THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

Session of 2013

INTRODUCED BY PETRI, COHEN AND MILLER, MARCH 14, 2013

REFERRED TO COMMITEE ON PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE, MARCH 14, 2013

AN ACT

- Amending the act of May 23, 1945 (P.L.913, No.367), entitled, as amended, "An act relating to and regulating the practice of 2 the profession of engineering, including civil engineering, 3 mechanical engineering, electrical engineering, mining 4 engineering and chemical engineering, the profession of land 5 surveying and the profession of geology and constituent parts 6 and combinations thereof as herein defined; providing for the licensing and registration of persons practicing said 7 8 profession, and the certification of engineers-in-training 9 and surveyors-in-training, and the suspension and revocation 10 11 of said licenses, registrations and certifications for violation of this act; prescribing the powers and duties of 12 the State Registration Board for Professional Engineers, Land 13 Surveyors and Geologists, the Department of State and the 14 courts; prescribing penalties; and repealing existing laws," 15 expanding the scope of the act to include soil science; 16 further providing for definitions; and providing for 17 procedure for licensing as professional soil scientist. 18 19 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania 20 hereby enacts as follows: 21 Section 1. The title and section 1 of the act of May 23, 22 1945 (P.L.913, No.367), known as the Engineer, Land Surveyor and Geologist Registration Law, amended December 16, 1992 (P.L.1151, 24 No.151), are amended to read: AN ACT
- 25
- 26 Relating to and regulating the practice of the profession of

- 1 engineering, including civil engineering, mechanical
- 2 engineering, electrical engineering, mining engineering and
- 3 chemical engineering, the profession of land surveying [and],__
- 4 the profession of geology <u>and the profession of soil science</u>
- 5 and constituent parts and combinations thereof as herein
- 6 defined; providing for the licensing and registration of
- 7 persons practicing said profession, and the certification of
- 8 engineers-in-training [and], surveyors-in-training, soil
- 9 scientists-in-training and the suspension and revocation of
- said licenses, registrations and certifications for violation
- of this act; prescribing the powers and duties of the State
- Registration Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors
- [and], Geologists and Soil Scientists, the Department of
- 14 State and the courts; prescribing penalties; and repealing
- 15 existing laws.
- 16 Section 1. Short Title. -- This act shall be known and may be
- 17 cited as the "Engineer, Land Surveyor [and], Geologist and Soil_
- 18 <u>Scientist</u> Registration Law."
- 19 Section 2. Section 2(g) of the act, amended December 16,
- 20 1992 (P.L.1151, No.151), is amended and the section is amended
- 21 by adding subsections to read:
- 22 Section 2. Definitions.--As used in this act--
- 23 * * *
- 24 (q) "Board" means The State Registration Board for
- 25 Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors [and], Geologists and
- 26 Soil Scientists.
- 27 * * *
- 28 <u>(u) "Practice of Soil Science" means any service or work,</u>
- 29 the adequate performance of which requires education in the
- 30 physical, chemical and biological sciences, as well as soil

- 1 <u>science; training and experience in the application of special</u>
- 2 knowledge of these sciences to the use and management of soils
- 3 by accepted principles and methods; and investigation,
- 4 <u>evaluation and consultation in which the performance is related</u>
- 5 to the public welfare by safeguarding life, health, property and
- 6 the environment. Practice of soil science includes, but is not
- 7 <u>limited to, investigating and evaluating the interaction between</u>
- 8 water, soil, nutrients, plants and other living organisms that
- 9 <u>are used to prepare soil scientists' reports for subsurface</u>
- 10 ground absorption systems, including infiltration galleries;
- 11 land application of residuals such as biosolids, septage and
- 12 other wastes; spray irrigation and drip dispersal of wastewater;
- 13 soil remediation at conventional rates; land application of
- 14 <u>agricultural products; processing residues, bioremediation and</u>
- 15 volatilization; soil erodibility and sedimentation; soil
- 16 <u>drainage classification</u>, soil mapping and taxonomic
- 17 classification; and identification of hydric soil and
- 18 redoximorphic features.
- 19 (v) "Professional Soil Scientist" means an individual
- 20 licensed and registered under the laws of this Commonwealth to
- 21 engage in the practice of soil science. A professional soil
- 22 scientist may not practice soil science unless licensed and
- 23 registered as a professional soil scientist as defined and set
- 24 forth in this act.
- 25 (w) "Soil Scientist-in-Training" means a candidate for
- 26 licensure as a professional soil scientist who has been granted
- 27 <u>a certificate as a soil scientist-in-training after successfully</u>
- 28 passing the prescribed written examination in fundamental soil
- 29 science subjects and who shall be eligible, upon the completion
- 30 of the requisite years of experience in soil science under the

