter shall mean a person who by
5 reason of his special knowledge of the mathematical and physical
6 sciences and the principles and methods of engineering analysis
7 and design, acquired by professional education and practical ex-
8 perience, is qualified to practice engineering as hereinafter defined
9 as attested by his license as a professional engineer.

10 (b) The terms "practice of engineering" or "professional en-
11 gineering" within the meaning and intent of this chapter shall
12 mean any professional service or creative work requiring engineer-
13 ing education, training, and experience and the application of
14 special knowledge of the mathematical, physical and engineering
15 sciences to such professional services or creative work as consulta-
16 tion, investigation, evaluation, planning, design or general super-
17 vision of construction or operation for the purpose of assuring
18 compliance with plans, specification and design in connection with
19 any public or private engineering or industrial project. The
20 practice of professional engineering shall not include the work
21 ordinarily performed by persons who operate or maintain ma-
22 chinery or equipment. The provisions of this chapter shall not be

EXPLANATION—Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

23 construed to prevent or affect the employment of architects in
 24 connection with engineering projects within the scope of the act
 25 to regulate the practice of architecture and all the amendments
 26 and supplements thereto.

27 A person shall be construed to practice or offer to practice en-
 28 gineering, within the meaning and intent of this chapter, who
 29 practices any branch of the profession of engineering; or who, by
 30 verbal claim, sign, advertisement, letterhead, card, or in any other
 31 way represents himself to be a professional engineer, or through
 32 the use of some other title implies that he is a professional en-
 33 gineer; or who represents himself as able to perform, or who does
 34 perform any engineering service or work or any other professional
 35 service recognized by the professional engineer or by educational
 36 authorities as professional engineering.

37 (c) The term "engineer-in-training" as used in this chapter
 38 shall mean a person who is a potential candidate for license as a
 39 professional engineer who is a graduate in an approved engineer-
 40 ing curriculum of 4 years or more from a school or college ac-
 41 credited by the board as of satisfactory standing, [or a person who,
 42 in lieu of such graduation has had 4 years or more of experience
 43 in engineering work of a character satisfactory to the board;]
 44 and who, in addition, has successfully passed an examination in
 45 the fundamental engineering subjects, as defined elsewhere herein.

46 (d) The term "land surveyor" as used in this chapter shall
 47 mean a person who engages in the practice of land surveying as
 48 hereinafter defined.

49 (e) The practice of land surveying within the meaning and in-
 50 tent of this chapter includes surveying of areas for their correct
 51 determination and description and for conveyancing, and for the
 52 establishment or reestablishment of land boundaries and the
 53 plotting of lands and subdivisions thereof, and such topographical
 54 survey and land development as is incidental to the land survey.

55 (f) The term "board" as used in this chapter shall mean the
 56 State Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors.

57 (g) The term "responsible charge" as used in this chapter shall
 58 mean a degree of competence and accountability acquired by tech-
 59 nical education, engineering practice and experience of a profes-
 60 sional character sufficient to qualify an individual to engage per-
 61 sonally and independently in the control and direction of investiga-
 62 tion, design, construction or operation of engineering works
 63 requiring professional skill, initiative and independent judgment.

1 2. Section 9 of P. L. 1938, c. 342 (C. 45:8-35) is amended to read
 2 as follows:

3 9. Applications for license as professional engineers shall be on
4 forms prescribed and furnished by the board, shall contain state-
5 ments under oath, showing the applicant's education and detailed
6 statement of his engineering experience, and shall contain not less
7 than five references, of whom three or more shall be licensed
8 professional engineers having personal knowledge of the appli-
9 cant's engineering experience.

10 The application fee for professional engineers shall be \$40.00
11 or when the applicant applies for license to practice both profes-
12 sional engineering and land surveying, the fee shall be \$50.00, and
13 in either case shall accompany the application.

