THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1235 Session of 2011

INTRODUCED BY PAYNE AND FABRIZIO, MARCH 29, 2011

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE, MARCH 29, 2011

AN ACT

Amending the act of May 23, 1945 (P.L.913, No.367), entitled, as 1 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 7 licensing and registration of persons practicing said 8 profession, and the certification of engineers-in-training 9 and surveyors-in-training, and the suspension and revocation 10 of said licenses, registrations and certifications for 11 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 16 providing for the regulation of the profession of forestry. 17 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania 18 hereby enacts as follows: 19 Section 1. The title and section 1 of the act of May 23, 20 1945 (P.L.913, No.367), known as the Engineer, Land Surveyor and Geologist Registration Law, amended December 16, 1992 (P.L.1151, 21 22 No.151), are amended to read: 23 AN ACT Amending the act of May 23, 1945 (P.L.913, No.367), entitled, as 24 25 amended, "An act relating to and regulating the practice of

- 1 the profession of engineering, including civil engineering,
- 2 mechanical engineering, electrical engineering, mining
- 3 engineering and chemical engineering, the profession of land
- 4 surveying [and], the profession of geology and the profession
- 5 <u>of forestry</u> and constituent parts and combinations thereof as
- 6 herein defined; providing for the licensing and registration
- of persons practicing said profession, and the certification
- 8 of engineers-in-training and surveyors-in-training, and the
- 9 suspension and revocation of said licenses, registrations and
- 10 certifications for violation of this act; prescribing the
- 11 powers and duties of the State Registration Board for
- Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors [and] Geologists and
- 13 <u>Foresters</u>, the Department of State and the courts;
- 14 prescribing penalties; and repealing existing laws.
- 15 Section 1. Short Title. -- This act shall be known and may be
- 16 cited as the "Engineer, Land Surveyor [and], Geologist and
- 17 <u>Forester</u> Registration Law."
- 18 Section 2. Section 2(g) and (i) of the act, amended December
- 19 13, 1979 (P.L.534, No.120) and December 16, 1992 (P.L.1151,
- 20 No.151), are amended and the section is amended by adding
- 21 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 Foresters.
- 27 * * *
- 28 (i) "Responsible Charge" means a position that requires
- 29 initiative, skill and independent judgment, and implies such
- 30 degree of competence and accountability gained by technical

- 1 education and experience of a grade and character as is
- 2 sufficient to qualify an individual to personally and
- 3 independently engage in and be entrusted with the work involved
- 4 in the practice of engineering [or], land surveying or forestry.
- 5 This term does not include positions which require routine
- 6 performance of subprofessional work such as auxiliary survey
- 7 personnel (unless acting as chief of party) and drafting
- 8 personnel.
- 9 * * *
- 10 (u) "Forestry" means the science, the art and the practice
- 11 of conserving and managing for human benefit the natural
- 12 resources, including the trees, other plants, animals, soil and
- 13 water that occur on and in association with forest lands.
- 14 (v) "Practice of forestry" means any professional services
- 15 requiring the application of forestry principles and techniques.
- 16 Such services shall include, but not be limited to, forest
- 17 inventory, forest management planning, timber appraisal, the
- 18 direction and supervision of silvicultural activities, the use
- 19 and protection of forested areas and the evaluation of the
- 20 economic and biological consequences of forest management
- 21 <u>activities. The term shall not be construed to include:</u>
- 22 (1) the usual and accustomed practices of loggers and timber
- 23 buyers in connection with purchasing and harvesting timber,
- 24 provided that they do not represent themselves to be foresters
- 25 or characterize their services as forestry services;
- 26 (2) preparation of erosion and sediment control plans
- 27 <u>pursuant to State laws; and</u>
- 28 (3) the practice of engineering, land surveying or geology
- 29 for which separate registration is required under the provisions
- 30 of this act or landscape architecture for which separate