- 1 <u>supervision of a professional soil scientist or similarly</u>
- 2 qualified soil scientist, for the final examination prescribed
- 3 for licensure as a professional soil scientist.
- 4 Section 3. Section 3 of the act, amended December 16, 1992
- 5 (P.L.1151, No.151), is amended to read:
- 6 Section 3. Practice of Engineering, Land Surveying [or],
- 7 Geology or Soil Science Without Licensure and Registration
- 8 Prohibited.--(a) In order to safeguard life, health or property
- 9 and to promote the general welfare, it is unlawful for any
- 10 person to practice or to offer to practice engineering in this
- 11 Commonwealth, unless he is licensed and registered under the
- 12 laws of this Commonwealth as a professional engineer, for any
- 13 person to practice or to offer to practice land surveying,
- 14 unless he is licensed and registered under the laws of this
- 15 Commonwealth as a professional land surveyor [or], for any
- 16 person to practice or to offer to practice geology unless he is
- 17 licensed and registered under the laws of this Commonwealth as a
- 18 professional geologist or for any person to practice or offer to
- 19 practice soil science unless he is licensed and registered under
- 20 the laws of this Commonwealth as a professional soil scientist.
- 21 Individuals licensed as professional engineers, professional
- 22 land surveyors [or], registered landscape architects or
- 23 <u>professional soil scientists</u> may perform geological work which
- 24 is incidental to their engineering, surveying [or], landscape
- 25 architecture or soil science without being licensed as a
- 26 professional geologist.
- 27 (b) A person shall be construed to practice or offer to
- 28 practice engineering, land surveying [or], geology or soil
- 29 science who practices any branch of the profession of
- 30 engineering, land surveying [or], geology or soil science; or

- 1 who, by verbal claim, sign, advertisement, letterhead, card, or
- 2 in any other way represents himself to be an engineer, land
- 3 surveyor [or], geologist or soil scientist, or through the use
- 4 of some other title implies that he is an engineer, land
- 5 surveyor [or], geologist or soil scientist or that he is
- 6 registered under this act; or who holds himself out as able to
- 7 perform, or who does perform any engineering, land surveying
- 8 [or] geological or soil science service or work or any other
- 9 service designated by the practitioner or recognized as
- 10 engineering, land surveying [or], geology or soil science.
- 11 Section 4. Section 4(a), (b), (c), (d), (f), (q) and (i) of
- 12 the act, amended December 16, 1992 (P.L.1151, No.151) and May
- 13 12, 2010 (P.L.192, No.25), are amended and the section is
- 14 amended by adding a subsection to read:
- 15 Section 4. General Powers of Board. -- The board shall have
- 16 power--
- 17 (a) Approval of Engineering, Surveying [and], Geology and
- 18 Soil Science Curricula. -- To investigate and to approve or
- 19 disapprove engineering, surveying [and], geology and soil
- 20 <u>science</u> curricula of this State, and other states, territories
- 21 and countries for the education of students desiring to be
- 22 licensed to engage in the practice of engineering, land
- 23 surveying [or], geology or soil science, and to revoke or
- 24 suspend approvals where they are no longer deemed proper.
- 25 (b) Licensing Professional Engineers, Professional Land
- 26 Surveyors [and], Professional Geologists and Professional Soil
- 27 <u>Scientists</u>.--To provide for and to regulate the licensing, and
- 28 to license to engage in the practice of engineering, land
- 29 surveying [or], geology or soil science any person of good moral
- 30 character and repute who speaks and writes the English language,

- 1 if such person either--
- 2 (1) Holds an unexpired license or certificate of
- 3 registration issued to him by proper authority of some other
- 4 state, foreign country or territory of the United States in
- 5 which the requirements and qualifications to engage in the
- 6 practice of engineering, land surveying [or], geology or soil
- 7 science were at the time of the initial issuance of such license
- 8 or certificate of registration at least equal to the existing
- 9 standards of this Commonwealth: Provided, however, That such
- 10 other state, territory or foreign country shall similarly
- 11 license or register professional engineers, professional land
- 12 surveyors [or], professional geologists or professional soil
- 13 <u>scientists</u> licensed and registered in this Commonwealth. A
- 14 person may be licensed under this subsection without
- 15 examination.
- 16 (2) In relation to engineers and surveyors, holds a
- 17 certificate of qualifications issued by the National Bureau of
- 18 Engineering Registration of the National Council of Examiners
- 19 for Engineering and Surveying: Provided, The requirements and
- 20 qualifications of said bodies to engage in the practice of
- 21 engineering or land surveying are at least equal to the
- 22 standards of this Commonwealth. A person may be licensed under
- 23 this subsection without examination.
- In carrying into effect clauses (1) and (2) of subsection (b)
- 25 of this section in relation to engineers and surveyors the board
- 26 may in its discretion enter into agreements for reciprocity with
- 27 the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying
- 28 and with states under such rules and regulations as the board
- 29 may prescribe.
- 30 (3) Complies with the education and experience criteria and