14 Applications for license as land surveyors shall be on forms
15 prescribed and furnished by the board, shall contain statements
16 under oath, showing the applicant's education and detailed state-
17 ment of his land surveying experience, and shall contain not less
18 than five references, of whom three or more shall be licensed pro-
19 fessional engineers or land surveyors having personal knowledge
20 of the applicant's land surveying experience.

21 The application fee for land surveyors shall be \$40.00 and shall
22 accompany the application.

23 Applications for a certificate of registration as "engineer-in-
24 training" shall be on forms prescribed and furnished by the board,
25 shall be accompanied by a fee of \$10.00 and shall contain the
26 names of three references of whom at least one shall be a licensed
27 professional engineer having personal knowledge of the applicant's
28 engineering experience or training.

29 All application fees shall be retained by the board.

30 The following shall be considered as minimum evidence satis-
31 factory to the board that the applicant is qualified for a license as
32 a professional engineer, or as a land surveyor, or for certificate
33 of registration as engineer-in-training, to wit:

34 (1) As a professional engineer:

35 a. Graduation from an approved [course] *curriculum* in engi-
36 neering of 4 years or more in a school or college approved by the
37 board as of satisfactory standing; a specific record of an additional
38 4 years or more of [active practice] *experience* in engineering
39 work of a character satisfactory to the board, and indicating that
40 the applicant is competent to be placed in responsible charge of
41 such work; and successfully passing a written, or written and oral
42 examination; or

43 [b. Successfully passing a written, or written and oral examina-
44 tion designed to show knowledge and skill approximating that
45 attained through graduation from an approved 4-year engineering

46 course; and a specific record of 8 years or more of active practice
47 in engineering work of a character satisfactory to the board and
48 indicating that the applicant is competent to be placed in re-
49 sponsible charge of such work; or

50 c. A specific record of 15 years or more of lawful practice in
51 professional engineering work of a character satisfactory to the
52 board and indicating that the applicant is qualified to design or
53 supervise construction of engineering work and provided appli-
54 cant is not less than 35 years of age; or

55 b. *Graduation from an approved science curriculum, related to*
56 *engineering, of 4 years or more in a school or college approved by*
57 *the board as of satisfactory standing; a specific record of an addi-*
58 *tional 6 years or more of experience in engineering work of a*
59 *character satisfactory to the board, and indicating that the appli-*
60 *cant is competent to be placed in responsible charge of such work;*
61 *and successfully passing all parts of the written, or written and*
62 *oral, examination; or*

63 c. *Graduation from an approved curriculum in engineering or*
64 *related science of 4 years or more in a school or college approved*
65 *by the board as of satisfactory standing; a specific record of an*
66 *additional 15 years or more of experience in engineering work of*
67 *a character satisfactory to the board and indicating that the*
68 *applicant is competent to be placed in responsible charge of such*
69 *work; and successfully passing the specialized portion of the*
70 *written, or written and oral, examinations; or*

71 d. A certificate of qualification or registration issued to him by
72 proper authority of the National Council of [State Boards of]
73 Engineering Examiners[, or of the National Bureau of Engineer-
74 ing Registration] may, in the discretion of the board, be accepted
75 as minimum evidence satisfactory to the board that the applicant
76 is qualified for license as a professional engineer; or

77 e. A certificate of qualification of registration, issued by any
78 State or territory or possession of the United States, or of any
79 country, may, in the discretion of the board, be accepted as mini-
80 mum evidence satisfactory to the board that the applicant is quali-
81 fied for registration as a professional engineer; provided, require-
82 ments for license by issuing agency are at least comparable to
83 those of the board.

84 (2) As a land surveyor:

85 a. [Graduation from an approved course] *Successful completion*
86 *of an approved program in surveying in a school or college ap-*
87 *proved by the board as of satisfactory standing; an additional 3*
88 *years or more of [actual practice] experience in land surveying*

89 work of a character satisfactory to the board and indicating that
 90 the applicant is competent to be placed in responsible charge of
 91 such work, and successfully passing a written [or written and
 92 oral] examination; or

93 b. Successfully passing a written[, or written and oral,] ex-
 94 amination in surveying prescribed by the board; and a specific
 95 record of 6 years or more of [active practice] *experience* in land
 96 surveying work of a character satisfactory to the board and in-
 97 dicating that the applicant is competent to be placed in responsible
 98 charge of such work[; or

99 c. A specific record of 15 years or more lawful practice in land
 100 surveying work of a character satisfactory to the board and pro-
 101 vided applicant is not less than 33 years of age].