- 1 registration is required under the provisions of the act of
- 2 January 24, 1966 (1965 P.L.1527, No.535), known as the
- 3 "Landscape Architects' Registration Law."
- 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 Forestry 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 to offer
- 19 to practice forestry unless he is licensed and registered under
- 20 the laws of this Commonwealth as a professional forester.
- 21 Individuals licensed as professional engineers, professional
- 22 land surveyors or registered landscape architects may perform
- 23 geological work which is incidental to their engineering,
- 24 surveying or landscape architecture without being licensed as a
- 25 professional geologist. Individuals licensed as professional
- 26 engineers, professional land surveyors, professional geologists
- 27 <u>or registered landscape architects may perform forestry work</u>
- 28 which is incidental to their engineering, surveying, geology or
- 29 <u>landscape architecture without being a professional forester.</u>
- 30 Individuals licensed as professional foresters may perform

- 1 <u>engineering</u>, <u>surveying</u>, <u>geological</u> or <u>landscape</u> <u>architecture</u>
- 2 work which is incidental to their forestry work.
- 3 (b) A person shall be construed to practice or offer to
- 4 practice engineering, land surveying [or], geology or forestry
- 5 who practices any branch of the profession of engineering, land
- 6 surveying [or], geology or forestry; or who, by verbal claim,
- 7 sign, advertisement, letterhead, card, or in any other way
- 8 represents himself to be an engineer, land surveyor [or],
- 9 geologist or forester, or through the use of some other title
- 10 implies that he is an engineer, land surveyor [or], geologist or
- 11 <u>forester</u> or that he is registered under this act; or who holds
- 12 himself out as able to perform, or who does perform any
- 13 engineering, land surveying [or] _ geological or forestry service
- 14 or work or any other service designated by the practitioner or
- 15 recognized as engineering, land surveying [or], geology or
- 16 forestry.
- 17 Section 4. Section 4 of the act, amended December 16, 1992
- 18 (P.L.1151, No.151), November 29, 2006 (P.L.1534, No.170) and May
- 19 12, 2010 (P.L.192, No.25), is amended to read:
- 20 Section 4. General Powers of Board. -- The board shall have
- 21 power--
- 22 (a) Approval of Engineering, Surveying [and], Geology and
- 23 <u>Forestry</u> Curricula. -- To investigate and to approve or disapprove
- 24 engineering, surveying [and], geology and forestry curricula of
- 25 this State, and other states, territories and countries for the
- 26 education of students desiring to be licensed to engage in the
- 27 practice of engineering, land surveying [or], geology or
- 28 forestry, and to revoke or suspend approvals where they are no
- 29 longer deemed proper.
- 30 (b) Licensing Professional Engineers, Professional Land

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

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

- 1 supervision of a professional engineer or land surveyor,
- 2 respectively, shall be given full credit. Whenever the board
- 3 determines otherwise than by examination, that an applicant has
- 4 not produced sufficient evidence to show that he is competent to
- 5 be placed in responsible charge and shall refuse to examine or
- 6 to license such applicant, it shall set forth in writing its
- 7 findings and the reasons for its conclusions and furnish a copy
- 8 thereof to the applicant.
- 9 (d) Examinations; Fees. -- To prescribe the subjects, manner,
- 10 time and place of examinations for licenses as professional
- 11 engineers, professional land surveyors [and], professional
- 12 geologists <u>and professional foresters</u> and for certificates for
- 13 engineers-in-training, geologists-in-training and surveyors-in-
- 14 training, and the filing of applications for such examinations,
- 15 and to prepare or provide for the preparation of such
- 16 examinations, conduct or provide for the conduct of such
- 17 examinations, to make written reports of such examinations,
- 18 which reports shall be preserved for a period of not less than
- 19 three years, to collect such fees for such examinations, and for
- 20 licenses and certificates issued without examination, as may be
- 21 fixed according to law, and to issue licenses and certificates
- 22 to such persons as successfully pass such examinations.
- 23 (e) Biennial Registrations; Fees.--To provide for, regulate
- 24 and require all persons licensed in accordance with the
- 25 provisions of this act and all persons licensed and registered
- 26 under prior laws of this Commonwealth, relating to the licensing
- 27 of professional engineers [and], professional land surveyors,
- 28 <u>professional geologists and professional foresters</u>, to register
- 29 biennially with the board, to prescribe the form of such
- 30 registration, after consultation with the Commissioner of

