

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 20, 2016

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 7, 2016

SENATE BILL

No. 1085

Introduced by Senator Roth

February 17, 2016

An act to *amend Section 7841.1 of, and to add Sections 6795.2, 7881.5, and 8801.1 to*, the Business and Professions Code, relating to professions and vocations.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1085, as amended, Roth. Professional engineers: geologists: land surveyors.

Existing law makes the Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists responsible for the certification, licensure, and regulation of the practice of professional engineering, the practice of professional geologists and geophysicists, and the practice of professional land surveyors. *Except for an applicant for a geophysicist license, existing law requires these applicants for a certificate or license to complete an examination that tests knowledge of state laws, as provided.* Existing law subjects these certificates and licenses to renewal and requires the holder of the certificate or license to apply for renewal on a form prescribed by the board and pay a prescribed fee, as provided.

This bill would additionally require an applicant for renewal to complete a board-administered assessment, which includes questions to reinforce the certificate holder's or licenseholder's knowledge of laws applicable to his or her practice area. The bill would make the failure to complete the assessment within a specified period of time a cause for disciplinary action. *The bill would also require an applicant*

for a geophysicist license to complete an examination that tests knowledge of state laws, as provided.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 6795.2 is added to the Business and
2 Professions Code, to read:

3 6795.2. (a) At the time of renewal specified in Section 6795
4 or 6796, the board shall administer an assessment of the certificate
5 holder that includes questions to reinforce the certificate holder's
6 knowledge of state laws and the board's rules and regulations
7 relating to the practice of professional engineers. Failure to
8 complete this assessment within 60 days after the date of expiration
9 of the certificate shall constitute a cause for disciplinary action
10 under Section 6775, but shall not affect the renewal of the
11 certificate.

12 (b) The crime in subdivision (j) of Section 6787 shall not apply
13 to this section.

14 *SEC. 2. Section 7841.1 of the Business and Professions Code*
15 *is amended to read:*

16 7841.1. An applicant for licensure as a geophysicist shall have
17 all of the following qualifications. This section shall not apply to
18 applicants for licensure as geologists.

19 (a) Not have committed any acts or crimes constituting grounds
20 for denial of licensure under Section 480.

21 (b) Meet one of the following educational requirements fulfilled
22 at a school or university whose curricula meet criteria established
23 by rules of the board.

24 (1) Graduation with a major in a geophysical science or any
25 other discipline that, in the opinion of the board, is relevant to
26 geophysics.

27 (2) Completion of a combination of at least 30 semester hours,
28 or the equivalent, in courses that, in the opinion of the board, are
29 relevant to geophysics. At least 24 semester hours, or the
30 equivalent, shall be in the third or fourth year, or graduate courses.

31 (c) Have at least seven years of professional geophysical work
32 that shall include either a minimum of three years of professional
33 geophysical work under the supervision of a professional

1 geophysicist, except that prior to July 1, 1973, professional
2 geophysical work shall qualify under this subdivision if it is under
3 the supervision of a qualified geophysicist, or a minimum of five
4 years' experience in responsible charge of professional geophysical
5 work. Professional geophysical work does not include the routine
6 maintenance or operation of geophysical instruments, or, even if
7 carried out under the responsible supervision of a professional
8 geophysicist, the routine reduction or plotting of geophysical
9 observations.

10 Each year of undergraduate study in the geophysical sciences
11 referred to in this section shall count as one-half year of training
12 up to a maximum of two years, and each year of graduate study
13 or research counts as a year of training.

14 Teaching in the geophysical sciences referred to in this section
15 at a college level shall be credited year for year toward meeting
16 the requirement in this category, provided that the total teaching
17 experience includes six semester units per semester, or equivalent
18 if on the quarter system, of third or fourth year or graduate courses.

19 Credit for undergraduate study, graduate study, and teaching,
20 individually, or in any combination thereof, shall in no case exceed
21 a total of four years towards meeting the requirements for at least
22 seven years of professional geophysical work as set forth above.

23 The ability of the applicant shall have been demonstrated by his
24 or her having performed the work in a responsible position, as the
25 term "responsible position" is defined in regulations adopted by
26 the board. The adequacy of the required supervision and experience
27 shall be determined by the board in accordance with standards set
28 forth in regulations adopted by it.

29 (d) Successfully pass a written examination *that shall test the*
30 *applicant's knowledge of state laws, rules, and regulations, and*
31 *of the principles and practices of geophysics within this state. The*
32 *board shall administer the test on the state laws and the board's*
33 *rules and regulations as a separate part of the examination for*
34 *licensure as a geophysicist.*

35 ~~SEC. 2.~~

36 SEC. 3. Section 7881.5 is added to the Business and Professions
37 Code, to read:

38 7881.5. (a) At the time of renewal specified in Section 7880
39 or 7881, the board shall administer an assessment of the certificate
40 holder that includes questions to reinforce the certificate holder's

1 knowledge of state laws and the board’s rules and regulations
2 relating to the practice of professional geologists and geophysicists.
3 Failure to complete this assessment within 60 days after the date
4 of expiration of the certificate shall constitute a cause for
5 disciplinary action under Section 7860, but shall not affect the
6 renewal of the certificate.

7 (b) The crime in subdivision (h) of Section 7872 shall not apply
8 to this section.

9 ~~SEC. 3.~~

10 *SEC. 4.* Section 8801.1 is added to the Business and Professions
11 Code, to read:

12 8801.1. (a) At the time of renewal specified in Section 8801
13 or 8802, the board shall administer an assessment of the
14 licenseholder that includes questions to reinforce the
15 licenseholder’s knowledge of state laws and the board’s rules and
16 regulations regulating the practice of professional land surveyors.
17 Failure to complete this assessment within 60 days after the date
18 of expiration of the license shall constitute a cause for disciplinary
19 action under Section 8780, but shall not affect the renewal of the
20 license.

21 (b) The crime in subdivision (j) of Section 8792 shall not apply
22 to this section.

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