101A **d. A certificate of qualification of registration, issued by any*
 101B *State or territory or possession of the United States, or of any*
 101C *country, may, in the discretion of the board, be accepted as mini-*
 101D *imum evidence satisfactory to the board that the applicant is*
 101E *qualified for registration as a land surveyor; provided, require-*
 101F *ments for license by the issuing agency are at least comparable*
 101G *to those of the board.**

102 (3) As an engineer-in-training:

103 [a. Is a citizen of the United States or has made declaration of
 104 his intention to become a citizen of the United States of America;
 105 and

106 b. Has graduated with a scholastic record satisfactory to the
 107 board in an approved course in engineering of 4 or more years
 108 from a school or college approved by the board; and has satis-
 109 factorily passed a written examination in the fundamental engineer-
 110 ing subjects; or

111 c. Has a specific record of 4 years or more of active practice in
 112 engineering work of a character satisfactory to the board, and who,
 113 in addition has passed a written examination in the fundamental
 114 engineering subjects.]

115 a. *Graduation from an approved curriculum in engineering of*
 116 *4 years or more in a school or college approved by the board; and*
 117 *successfully passing the fundamentals portion of the written ex-*
 118 *aminations; or*

119 b. *Graduation from an approved science curriculum, related to*
 120 *engineering, of 4 years or more in a school or college approved by*
 121 *the board; a specific record of an additional 2 years or more of*
 122 *engineering work of a character satisfactory to the board; and*
 123 *successfully passing the fundamentals portion of the written*
 124 *examinations.*

125 Qualifications.

126 **【To be eligible for license as a professional engineer, a person**
127 **shall be at least 25 years of age. To be eligible for license as a land**
128 **surveyor, a person shall be at least 21 years of age. To be eligible**
129 **for license as a professional engineer or land surveyor an applicant**
130 **shall be a citizen of the United States of America or shall have**
131 **made declaration of his intention to become a citizen of the United**
132 **States of America.】** An applicant for license as a professional
133 engineer or land surveyor shall be able to speak and write the
134 English language. All applicants shall be of good character and
135 reputation.

136 **【The satisfactory completion of each year of an approved course**
137 **in engineering in a school or college approved by the board as of**
138 **satisfactory standing, without graduation, shall be considered as**
139 **equivalent to ½ year of active practice.**

140 Graduation in a course of 4 years or more, other than engineer-
141 ing, from a college or university of recognized standing shall be
142 considered as equivalent to 2 years of active practice.】

143 *Completion of a master's degree in engineering or a related*
144 *science shall be considered as equivalent to 1 year of experience*
145 *and completion of a doctor's degree in engineering or related*
146 *science shall be considered as equivalent to 1 additional year of*
147 *experience.*

148 In considering the qualifications of applicants, engineering
149 teaching may be construed as engineering experience.

150 The mere execution, as a contractor, of work designed by a
151 professional engineer, or the supervision of construction of such
152 work as a foreman or superintendent shall not be deemed to be
153 **【active practice of】** *experience in engineering work.*

154 Any person having the necessary qualifications prescribed in
155 this chapter to entitle him to license shall be eligible for such
156 license though he may not be practicing his profession at the time
157 of making the application.

158 A quorum of the examining board for the purpose of passing
159 upon the issuance of a license to any applicant shall consist of
160 three members; provided, that no action on any application shall
161 be taken without at least three votes in accord.