- 1 Professional and Occupational Affairs and the payment of such
- 2 biennial registration fee, as shall be fixed according to law,
- 3 to issue biennial registration to such persons and to suspend or
- 4 revoke the license or registration of such persons as fail,
- 5 refuse or neglect to so register, or pay such fee within such
- 6 time as the board shall prescribe by its rules and regulations,
- 7 and to reinstate licenses and registrations of persons who shall
- 8 thereafter pay such registration fees in accordance with the
- 9 rules and regulations of the board.
- 10 (f) Roster of Registrants. -- To keep a roster showing the
- 11 names and addresses of professional engineers, professional land
- 12 surveyors [and], professional geologists and professional
- 13 <u>foresters</u> licensed under this act, and under prior laws, and
- 14 registered by the board, which roster shall be published in
- 15 booklet form by the board following each biennial renewal.
- 16 Copies of the roster shall be furnished upon request to each
- 17 registered or certified person and may be furnished to other
- 18 persons upon such terms as the board shall prescribe: Provided,
- 19 however, That copies of the roster shall be furnished to the
- 20 Planning Commission and the prothonotary of each county in the
- 21 Commonwealth.
- 22 (g) Suspension and Revocation of Licenses; Registrations and
- 23 Certificates; Reinstatements. -- To suspend or revoke the license
- 24 and registration of any professional engineer, professional land
- 25 surveyor [or], professional geologist or professional forester
- 26 or the certificate of any engineer-in-training, geologist-in-
- 27 training or surveyor-in-training, who is found guilty by the
- 28 board, by a majority vote of all its members, of the practice of
- 29 any fraud, deceit or misrepresentation in obtaining his license,
- 30 certification or registration, or of gross negligence,

- 1 incompetency or misconduct in the practice of engineering, in
- 2 the practice of land surveying [or], in the practice of geology
- 3 or in the practice of forestry, or of violation of the code of
- 4 ethics of the engineering profession or of violation of the code
- 5 of ethics of the forestry profession, and to reinstate suspended
- 6 licenses, registrations and certificates in any cases where a
- 7 majority of all the members of the board shall determine the
- 8 same to be just and proper. Unless ordered to do so by a court,
- 9 the board shall not reinstate the license, certificate or
- 10 registration of a person to practice as a professional engineer,
- 11 professional land surveyor, professional geologist, professional
- 12 <u>forester</u> or an engineer-in-training, geologist-in-training or a
- 13 surveyor-in-training which has been revoked, and such person
- 14 shall be required to apply for a license, certificate or
- 15 registration after a period of five years in accordance with
- 16 section 2 if he desires to practice at any time after such
- 17 revocation. The board shall require a person whose license or
- 18 registration has been suspended or revoked to return the license
- 19 or registration in such manner as the board directs. Failure to
- 20 do so shall be a misdemeanor of the third degree. Misconduct in
- 21 the practice of engineering, land surveying [or], geology or
- 22 <u>forestry</u> shall include, but not be limited to conviction for a
- 23 criminal offense such as extortion, bribery or fraud or entry of
- 24 a plea of nolo contendere to a charge thereof for conduct
- 25 relating to the practice of engineering, land surveying [or],
- 26 geology or forestry, or has violated any provision of this act
- 27 or any regulation promulgated by the board. For the purposes of
- 28 this subsection, the code of ethics is as follows:
- 29 It shall be considered unprofessional and inconsistent with
- 30 honorable and dignified bearing for any professional engineer,