- 1 successfully completes the two-examination process for licensing
- 2 as a professional engineer, as set forth in section 4.2, or as a
- 3 professional land surveyor, as set forth in section 4.3 [or],
- 4 the examination process for licensing as a professional
- 5 geologist as set forth in section 4.4 or the examination process
- 6 for licensing as a professional soil scientist as set forth in
- 7 section 4.6.
- 8 (c) Investigations of Applications; Determination of
- 9 Competency of Applicants. -- To investigate the allegations
- 10 contained in any application for licensure or certification
- 11 under this act in order to determine the truth of such
- 12 allegations and to determine the competency of any person
- 13 applying for licensure to assume responsible charge of the work
- 14 involved in the practice of engineering, land surveying [or]___
- 15 geology or soil science, such competency to be determined by the
- 16 grade and character of the engineering work, the grade and
- 17 character of the land surveying work [or], the grade and
- 18 character of geologic work or the grade and character of the
- 19 <u>soil science work</u> actually performed. In relation to engineers
- 20 and surveyors, the mere execution as a contractor of work
- 21 designed by a professional engineer, or the supervision of the
- 22 construction of such work as a foreman or superintendent, or the
- 23 operation or maintenance of machinery or equipment, or work
- 24 performed as a salesman of engineering equipment or apparatus,
- 25 shall not be deemed to be active practice in engineering, unless
- 26 such work has involved the actual practice of engineering.
- 27 Engineering and land surveying work, performed under the
- 28 supervision of a professional engineer or land surveyor,
- 29 respectively, shall be given full credit. Whenever the board
- 30 determines otherwise than by examination, that an applicant has

- 1 not produced sufficient evidence to show that he is competent to
- 2 be placed in responsible charge and shall refuse to examine or
- 3 to license such applicant, it shall set forth in writing its
- 4 findings and the reasons for its conclusions and furnish a copy
- 5 thereof to the applicant.
- 6 (d) Examinations; Fees. -- To prescribe the subjects, manner,
- 7 time and place of examinations for licenses as professional
- 8 engineers, professional land surveyors [and], professional
- 9 geologists <u>and professional soil scientists and</u> for certificates
- 10 for engineers-in-training, geologists-in-training [and],
- 11 surveyors-in-training and soil scientists-in-training, and the
- 12 filing of applications for such examinations, and to prepare or
- 13 provide for the preparation of such examinations, conduct or
- 14 provide for the conduct of such examinations, to make written
- 15 reports of such examinations, which reports shall be preserved
- 16 for a period of not less than three years, to collect such fees
- 17 for such examinations, and for licenses and certificates issued
- 18 without examination, as may be fixed according to law, and to
- 19 issue licenses and certificates to such persons as successfully
- 20 pass such examinations.
- 21 * * *
- 22 (f) Roster of Registrants. -- To keep a roster showing the
- 23 names and addresses of professional engineers, professional land
- 24 surveyors [and], professional geologists and professional soil
- 25 scientists licensed under this act, and under prior laws, and
- 26 registered by the board, which roster shall be published in
- 27 booklet form by the board following each biennial renewal.
- 28 Copies of the roster shall be furnished upon request to each
- 29 registered or certified person and may be furnished to other
- 30 persons upon such terms as the board shall prescribe: Provided,

