AN ACT

To amend section 4733.151 of the Revised Code to require professional engineers to complete continuing professional development hours in professional ethics or rules relevant to engineering or surveying practices.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Ohio:

SECTION 1. That section 4733.151 of the Revised Code be amended to read as follows:

Sec. 4733.151. (A) For registrations expiring on the last day of December 2011, each registrant for renewal shall have completed, in calendar year 2011, at least fifteen hours of continuing professional development for professional engineers and surveyors. Thereafter, each registrant shall complete at least thirty hours of continuing professional development during the two-year period immediately preceding the biennial renewal expiration date.

(B) The continuing professional development requirement may be satisfied by coursework or activities dealing with technical, ethical, or managerial topics relevant to the practice of engineering or surveying. A registrant may earn continuing professional development hours by completing or teaching university or college level coursework, attending seminars, workshops, or conferences, authoring relevant published papers, articles, or books, receiving patent awards, or actively participating in professional or technical societies serving the engineering or surveying professions.

Credit for university or college level coursework shall be based on the credit established by the university or college. One semester hour as established by the university or college shall be the equivalent of forty-five hours of continuing professional development, and one quarter hour as established by the university or college shall be the equivalent of thirty hours of continuing professional development.

Credit for seminars, workshops, or conferences offering continuing education units shall be based on the units awarded by the organization presenting the seminar, workshop, or conference. A registrant may earn ten continuing professional development hours for each continuing education unit awarded. Each hour of attendance at a seminar, workshop, or conference for which no continuing education units are offered shall be the equivalent of one continuing professional development hour.

A registrant may earn two continuing professional development hours for each year of service as an officer or active committee member of a professional or technical society or association that represents registrants or entities composed of registrants. A registrant may earn ten continuing professional development hours for authoring relevant published papers, articles, or books. A registrant may earn ten continuing professional development hours for each such published paper, article, or book. A registrant may earn ten continuing professional development hours for each patent award.

(C)(1) A person registered as both a professional engineer and professional surveyor shall complete at least ten of the thirty hours required under division (A) of this section in engineering-related coursework or activities and at least ten of those thirty hours in surveying-related coursework or activities.

(2) Beginning with registrations expiring on or after the last day of December 2017, a person registered as a professional engineer or professional surveyor shall complete at least two of the thirty hours required under division (A) of this section on professional ethics or rules relevant to the practices of engineering or surveying.

(D) A registrant is exempt from the continuing professional development requirements of this section during the first calendar year of registration.

(E)(1) A registrant who completes more than thirty hours of approved coursework or activities in a biennial renewal period may carry forward to the next biennial renewal period a maximum of fifteen of the excess hours.

(2) A person registered as a professional engineer or professional surveyor may carry forward up to two hours on professional ethics or rules earned in excess of the requirement under division (C)(2) of this section as part of the fifteen hour maximum.

(F) A registrant shall maintain records to demonstrate completion of the continuing professional development requirements specified in this section for a period of four calendar years beyond the year in which certification of the completion of the requirements is obtained by the registrant. The records shall include all of the following:

(1) A log specifying the type of coursework or activity, its location and duration along with the instructor's name, and the number of continuing professional development hours earned;

(2) Certificates of completion or other evidence verifying attendance.

(G) The records specified in division (F) of this section may be audited at any time by the state board of registration for professional engineers and surveyors. If the board discovers that a registrant has failed to complete coursework or activities, it shall notify the registrant of the deficiencies and allow the registrant six months from the date of the notice to rectify the deficiencies and to provide the board with evidence of satisfactory completion of the continuing professional development requirements. If the registrant fails to provide such evidence within that six-month period, the board may revoke or suspend the registration after offering an adjudication hearing in accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code.

SECTION 2. That existing section 4733.151 of the Revised Code is hereby repealed.

_Speaker _____ of the House of Representatives._

_President _____ of the Senate._

Passed _____, 20____

Approved _____, 20____

Governor.

The section numbering of law of a general and permanent nature is complete and in conformity with the Revised Code.

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Director, Legislative Service Commission.

Filed in the office of the Secretary of State at Columbus, Ohio, on the ____ day of _____, A. D. 20____.

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Secretary of State.

File No. _____   Effective Date _____