- 1 professional land surveyor [or], professional geologist or
- 2 professional forester:
- 3 (1) To act for his client or employer in professional
- 4 matters otherwise than as a faithful agent or trustee, or to
- 5 accept any remuneration other than his stated recompense for
- 6 services rendered.
- 7 (2) To attempt to injure falsely or maliciously, directly or
- 8 indirectly, the professional reputation, prospects or business
- 9 of anyone.
- 10 (3) To attempt to supplant another engineer, land surveyor
- 11 [or], geologist or forester after definite steps have been taken
- 12 toward his employment.
- 13 (4) To compete with another engineer, land surveyor [or],
- 14 geologist or forester for employment by the use of unethical
- 15 practices.
- 16 (5) To review the work of another engineer, land surveyor
- 17 [or], geologist or forester for the same client, except with the
- 18 knowledge of such engineer, land surveyor [or], geologist or
- 19 <u>forester</u>, or unless the connection of such engineer, land
- 20 surveyor [or], geologist or forester with the work has
- 21 terminated.
- 22 (6) To attempt to obtain or render technical services or
- 23 assistance without fair and just compensation commensurate with
- 24 the services rendered: Provided, however, the donation of such
- 25 services to a civic, charitable, religious or eleemosynary
- 26 organization shall not be deemed a violation.
- 27 (7) To advertise in self-laudatory language, or in any other
- 28 manner, derogatory to the dignity of the profession.
- 29 (8) To attempt to practice in any field of engineering, land
- 30 surveying [or], geology or forestry in which the registrant is

- 1 not proficient.
- 2 (9) To use or permit the use of his professional seal on
- 3 work over which he was not in responsible charge.
- 4 (10) To aid or abet any person in the practice of
- 5 engineering, land surveying [or], geology or forestry not in
- 6 accordance with the provision of this act or prior laws.
- 7 The board shall appoint, with the approval of the Governor,
- 8 such hearing examiners as shall be necessary to conduct hearings
- 9 as may be required under this subsection.
- 10 The board shall have the power to adopt and promulgate rules
- 11 and regulations setting forth the functions, powers, standards
- 12 and duties to be followed by the hearing examiners.
- 13 The hearing examiners shall have the power to conduct
- 14 hearings in accordance with the regulations of the board, and to
- 15 issue subpoenas requiring the attendance and testimony of
- 16 individuals or the production of, pertinent books, records,
- 17 documents and papers by persons whom they believe to have
- 18 information relevant to any matter pending before the examiner.
- 19 Such examiner shall also have the power to administer oaths.
- The hearing examiner shall hear evidence submitted and
- 21 arguments of counsel, if any, with reasonable dispatch, and
- 22 shall promptly record his decision, supported by findings of
- 23 fact, and a copy thereof shall immediately be sent to the board
- 24 and to counsel of record, or the parties, if not represented.
- 25 If application for review is made to the board within twenty
- 26 days from the date of any decision made as a result of a hearing
- 27 held by a hearing examiner, the board shall review the evidence,
- 28 and if deemed advisable by the board, hear argument and
- 29 additional evidence. As soon as practicable, the board shall
- 30 make a decision and shall file the same with its finding of the

- 1 facts on which it is based and send a copy thereof to each of
- 2 the parties in dispute.
- 3 (h) Financial Requirements of Board. -- (1) To submit
- 4 annually to the Department of State an estimate of the financial
- 5 requirements of the board for its administrative, investigative,
- 6 legal and miscellaneous expenses.
- 7 (2) To submit annually to the House and Senate
- 8 Appropriations Committees, fifteen days after the Governor has
- 9 submitted his budget to the General Assembly, a copy of the
- 10 budget request for the upcoming fiscal year which the board
- 11 previously submitted to the department.
- 12 (i) Administration and Enforcement of Laws.--To administer
- 13 and enforce the laws of the Commonwealth relating to the
- 14 practice of engineering, land surveying [and], geology or
- 15 forestry, and to instruct and require its agents to bring
- 16 prosecutions for unauthorized and unlawful practices.
- 17 (j) Minutes and Records. -- To keep minutes and records of all
- 18 its transactions and proceedings. Copies thereof duly certified
- 19 by the secretary of the board shall be received in evidence in
- 20 all courts and elsewhere.
- 21 (k) Member of National Council of Examiners for Engineering
- 22 and Surveying; Dues. -- To become a member of the National Council
- 23 of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying, and to pay such dues
- 24 as said council shall establish, and to send delegates to the
- 25 annual meeting of said council, and to defray their expenses.
- 26 (1) Administrative Rules and Regulations. -- To adopt,
- 27 promulgate and enforce such administrative rules and
- 28 regulations, not inconsistent with this act, as are deemed
- 29 necessary and proper by the board to carry into effect the
- 30 powers conferred by this act, which shall include establishing