162 The scope of the examination for professional engineering and
163 methods of procedure shall be prescribed by the board with special
164 reference to the applicant's ability to design and supervise engi-
165 neering projects and works so as to insure the safety of life, health
166 and property. Examinations shall be given for the purpose of

167 determining the qualifications of applicants for license separately
 168 in professional engineering and in land surveying. A candidate
 169 failing an examination may apply for reexamination. Subsequent
 170 examinations will be granted upon the payment of a fee of \$15.00.
 171 The board will schedule two examinations per year, dates and
 172 places to be determined by the board.

173 Examinations of applicants for license as professional engineer
 174 will be divided into **[three]** *two* parts, as follows:

175 Part I—**[Basic engineering sciences—This examination is in-**
 176 **tended to cover the practical application of the basic engineering**
 177 **sciences, such as hydraulics, thermodynamics, chemistry and**
 178 **electricity.]**

179 *Fundamentals of Engineering—This examination is intended*
 180 *to assess the applicant's competency in the fundamental engineer-*
 181 *ing subjects and basic engineering sciences, such as mathematics,*
 182 *chemistry, physics, statics, dynamics, materials science, mechanics*
 183 *of materials, structures, fluid mechanics, hydraulics, thermody-*
 184 *namics, electrical theory, and economics. A knowledge of P. L.*
 185 *1938, c. 342 (C. 45:8-27 et seq.) is also required.*

186 Part II—**[Structural design—This examination is intended to**
 187 **establish the applicant's competency to plan, structurally design**
 188 **and supervise the construction of buildings and similar structures.**

189 Part III—**Specialized training of engineers—This examination**
 190 **is intended to cover the more advanced and specialized professional**
 191 **training and experience of engineers in their chosen field of**
 192 **engineering.**

193 Applicants for certificate of registration as engineer-in-training
 194 shall qualify by satisfactorily passing Parts I and II of the
 195 examination.]

196 *Specialized Training—This examination is intended to assess*
 197 *the extent of the applicant's more advanced and specialized pro-*
 198 *fessional training and experience especially in his chosen field of*
 199 *engineering.*

200 *Applicants for certificate of registration as engineer-in-training*
 201 *shall qualify by satisfactorily passing the fundamentals portion*
 202 *of the written examinations.*

203 The scope, time and place of the examinations for applicants for
 204 certificates of registration as “engineer-in-training” shall be pre-
 205 scribed by the board. A candidate failing on first examination
 206 may apply for reexamination. Subsequent examinations will be
 207 granted upon the payment of a fee of \$10.00.

1 3. Section 10 of P. L. 1938, c. 342 (C. 45:8-36) is amended to
2 read as follows:

3 10. Certificates. The board shall issue a license certificate upon
4 payment of the application fee as provided in this chapter, to any
5 applicant who, in the opinion of the board, has satisfactorily met
6 all the requirements of this chapter, and who has paid the license
7 fee of \$5.00 to cover licensure for the year or fraction thereof in
8 which such license is issued. In the case of a licensed professional
9 engineer the certificate shall authorize the practice of the applicant
10 as a "professional engineer" and in the case of a licensed land
11 surveyor as a "land surveyor," or as "professional engineer and
12 land surveyor" when the applicant qualifies in both classifications.
13 Certificates of license shall show the full name of the licensee, shall
14 have a license number and shall be signed by the president and the
15 secretary-director of the board under the seal of the board. The
16 issuance of a license certificate by this board shall be evidence
17 that the person named therein is entitled to all the rights and
18 privileges of a licensed professional engineer or a licensed land
19 surveyor, or as both as the case may be, while said certificate re-
20 mains unrevoked or unexpired.

21 Each professional engineer or land surveyor shall upon receipt
22 of license certificate, obtain a seal of a design authorized by the
23 board, bearing his name, license number and the legend "Licensed
24 Professional Engineer," "Licensed Land Surveyor," or "Licensed
25 Professional Engineer and Land Surveyor," as the case may be.
26 Plans, specification, plats, and reports issued by persons authorized
27 under this chapter shall be **[stamped]** *sealed* with said seal **[when**
28 **filed with public authorities]**, during the life of the licensee's certifi-
29 cate, but it shall be unlawful for anyone to stamp or seal any
30 documents with said seal after the certificate of the licensee named
31 thereon has expired or has been revoked, unless said certificate
32 shall have been renewed or reissued. The exact method of fulfilling
33 the requirement as to the **[stamping]** *sealing* of documents shall be
34 regulated by the board.