- 1 however, That copies of the roster shall be furnished to the
- 2 Planning Commission and the prothonotary of each county in the
- 3 Commonwealth.
- 4 (g) Suspension and Revocation of Licenses; Registrations and
- 5 Certificates; Reinstatements.--To suspend or revoke the license
- 6 and registration of any professional engineer, professional land
- 7 surveyor [or], professional geologist or professional soil
- 8 scientist or the certificate of any engineer-in-training,
- 9 geologist-in-training [or] surveyor-in-training or soil
- 10 <u>scientist-in-training</u>, who is found guilty by the board, by a
- 11 majority vote of all its members, of the practice of any fraud,
- 12 deceit or misrepresentation in obtaining his license,
- 13 certification or registration, or of gross negligence,
- 14 incompetency or misconduct in the practice of engineering, in
- 15 the practice of land surveying [or] in the practice of geology
- 16 or in the practice of soil science, or of violation of the code
- 17 of ethics of the engineering profession, and to reinstate
- 18 suspended licenses, registrations and certificates in any cases
- 19 where a majority of all the members of the board shall determine
- 20 the same to be just and proper. Unless ordered to do so by a
- 21 court, the board shall not reinstate the license, certificate or
- 22 registration of a person to practice as a professional engineer,
- 23 professional land surveyor, professional geologist, professional
- 24 <u>soil scientist</u> or an engineer-in-training, geologist-in-training
- 25 [or], a surveyor-in-training or a soil scientist-in-training
- 26 which has been revoked, and such person shall be required to
- 27 apply for a license, certificate or registration after a period
- 28 of five years in accordance with section 2 if he desires to
- 29 practice at any time after such revocation. The board shall
- 30 require a person whose license or registration has been

- 1 suspended or revoked to return the license or registration in
- 2 such manner as the board directs. Failure to do so shall be a
- 3 misdemeanor of the third degree. Misconduct in the practice of
- 4 engineering, land surveying [or], geology or soil science shall
- 5 include, but not be limited to conviction for a criminal offense
- 6 such as extortion, bribery or fraud or entry of a plea of nolo
- 7 contendere to a charge thereof for conduct relating to the
- 8 practice of engineering, land surveying [or] geology or soil
- 9 <u>science</u>, or has violated any provision of this act or any
- 10 regulation promulgated by the board. For the purposes of this
- 11 subsection, the code of ethics is as follows:
- 12 It shall be considered unprofessional and inconsistent with
- 13 honorable and dignified bearing for any professional engineer,
- 14 professional land surveyor [or], professional geologist or
- 15 professional soil scientist:
- 16 (1) To act for his client or employer in professional
- 17 matters otherwise than as a faithful agent or trustee, or to
- 18 accept any remuneration other than his stated recompense for
- 19 services rendered.
- 20 (2) To attempt to injure falsely or maliciously, directly or
- 21 indirectly, the professional reputation, prospects or business
- 22 of anyone.
- 23 (3) To attempt to supplant another engineer, land surveyor
- 24 [or], geologist or soil scientist after definite steps have been
- 25 taken toward his employment.
- 26 (4) To compete with another engineer, land surveyor [or],
- 27 geologist or soil scientist for employment by the use of
- 28 unethical practices.
- 29 (5) To review the work of another engineer, land surveyor
- 30 [or], geologist or soil scientist for the same client, except

- 1 with the knowledge of such engineer, land surveyor [or],
- 2 geologist or soil scientist, or unless the connection of such
- 3 engineer, land surveyor [or], geologist or soil scientist with
- 4 the work has terminated.
- 5 (6) To attempt to obtain or render technical services or
- 6 assistance without fair and just compensation commensurate with
- 7 the services rendered: Provided, however, the donation of such
- 8 services to a civic, charitable, religious or eleemosynary
- 9 organization shall not be deemed a violation.
- 10 (7) To advertise in self-laudatory language, or in any other
- 11 manner, derogatory to the dignity of the profession.
- 12 (8) To attempt to practice in any field of engineering, land
- 13 surveying [or], geology or soil science in which the registrant
- 14 is not proficient.
- 15 (9) To use or permit the use of his professional seal on
- 16 work over which he was not in responsible charge.
- 17 (10) To aid or abet any person in the practice of
- 18 engineering, land surveying [or], geology or soil science not in
- 19 accordance with the provision of this act or prior laws.
- The board shall appoint, with the approval of the Governor,
- 21 such hearing examiners as shall be necessary to conduct hearings
- 22 as may be required under this subsection.
- The board shall have the power to adopt and promulgate rules
- 24 and regulations setting forth the functions, powers, standards
- 25 and duties to be followed by the hearing examiners.
- The hearing examiners shall have the power to conduct
- 27 hearings in accordance with the regulations of the board, and to
- 28 issue subpoenas requiring the attendance and testimony of
- 29 individuals or the production of, pertinent books, records,
- 30 documents and papers by persons whom they believe to have

