



2015 ASSEMBLY BILL 934

February 18, 2016 - Introduced by Representatives KOOYENGA and BOWEN, cosponsored by Senator COWLES. Referred to Committee on Workforce Development.

1 **AN ACT** *to amend* 443.02 (3) and 443.02 (4); and *to create* 443.015 (1m) of the
2 statutes; **relating to:** exemption from continuing education requirements for
3 certain retired professionals holding credentials granted by the Examining
4 Board of Architects, Landscape Architects, Professional Engineers, Designers,
5 and Professional Land Surveyors and requiring the exercise of rule-making
6 authority.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, each section of the Examining Board of Architects, Landscape Architects, Professional Engineers, Designers, and Professional Land Surveyors (examining board) is authorized to establish by rule continuing education requirements for renewal of a credential granted by the examining board.

Under this bill, any such rules must provide that an applicant for credential renewal who is at least 65 years of age or who has actively maintained that credential for a minimum of 30 consecutive years is exempt from continuing education requirements upon certification to the examining board that the applicant has retired from professional practice and no longer engages in that practice. An exempt person may maintain his or her professional title but may not engage in the relevant practice. Also, under the bill, an exempt person must pay only one-half of the applicable renewal fee to maintain his or her professional credential.

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For further information see the *state* fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

1 **SECTION 1.** 443.015 (1m) of the statutes is created to read:

2 443.015 **(1m)** (a) Any rules a section of the examining board promulgates under
3 sub. (1) shall provide that an applicant for renewal of his or her credential under this
4 chapter who is at least 65 years of age or who has actively maintained his or her
5 credential under this chapter for at least 30 consecutive years shall be exempt from
6 continuing education requirements upon the applicant's certification to the
7 appropriate section that the applicant has retired from and no longer engages in the
8 practice for which the applicant holds the credential.

9 (b) 1. A person who is exempt under par. (a) may not engage in the practice for
10 which the person holds the credential subject to exemption, unless he or she satisfies
11 reinstatement requirements established by the appropriate section of the examining
12 board by rule.

13 2. A person who is exempt under par. (a) may continue to use a title in
14 connection with his or her credential subject to exemption if the person clearly
15 indicates to the public that the person is retired, including by placing the
16 abbreviation "Ret." or similar appellation after his or her title.

17 (c) The renewal fee for a person who is exempt under par. (a) shall be one-half
18 of the usual renewal fee that otherwise applies, unless the person resumes his or her
19 practice under the credential after satisfying any reinstatement requirements
20 established by the appropriate section by rule, in which case the usual renewal fee
21 applies.

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1 **SECTION 2.** 443.02 (3) of the statutes is amended to read:

2 443.02 (3) No person may offer to practice architecture, landscape architecture,
3 or professional engineering or, except as provided in rules promulgated by the
4 appropriate section under s. 443.015 (1m), use in connection with the person's name
5 or otherwise assume, use or advertise any title or description tending to convey the
6 impression that he or she is an architect, landscape architect, or professional
7 engineer or advertise to furnish architectural, landscape architectural, or
8 professional engineering services unless the person has been duly registered or has
9 in effect a permit under s. 443.10 (1) (d).

10 **SECTION 3.** 443.02 (4) of the statutes is amended to read:

11 443.02 (4) No person may engage in or offer to engage in the practice of
12 professional land surveying in this state or, except as provided in rules promulgated
13 by the professional land surveyor section under s. 443.015 (1m), use or advertise any
14 title or description tending to convey the impression that the person is a professional
15 land surveyor unless the person has been granted a license under this chapter to
16 engage in the practice of professional land surveying.

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(END)