35 All professional engineers licensed by this board prior to the
36 passage of this chapter, shall continue to practice under the various
37 classifications heretofore granted and within the branches of engi-
38 neering indicated or may, upon application therefor, and the pay-
39 ment of a fee of \$5.00 receive a new certificate under the title
40 "professional engineer"; provided, said professional engineer
41 presents evidence satisfactory to the board of his qualifications
42 to practice in the field of general engineering comprehended in
43 the title "professional engineer."

44 All license certificates shall be recorded by the board in the
 45 office of the Secretary of State, in a book kept for that purpose and
 46 any recording fee as may be provided by law shall be paid by the
 47 applicant before the license certificate is delivered.

48 The examining board shall be empowered to issue a certificate
 49 of registration as "Engineer-in-Training" to an applicant who
 50 meets the qualifications outlined elsewhere herein.

51 An applicant who meets the requirements of this act shall receive
 52 a certificate of registration as "Engineer-in-Training," which
 53 certificate may remain in effect for a period of 10 years from the
 54 date of issuance.

1 4. Section 12 of P. L. 1938, c. 342 (C. 45:8-38) is amended to read
 2 as follows:

3 12. The examining board shall have the power to revoke the
 4 certificate of license of any professional engineer or land surveyor
 5 licensed hereunder who is found **[guilty]** by said board **[of any**
 6 **fraud or deceit in obtaining a certificate of license, or of gross**
 7 **negligence, incompetency or misconduct in the practice of profes-**
 8 **sional engineering or land surveying.]**, *after a hearing, to have:*

9 *(a) committed fraud in obtaining an original or renewal State*
 10 *license, including material misstatements on any application there-*
 11 *for; or*

12 *(b) been convicted of any criminal offense or entered a plea of*
 13 *nolo contendere to a charge thereof; or*

14 *(c) committed gross negligence, incompetence, or misconduct in*
 15 *the practice of professional engineering and land surveying; or*

16 *(d) violated any State or local code applicable to engineering and*
 17 *land surveying; or*

18 *(e) violated any provision of this act or any rule or regulation*
 19 *promulgated by the board.*

20 Any person may prefer charges of such fraud, deceit, negligence,
 21 incompetency or misconduct against any professional engineer or
 22 land surveyor hereunder.

23 Such charges shall be in writing and sworn to by the complainant
 24 and submitted to the board. Such charges unless dismissed with-
 25 out hearing by the board as unfounded or trivial, shall be heard
 26 and determined by the board within 3 months after the date on
 27 which they are preferred.

28 The time and place for such hearing shall be fixed by the board.
 29 A copy of the charges, together with a notice of the time and place
 30 of hearing shall be personally served on the accused by the board
 31 at least 30 days before the day fixed for the hearing, and in the

32 event that such service cannot be effected 30 days before such
 33 hearing, then the date of hearing and determination shall be post-
 34 poned as may be necessary to permit the carrying out of this
 35 execution. At said hearing the accused shall have the right to
 36 appear personally and by counsel and to cross-examine witnesses
 37 against him and to produce evidence and witnesses in his defense.
 38 If after said hearing three or more members of the board vote in
 39 favor of finding the accused guilty of any [fraud or deceit in ob-
 40 taining a certificate, or of gross negligence, incompetency or mis-
 41 conduct in the practice of professional engineering or land survey-
 42 ing,] *one or more of subsections (a) through (e) of this section*
 43 the board [shall] *may* revoke, *suspend or annul* the certificate of
 44 license of the accused. The board may under circumstances which
 45 to it may seem proper, reissue a certificate of license to any per-
 46 son whose certificate has been so revoked.