- 1 information relevant to any matter pending before the examiner.
- 2 Such examiner shall also have the power to administer oaths.
- 3 The hearing examiner shall hear evidence submitted and
- 4 arguments of counsel, if any, with reasonable dispatch, and
- 5 shall promptly record his decision, supported by findings of
- 6 fact, and a copy thereof shall immediately be sent to the board
- 7 and to counsel of record, or the parties, if not represented.
- 8 If application for review is made to the board within twenty
- 9 days from the date of any decision made as a result of a hearing
- 10 held by a hearing examiner, the board shall review the evidence,
- 11 and if deemed advisable by the board, hear argument and
- 12 additional evidence. As soon as practicable, the board shall
- 13 make a decision and shall file the same with its finding of the
- 14 facts on which it is based and send a copy thereof to each of
- 15 the parties in dispute.
- 16 * * *
- 17 (i) Administration and Enforcement of Laws.--To administer
- 18 and enforce the laws of the Commonwealth relating to the
- 19 practice of engineering, land surveying [and], geology and soil
- 20 science, and to instruct and require its agents to bring
- 21 prosecutions for unauthorized and unlawful practices.
- 22 * * *
- 23 (o) Affiliation With the Council of Soil Science Examiners;
- 24 Dues. -- To become affiliated with the Council of Soil Science
- 25 Examiners, and to pay such dues as the council shall establish,
- 26 and to send delegates to the annual meeting of the council, and
- 27 to defray their expenses.
- Section 5. Section 4.1 of the act, amended December 16, 1992
- 29 (P.L.1151, No.151) and November 25, 2002 (P.L.1113, No.136), is
- 30 amended to read:

- 1 Section 4.1. State Registration Board for Professional
- 2 Engineers, Land Surveyors [and], Geologists and Soil
- 3 <u>Scientists.--(a)</u> There is hereby established within the
- 4 Department of State the State Registration Board for
- 5 Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors [and], Geologists and
- 6 <u>Soil Scientists</u>. The board shall consist of the Commissioner of
- 7 Professional and Occupational Affairs, three members appointed
- 8 by the Governor who shall be persons representing the public at
- 9 large and [nine] <u>eleven</u> members appointed by the Governor, five
- 10 of whom shall be registered professional engineers, two of whom
- 11 shall be registered professional land surveyors [and] $_{\boldsymbol{L}}$ two of
- 12 whom shall be registered professional geologists and two of whom
- 13 <u>shall be professional soil scientists</u>. Any land surveyor
- 14 appointed to serve on the board shall have received the land
- 15 surveyor license upon the passage of the appropriate
- 16 examination. Any geologist licensed under section 4.4 of this
- 17 act shall be eligible for appointment to the board. The
- 18 professional members of the board shall be so selected that not
- 19 more than two of them shall specialize in any one of the five
- 20 major disciplines of engineering: civil, mining and
- 21 metallurgical, mechanical, electrical and chemical. Each member
- 22 of the board shall be a citizen of the United States and a
- 23 resident of this Commonwealth. Each professional member shall
- 24 have been engaged in the practice of the respective profession
- 25 for at least ten years and shall have been in responsible charge
- 26 of work for at least five years.
- 27 (b) The terms of members of the board shall be six years, or
- 28 until his successor has been appointed and qualified but not
- 29 longer than six months beyond the six-year period. In the event
- 30 that any of said members shall die or resign during his term,

- 1 his successor shall be appointed in the same way and with the
- 2 same qualifications and shall hold office for the unexpired
- 3 term. No member shall be eligible for appointment to serve more
- 4 than two consecutive full terms.
- 5 (c) [Seven] Eight members of the board shall constitute a
- 6 quorum. A member may not be counted as part of a quorum or vote
- 7 on any issue, other than temporary and automatic suspension,
- 8 under this act unless he is physically in attendance at the
- 9 meeting.
- 10 (d) The board shall select annually a president from among
- 11 its members.
- 12 (e) Each member of the board, except the Commissioner of
- 13 Professional and Occupational Affairs and the Director of the
- 14 Bureau of Consumer Protection in the Office of Attorney General,
- 15 or his designee, shall receive sixty dollars per diem when
- 16 actually attending to the work of the board. Members shall also
- 17 receive the amount of reasonable traveling, hotel and other
- 18 necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties.
- 19 [(f) The board is subject to evaluation, review and
- 20 termination within the time and in the manner provided in the
- 21 act of December 22, 1981 (P.L.508, No.142), known as the "Sunset
- 22 Act."]
- 23 (q) A member of the board who fails to attend three
- 24 consecutive meetings shall forfeit his seat unless the
- 25 Commissioner of Professional and Occupational Affairs, upon
- 26 written request from the member, finds that the member should be
- 27 excused from a meeting because of illness or the death of a
- 28 family member.
- 29 (h) A public member who fails to attend two consecutive
- 30 statutorily mandated training seminars in accordance with