- 1 requirements for continuing education to be fulfilled by
- 2 individuals licensed and registered under this act. The rules
- 3 and regulations shall include any fees necessary for the board
- 4 to carry out its responsibilities regarding establishing
- 5 continuing education requirements.
- 6 (m) Status of Complaints. -- The board shall submit annually a
- 7 report to the Professional Licensure Committee of the House of
- 8 Representatives and to the Consumer Protection and Professional
- 9 Licensure Committee of the Senate a description of the types of
- 10 complaints received, status of cases, board action which has
- 11 been taken and the length of time from the initial complaint to
- 12 final board resolution.
- 13 (n) Member of National Association of State Boards of
- 14 Geology; Dues. -- To become a member of the National Association
- 15 of State Boards of Geology, to pay dues as the association shall
- 16 establish, to send delegates to the annual meeting of the
- 17 association and to defray their expenses.
- 18 Section 5. Section 4.1 of the act, amended December 16, 1992
- 19 (P.L.1151, No.151) and November 25, 2002 (P.L.1113, No.136), is
- 20 amended to read:
- 21 Section 4.1. State Registration Board for Professional
- 22 Engineers, Land Surveyors [and], Geologists and Foresters.--(a)
- 23 There is hereby established within the Department of State the
- 24 State Registration Board for Professional Engineers, Land
- 25 Surveyors [and], Geologists and Foresters. The board shall
- 26 consist of the Commissioner of Professional and Occupational
- 27 Affairs, three members appointed by the Governor who shall be
- 28 persons representing the public at large and [nine] <u>eleven</u>
- 29 members appointed by the Governor, five of whom shall be
- 30 registered professional engineers, two of whom shall be

- 1 registered professional land surveyors [and], two of whom shall
- 2 be registered professional geologists and two of whom shall be
- 3 registered professional foresters. Any land surveyor or forester
- 4 appointed to serve on the board shall have received the
- 5 <u>respective</u> land surveyor <u>or forester</u> license upon the passage of
- 6 the appropriate examination. Any geologist licensed under
- 7 section 4.4 of this act shall be eligible for appointment to the
- 8 board. For the initial board appointments, the two professional
- 9 <u>forester members need not be licensed by examination at the time</u>
- 10 of appointment but must have satisfied the education and
- 11 <u>experience requirements of this act for licensure as a</u>
- 12 professional forester. The professional members of the board
- 13 shall be so selected that not more than two of them shall
- 14 specialize in any one of the five major disciplines of
- 15 engineering: civil, mining and metallurgical, mechanical,
- 16 electrical and chemical. Each member of the board shall be a
- 17 citizen of the United States and a resident of this
- 18 Commonwealth. Each professional member shall have been engaged
- 19 in the practice of the respective profession for at least ten
- 20 years and shall have been in responsible charge of work for at
- 21 least five years.
- 22 (b) The terms of members of the board shall be six years, or
- 23 until his successor has been appointed and qualified but not
- 24 longer than six months beyond the six-year period. In the event
- 25 that any of said members shall die or resign during his term,
- 26 his successor shall be appointed in the same way and with the
- 27 same qualifications and shall hold office for the unexpired
- 28 term. No member shall be eligible for appointment to serve more
- 29 than two consecutive full terms.
- 30 (c) [Seven] <u>Eight</u> members of the board shall constitute a

- 1 quorum. A member may not be counted as part of a quorum or vote
- 2 on any issue, other than temporary and automatic suspension,
- 3 under this act unless he is physically in attendance at the
- 4 meeting.
- 5 (d) The board shall select annually a president from among
- 6 its members.
- 7 (e) Each member of the board, except the Commissioner of
- 8 Professional and Occupational Affairs and the Director of the
- 9 Bureau of Consumer Protection in the Office of Attorney General,
- 10 or his designee, shall receive sixty dollars per diem when
- 11 actually attending to the work of the board. Members shall also
- 12 receive the amount of reasonable traveling, hotel and other
- 13 necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties.
- 14 [(f) The board is subject to evaluation, review and
- 15 termination within the time and in the manner provided in the
- 16 act of December 22, 1981 (P.L.508, No.142), known as the "Sunset
- 17 Act."]
- 18 (q) A member of the board who fails to attend three
- 19 consecutive meetings shall forfeit his seat unless the
- 20 Commissioner of Professional and Occupational Affairs, upon
- 21 written request from the member, finds that the member should be
- 22 excused from a meeting because of illness or the death of a
- 23 family member.
- 24 (h) A public member who fails to attend two consecutive
- 25 statutorily mandated training seminars in accordance with
- 26 section 813(e) of the act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.177, No.175),
- 27 known as "The Administrative Code of 1929," shall forfeit board
- 28 membership unless the Commissioner of Professional and
- 29 Occupational Affairs, upon written request from the public
- 30 member, finds that the public member should be excused from a