47 A new certificate of license to replace any certificate lost, de-
 48 stroyed or mutilated, may be issued subject to the rules and regula-
 49 tions of the board. A charge of \$3.00 shall be made for such
 50 reissuance.

1 5. Section 14 of P. L. 1938, c. 342 (C. 45:8-40) is amended to read
 2 as follows:

3 14. The following shall be exempted from the provisions of this
 4 chapter:

5 (1) A person not a resident of and having no established place
 6 of business in this State, practicing or offering to practice herein
 7 professional engineering or land surveying within the meaning
 8 and intent of this chapter, when such practice does not exceed in
 9 the aggregate 30 *consecutive* days in any calendar year; provided,
 10 such person is legally qualified by license to practice said profes-
 11 sional engineering or land surveying in any State or country in
 12 which the requirements and qualifications for a certificate of
 13 license are at least comparable to those specified in this chapter.

14 *However, no final plans or reports may be submitted under this*
 15 *provision.*

16 (2) A person not a resident of and having no established place
 17 of business in this State, or who has recently become a resident
 18 thereof, practicing or offering to practice herein for more than 30
 19 days in any calendar year professional engineering or land survey-
 20 ing, if he shall have filed with the board an application for a
 21 certificate of license and shall have paid the fee required by this
 22 chapter; provided, that such a person is legally qualified to practice
 23 said professional engineering or land surveying in any State or
 24 country in which the requirements and qualifications for obtaining

25 a license are at least comparable to those specified in this chapter.
26 Such exemption shall continue only for such time as the board
27 requires for the consideration of the application for license
28 certificate.

29 (3) An employee or a subordinate of a person holding a license
30 under this chapter or an employee of a person exempted from
31 license by subsections (1) and (2) of this section; provided, this
32 practice does not include responsible charge of design or
33 supervision.

34 (4) Officers and employees of the Government of the United
35 States while engaged within this State in the practice of profes-
36 sional engineering or land surveying, for said government.

37 (5) The practice of engineering or land surveying solely as an
38 officer or employee of a corporation engaged in interstate com-
39 merce as defined in an act of Congress entitled "Act to regulate
40 commerce," approved February 4, 1887, and as amended, unless
41 the same affects public safety or health.

1 6. Section 20 of P. L. 1938, c. 342 (C. 45:8-46) is hereby repealed.

2 7. This act shall take effect immediately.

31 license by subsections (1) and (2) of this section; provided, this
32 practice does not include responsible charge of design or
33 supervision.

34 (4) Officers and employees of the Government of the United
35 States while engaged within this State in the practice of profes-
36 sional engineering or land surveying, for said government.

37 (5) The practice of engineering or land surveying solely as an
38 officer or employee of a corporation engaged in interstate com-
39 merce as defined in an act of Congress entitled "Act to regulate
40 commerce," approved February 4, 1887, and as amended, unless
41 the same affects public safety or health.

1 6. Section 20 of P. L. 1938, c. 342 (C. 45:8-46) is hereby repealed.

2 7. This act shall take effect immediately.

STATEMENT

This bill revises the law regulating the practice of professional engineering and land surveying.

The major provisions of the revision are:

a. Upgrading the qualifications of applicants for licensure as professional engineers, land surveyors and engineers-in-training by requiring specific curricula and examinations in certain cases;

b. Restructuring the examination for applicants for licensure as professional engineers and redefining the basic areas which will be tested;

c. Revising the provisions delineating the reasons for which the Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors may revoke a license.

SENATE LABOR, INDUSTRY AND
PROFESSIONS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO
SENATE, No. 1234

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JUNE 27, 1977

Senate Bill No. 1234 would revise those portions of the Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors law which set forth (1) minimum qualifications for professional engineers, land surveyors, and engineers-in-training, (2) the structure of examinations for a professional engineer's license, and (3) the reasons for which a professional engineer's or land surveyor's license may be revoked.