- 1 section 813(e) of the act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.177, No.175),
- 2 known as "The Administrative Code of 1929," shall forfeit board
- 3 membership unless the Commissioner of Professional and
- 4 Occupational Affairs, upon written request from the public
- 5 member, finds that the public member should be excused from a
- 6 meeting because of illness or the death of a family member.
- 7 Section 6. Section 4.5(a) and (c) of the act, amended May
- 8 12, 2010 (P.L.192, No.25), are amended to read:
- 9 Section 4.5. Continuing Professional Competency
- 10 Requirements. -- (a) In order to help safeguard life, health and
- 11 property and to promote the public welfare, the practice of
- 12 professional engineering, professional land surveying [and],__
- 13 professional geology <u>and professional soil science</u> in this
- 14 Commonwealth requires continuing professional competency.
- 15 * * *
- 16 (c) Each licensee shall be required to obtain twenty-four
- 17 PDH units during the biennial renewal period. If a licensee
- 18 exceeds the requirement in any renewal period, a maximum of
- 19 twelve PDH units may be carried forward into the subsequent
- 20 renewal period. PDH units may be earned as follows:
- 21 (1) Successful completion of college courses relevant to
- 22 professional practice.
- 23 (2) Completion of continuing education courses relevant to
- 24 professional practice.
- 25 (3) Completion of correspondence, televised, videotaped and
- 26 other short courses or tutorials relevant to professional
- 27 practice.
- 28 (4) Completion of seminars, employer-sponsored courses,
- 29 workshops or professional or technical presentations made at
- 30 meetings, conventions or conferences relevant to professional

- 1 practice.
- 2 (5) Teaching, presenting or instructing in any of the
- 3 activities listed in clauses (1), (2), (3) and (4).
- 4 (6) Authoring published papers, articles or books relevant
- 5 to professional practice.
- 6 (7) Obtaining patents relevant to professional practice.
- 7 (8) For individuals licensed as a professional soil
- 8 scientist under section 4.6, successful completion of a
- 9 <u>designated program offered by the Soil Science Society of</u>
- 10 America, which shall equal the twenty-four PDH units described
- 11 <u>under this subsection</u>.
- 12 * * *
- 13 Section 7. The act is amended by adding a section to read:
- 14 Section 4.6. Procedure for Licensing as Professional Soil
- 15 Scientist. -- (a) An applicant for licensure as a professional
- 16 soil scientist shall complete an application for licensure and
- 17 pay fees as required by the board.
- 18 (b) An applicant shall be qualified to be licensed after
- 19 submission of proof satisfactory to the board that the
- 20 applicant:
- 21 (1) Is of good moral character.
- 22 (2) Has graduated from an accredited institution of higher
- 23 <u>learning with a bachelor of science or bachelor of arts degree</u>
- 24 or advanced degree with at least fifteen credits in soil
- 25 <u>science.</u>
- 26 (3) Has completed at least five years of professional soil
- 27 <u>science work</u>, or has completed a minimum of three years of
- 28 professional soil science work under the supervision of a
- 29 <u>licensed professional soil scientist and two years of graduate</u>
- 30 school in a relevant field.

- 1 (4) Has passed an examination on fundamentals of soil
- 2 science and professional practice of soil science adopted by the
- 3 board with development of the examination in conjunction with
- 4 the Council of Soil Science Examiners of the Soil Science
- 5 Society of America.
- 6 (c) Those individuals who are engaged in the practice of
- 7 soil science at the time of enactment who have submitted proof
- 8 that they have the designation of Certified Professional Soil
- 9 <u>Scientist or Certified Professional Soil Classifier through the</u>
- 10 certification program of the Soil Science Society of America
- 11 <u>shall be deemed to have met the requirements of subsection (b).</u>
- 12 (d) Those individuals who are engaged in the practice of
- 13 <u>soil science at the time of enactment who meet the requirements</u>
- 14 <u>in section 4(b) will be exempted from taking the examination</u>
- 15 specified in section (4)(b).
- 16 Section 8. Sections 5, 7, 9, 10.2, 11 and 11.1 of the act,
- 17 amended December 16, 1992 (P.L.1151, No.151), are amended to
- 18 read:
- 19 Section 5. Exemption from Licensure and Registration. --
- 20 Except as specifically provided in this section, this act shall
- 21 not be construed to require licensure and registration in the
- 22 following cases:
- 23 (a) The practice of engineering, land surveying [or],
- 24 geology or soil science by any person who acts under the
- 25 supervision of a professional engineer, professional land
- 26 surveyor [or], geologist or professional soil scientist,
- 27 respectively, or by an employe of a person lawfully engaged in
- 28 the practice of engineering, land surveying [or], geology or
- 29 soil science and who, in either event, does not assume
- 30 responsible charge of design or supervisions;