- 1 meeting because of illness or the death of a family member.
- 2 Section 6. The act is amended by adding a section to read:
- 3 Section 4.6. Procedure for Licensing as a Professional
- 4 Forester. -- (a) The board shall provide for a licensure
- 5 examination. All written, oral and practical examinations shall
- 6 <u>be prepared and administered by a qualified and approved</u>
- 7 professional testing organization in a manner prescribed for
- 8 written examinations by the provisions of section 812.1 of the
- 9 <u>act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.177, No.175), known as "The</u>
- 10 Administrative Code of 1929." However, during the first two
- 11 years after the effective date of this section, the board shall
- 12 <u>issue licenses without examination to applicants who meet the</u>
- 13 requirements of subsection (b) (1), (2) and (4). The board may
- 14 <u>further postpone the examination for up to two additional years</u>
- 15 <u>if necessary in order to provide for an examination in</u>
- 16 accordance with section 812.1 of "The Administrative Code of
- 17 1929."
- 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 met one of the following education and experience
- 23 requirements:
- (i) Has graduated from an approved four-year forestry
- 25 curriculum or attained a higher degree in an approved forestry
- 26 curriculum and has completed at least four years of professional
- 27 forestry work including at least two years under the supervision
- 28 of a licensed professional forester or four years in a
- 29 <u>responsible position in professional forestry work.</u>
- 30 (ii) Has graduated from an approved two-year forestry

- 1 <u>curriculum and has completed at least six years of professional</u>
- 2 forestry experience including at least three years under the
- 3 supervision of a licensed professional forester or six years in
- 4 <u>a responsible position in forestry work. For the purposes of</u>
- 5 this section individuals who have graduated from a one-year
- 6 <u>concentrated twelve-month curriculum in forestry technology</u>,
- 7 <u>such as the Syracuse Wanakena Ranger, Forest Technician School,</u>
- 8 shall be considered to have attained the equivalent of a two-
- 9 <u>year forest technology degree.</u>
- 10 (3) Has passed any examination adopted by the board.
- 11 (4) Has paid all appropriate fees in the amount determined
- 12 by the board by regulation.
- (c) Professional forestry work performed prior to the
- 14 <u>effective date of this section shall satisfy the requirements of</u>
- 15 <u>subsection</u> (b) (2) (i) and (ii) if it is performed under the
- 16 <u>supervision of either a licensed professional forester or a</u>
- 17 forester who was not licensed.
- 18 (d) For the purposes of this section, professional forestry
- 19 work does not include routine activities in the process of
- 20 sampling, laboratory work, forestry drafting, timber marking,
- 21 log and lumber scaling and grading, and timber harvesting
- 22 activity. Credit for graduate study may not exceed a total of
- 23 <u>two years of professional forestry work.</u>
- 24 (e) Unless otherwise provided in this section, a licensed
- 25 <u>professional forester shall only maintain licensure upon</u>
- 26 submission of documentation to the satisfaction of the board,
- 27 <u>submitted concurrent with required biennial fees, that the</u>
- 28 individual licensed under this act as a registered professional
- 29 <u>forester has completed a minimum of forty contact hours in</u>
- 30 continuing forestry education training during the preceding