Under current law, an individual can qualify for a professional engineer's license if he (a) has graduated from a 4-year engineering school, has at least 4 years of experience in engineering, and passes an examination, *or* (b) passes an examination indicating he has acquired the knowledge and skill he would have acquired had he attended a 4-year engineering school and has at least 8 years of active practice in engineering, *or* (c) has a specific record of at least 15 years of engineering practice, provided the applicant is at least 35 years of age, *or* (d) has a certificate of qualification or registration issued to him by the National Council of State Board of Engineering Examiners or the National Bureau of Engineering Registration, *or* (e) holds a license in another jurisdiction with comparable licensing requirements.

This bill would eliminate (b) and (c) above and provide, instead, new sections (b) and (c) which would allow the applicant to qualify if he (b) has graduated from a 4-year science curriculum related to engineering, has 6 or more years of experience, and passes an examination, *or* (c) has graduated from a 4-year engineering science or related school, has 15 years of experience in engineering work, and passes a specialized portion of the examination.

With respect to qualifications for a land surveyor's license, wherever the law uses the terminology "actual practice," Senate Bill No. 1234 would substitute therefore the term "experience", and the bill also eliminates provisions for oral examinations. Further, the bill strikes from the law that subsection which would allow an applicant to qualify with 15 years of experience, if he is at least 33 years of age.

Insofar as engineers-in-training are concerned, the bill would eliminate existing minimum qualifications and would provide in lieu thereof that a person would qualify if he (a) graduates from a 4-year engineering school and passes an examination in fundamentals, *or* (b) graduates from a 4-year school related to engineering, has 2 years of experience, and passes an examination in fundamentals.

Senate Bill No. 1234 would eliminate age minimums and United States citizenship as prerequisites for licensure as professional engineers and land surveyors. It further would revise the equivalency ratios with respect to how much education would be counted as experience for the purpose of licensure. Only the completion of a master's degree and a doctor's degree would be counted as additional years of experience, and in each case, the degree would be considered to be one additional year of experience.

Under current law, the examination of an applicant for a professional engineer's license is divided into 3 parts — basic engineering sciences, structural design, and specialized training of engineers. Senate Bill No. 1234 would restructure the examination into two categories — I. Fundamentals of Engineering and II. Specialized Training. The purpose of this restructuring is to have the examination reflect greater on all the specialties within the engineering profession, whereas the present structure places most of its emphasis on the skills of architectural engineering.

Finally, the bill would revise the grounds on which a licensee could have his license revoked to make said grounds consistent with those commonly existing in other professional board statutes.

The committee amended the bill to provide that a land surveyor's license issued in another state or country could be accepted as a qualification for registration in New Jersey, provided the requirements for that license are comparable to those in New Jersey.

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FROM THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

JANUARY 25, 1978

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

KATHY FORSYTH

ANNE BURNS

Governor Brendan Byrne today signed the following bills into law:

S-104, sponsored by Senator Matthew Feldman, (D-Bergen), which provides a statutory base for a practice already in the regulations of the Department of Treasury.

It amends Title 52 so that the State Treasurer is mandated to auction deposits of State money and invite banks and banking institutions, by public notice, to bid for the deposit of State money.

S-1234, sponsored by Senator Joseph P. Merlino, (D-Mercer), which revises the law regulating the practice of professional engineering and land surveying.

The bill upgrades the qualifications for a licensure of professional engineers, land surveyors, and engineers-in-training by requiring specific curricular and examination.

The option of a 4-year experience substitution for a 4-year education is eliminated to be an engineer-in-training.

The education plus school requirements for being a professional engineer are upgraded. Under this bill, an individual must have graduated from a science curriculum and have six years experience, or have graduated from an engineering course and have 15 years of training to be considered a professional engineer.

For land surveyors, the option of 15 years experience in lieu of educational or exam requirements is eliminated.

Age requirements are also eliminated by the bill.

The legislation restructures the professional engineers examination and redefines the basic areas to be tested. It also revises the provisions delineating the reasons for revocation of licenses.

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