- 1 (b) The practice of engineering, land surveying [or],
- 2 geology or soil science, not exceeding thirty days in the
- 3 aggregate in one calendar year, by a nonresident not having a
- 4 place of business in this Commonwealth, if such person is
- 5 legally qualified to engage in the practice of engineering, land
- 6 surveying or geology in the state or territory of his residence:
- 7 Provided, That standards of such state or territory are at least
- 8 equal to the standards of this Commonwealth;
- 9 (c) The practice of engineering, land surveying [or],
- 10 geology or soil science by officers and employes of the United
- 11 States Government for the said government;
- 12 (d) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (g) of this
- 13 section, the practice of engineering or land surveying by a
- 14 regular employe of a public utility company, as defined by the
- 15 Public Utility Code (66 Pa.C.S. § 101 et seq.) in connection
- 16 with the facilities of such public utility, which are subject to
- 17 regulation by the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission:
- 18 Provided, That such public utility shall employ at least one
- 19 professional engineer, as defined in this act, who shall be in
- 20 responsible charge of such utility's engineering work and shall
- 21 employ at least one professional land surveyor, as defined in
- 22 this act, who shall be in responsible charge of such utility's
- 23 land surveying;
- 24 (e) The practice of architecture by a duly registered
- 25 architect, and the doing of such engineering work as is
- 26 incidental to his architectural work;
- 27 (f) The practice of engineering, land surveying [or],
- 28 geology or soil science by any person or by any employe of any
- 29 copartnership, association or corporation upon property owned by
- 30 such person or such copartnership, association or corporation,

- 1 unless such practice affects the public safety or health or the
- 2 property of some other person or entity.
- 3 (g) The practice of engineering, land surveying [or],
- 4 geology or soil science work by a manufacturing, mining,
- 5 communications common carrier, research and development or other
- 6 industrial corporation or by employes of such corporation,
- 7 provided such work is in connection with or incidental to
- 8 products of, or non-engineering services rendered by, such
- 9 corporation or its affiliates.
- 10 (h) The running of lines or grades and layout work on or
- 11 within established property limits, or from established points
- 12 outside the property limits to or within such property limits
- 13 when performed by a contractor or home builder in conjunction
- 14 with the construction, reconstruction, alteration, maintenance
- 15 or demolition of a structure or other facility.
- 16 (i) The writing of deed descriptions.
- 17 (j) The preparation of shop drawings or the performance of
- 18 construction management services by persons customarily engaged
- 19 in construction work.
- 20 (k) The practice of individuals providing geologic services,
- 21 excluding soil science services, to businesses engaged in the
- 22 exploration or development of gas or oil.
- 23 Section 7. Seal of Registrants. -- (a) Each person,
- 24 registered under this act, shall obtain a seal of a design
- 25 authorized by the board which shall bear the registrant's name
- 26 and number and the legend "Registered Professional Engineer,"
- 27 "Registered Professional Land Surveyor" [or], "Registered
- 28 Professional Geologist<u>" or "Registered Professional Soil</u>
- 29 <u>Scientist</u>." Such seal, or a facsimile imprint of same, shall be
- 30 stamped on all plans, specifications, plats and reports issued

- 1 by a professional engineer, professional land surveyor [or],
- 2 professional geologist or professional soil scientist.
- 3 (b) It shall be unlawful for any person to use such seal
- 4 during the period the license or registration of the holder
- 5 thereof has been suspended or revoked, or to use a seal of any
- 6 design not approved by the board.
- 7 Section 9. Fees. -- (a) The fee for an applicant for
- 8 licensure as a professional engineer, professional land surveyor
- 9 [or], professional geologist or professional soil scientist,
- 10 including examination, and for examination or certification, or
- 11 both, as an engineer-in-training or a surveyor-in-training,
- 12 shall be as fixed by the board by regulation and shall be
- 13 subject to review in accordance with the act of June 25, 1982
- 14 (P.L.633, No.181), known as the "Regulatory Review Act." If the
- 15 revenues generated by fees, fines and civil penalties imposed in
- 16 accordance with the provisions of this act are not sufficient to
- 17 match expenditures over a two-year period, the board shall
- 18 increase those fees by regulation, subject to review in
- 19 accordance with the "Regulatory Review Act," such that the
- 20 projected revenues will meet or exceed projected expenditures.
- 21 (b) If the Bureau of Professional and Occupational Affairs
- 22 determines that the fees established by the board are inadequate
- 23 to meet the minimum enforcement efforts required, then the
- 24 bureau, after consultation with the board, shall increase the
- 25 fees by regulation, subject to review in accordance with the
- 26 "Regulatory Review Act," such that adequate revenues are raised
- 27 to meet the required enforcement effort.
- 28 (c) All persons now qualified and engaged in the practice of
- 29 engineering, land surveying [and], geology and soil science, or
- 30 who shall hereafter be licensed by the board, shall register,

- 1 biennially, with the board and pay the fee for each biennial
- 2 registration. All fees collected under the provisions of this
- 3 act shall be received by the board and shall be paid into the
- 4 Professional Licensure Augmentation Account.
- 5 Section 10.2. Reporting of Multiple Licensure. -- Any licensee
- 6 of this Commonwealth who is also licensed to practice
- 7 engineering, land surveying [or], geology or soil science in any
- 8 other state, territory or country shall report this information
- 9 to the board on the biennial renewal application. Any
- 10 disciplinary action taken in other states, territories or
- 11 countries shall be reported to the board on the biennial renewal
- 12 application or within ninety days of final disposition,
- 13 whichever is sooner. Multiple licensure shall be noted by the
- 14 board on the engineer's, land surveyor's [or], geologist's or
- 15 <u>soil scientist's</u> record, and each state, territory or country
- 16 shall be notified by the board of any disciplinary action taken
- 17 against the licensee in this Commonwealth.
- 18 Section 11. Penalties. -- (a) Whoever shall engage in the
- 19 practice of engineering, the practice of land surveying [or],
- 20 the practice of geology or the practice of soil science without
- 21 being licensed and registered as required by this act, or
- 22 exempted therefrom, as provided in this act, or shall present or
- 23 attempt to use, as his own, the license or certificate of
- 24 registration of another, or shall give any false or forged
- 25 evidence of any kind to the board, or to any member thereof, in
- 26 order to obtain a license or registration as a professional
- 27 engineer, professional land surveyor [or], professional
- 28 geologist or professional soil scientist or a certificate as an
- 29 engineer-in-training [or] _ surveyor-in-training or soil_
- 30 <u>scientist-in-training</u>, or shall use any expired, suspended or

- 1 revoked certificate of registration, or shall otherwise violate
- 2 the provisions of this act, shall be guilty of a summary offense
- 3 and upon conviction thereof for a first offense, shall be
- 4 sentenced to pay a fine not exceeding one thousand dollars, or
- 5 suffer imprisonment, not exceeding three months, or both and for
- 6 a second or subsequent offense shall be guilty of a felony, and
- 7 upon conviction thereof, shall be sentenced to pay a fine of not
- 8 less than two thousand dollars but not more than five thousand
- 9 dollars or to imprisonment for not less than one year but not
- 10 more than two years, or both.
- 11 (b) In addition to any other civil remedy or criminal
- 12 penalty provided for in this act, the board, by a vote of the
- 13 majority of the maximum number of the authorized membership of
- 14 the board as provided by law, or by a vote of the majority of
- 15 the duly qualified and confirmed membership or a minimum of six
- 16 members, whichever is greater, may levy a civil penalty of up to
- 17 one thousand dollars on any current licensee who violates any
- 18 provision of this act or on any person who practices the
- 19 profession of an engineer, land surveyor [or], geologist or soil
- 20 <u>scientist</u> without being properly licensed to do so under this
- 21 act. The board shall levy this penalty only after affording the
- 22 accused party the opportunity for a hearing, as provided in
- 23 Title 2 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes (relating to
- 24 administrative law and procedure).
- 25 (c) All fines and civil penalties imposed in accordance with
- 26 this section shall be paid into the Professional Licensure
- 27 Augmentation Account.
- 28 Section 11.1. Injunction Against Unlawful Practice. -- It
- 29 shall be unlawful for any person to practice, or attempt to
- 30 offer to practice, engineering, land surveying [or], geology or

- 1 <u>soil science</u>, as defined in this act, without having at the time
- 2 of so doing a valid, unexpired, unrevoked and unsuspended
- 3 license issued under this act. The unlawful practice of
- 4 engineering, land surveying [or], geology or soil science, as
- 5 defined in this act, may be enjoined by the courts on petition
- 6 of the board or the Commissioner of Professional and
- 7 Occupational Affairs. In any such proceeding, it shall not be
- 8 necessary to show that any person is individually injured by the
- 9 actions complained of. If the respondent is found guilty of the
- 10 unlawful practice of engineering, land surveying [or], geology
- 11 or soil science, the court shall enjoin him from so practicing
- 12 unless and until he has been duly licensed. Procedure in such
- 13 cases shall be the same as in any other injunction suit. The
- 14 remedy by injunction hereby given is in addition to any other
- 15 civil or criminal prosecution and punishment.
- 16 Section 9. This act shall take effect in 60 days.