- 1 biennial registration period provided by any board-recognized
- 2 <u>national professional forestry society or association serving</u>
- 3 licensed professional foresters or continuing forestry education
- 4 training which was otherwise approved by the board.
- 5 (f) Individuals engaged in the practice of forestry on the
- 6 <u>effective date of this section who have attained, at the</u>
- 7 minimum, a two-year degree in a field of study closely related
- 8 to forestry or who have only completed three years of an
- 9 <u>approved four-year forestry curriculum who meet all requirements</u>
- 10 of subsection (b) (1), (2) and (4), other than graduating from a
- 11 <u>two-year or four-year forestry curriculum shall not be denied</u>
- 12 the privilege of the practice of forestry until they have had
- 13 the opportunity to pass the examination provided for under
- 14 <u>subsection</u> (a), provided that they comply with the continuing
- 15 education requirement of subsection (e) during any period prior
- 16 to their examination. The following apply:
- 17 (i) Individuals so practicing without a license may not
- 18 represent themselves to be licensed foresters, but shall be
- 19 permitted to represent themselves as "forester applicant,
- 20 license pending examination."
- 21 (ii) An applicant who has graduated from an approved two-
- 22 year or four-year forestry curriculum, who has submitted to the
- 23 board any application required by this section during the first
- 24 two years following the effective date of this section which
- 25 <u>fully documents the required training and forestry work</u>
- 26 experience as required in subsection (b)(2)(i) or (ii) shall not
- 27 <u>be denied the privilege of representing himself to be a</u>
- 28 forester, unless the application is denied by the board.
- 29 <u>(iii) No person may represent himself to be a registered</u>
- 30 professional forester in this Commonwealth until so licensed by

- 1 the board.
- 2 Section 7. Section 5 of the act, amended December 16, 1992
- 3 (P.L.1151, No.151), is amended to read:
- 4 Section 5. Exemption from Licensure and Registration .--
- 5 Except as specifically provided in this section, this act shall
- 6 not be construed to require licensure and registration in the
- 7 following cases:
- 8 (a) The practice of engineering, land surveying [or],
- 9 geology or forestry by any person who acts under the supervision
- 10 of a professional engineer, professional land surveyor [or],
- 11 professional geologist or professional forester, respectively,
- 12 or by an employe of a person lawfully engaged in the practice of
- 13 engineering, land surveying [or], geology or forestry and who,
- 14 in either event, does not assume responsible charge of design or
- 15 supervisions;
- 16 (b) The practice of engineering, land surveying [or],
- 17 geology or forestry, not exceeding thirty days in the aggregate
- 18 in one calendar year, by a nonresident not having a place of
- 19 business in this Commonwealth, if such person is legally
- 20 qualified to engage in the practice of engineering, land
- 21 surveying [or], geology or forestry in the state or territory of
- 22 his residence: Provided, That standards of such state or
- 23 territory are at least equal to the standards of this
- 24 Commonwealth;
- 25 (c) The practice of engineering, land surveying [or],
- 26 geology or forestry by officers and employes of the United
- 27 States Government for the said government;
- 28 (d) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (g) of this
- 29 section, the practice of engineering [or], land surveying or
- 30 <u>forestry</u> by a regular employe of a public utility company, as

- 1 defined by the Public Utility Code (66 Pa.C.S. § 101 et seq.) in
- 2 connection with the facilities of such public utility, which are
- 3 subject to regulation by the Pennsylvania Public Utility
- 4 Commission: Provided, That such public utility shall employ at
- 5 least one professional engineer, as defined in this act, who
- 6 shall be in responsible charge of such utility's engineering
- 7 work [and] shall employ at least one professional land
- 8 surveyor, as defined in this act, who shall be in responsible
- 9 charge of such utility's land surveying and shall employ at
- 10 least one professional forester, as defined by this act, who
- 11 <u>shall be in responsible charge of such utility's forestry work;</u>
- 12 (e) The practice of architecture by a duly registered
- 13 architect, and the doing of such engineering work as is
- 14 incidental to his architectural work;
- 15 (f) The practice of engineering, land surveying [or],
- 16 geology or forestry by any person or by any employe of any
- 17 copartnership, association or corporation upon property owned by
- 18 such person or such copartnership, association or corporation,
- 19 unless such practice affects the public safety or health or the
- 20 property of some other person or entity.
- 21 (q) The practice of engineering, land surveying [or],
- 22 geology or forestry work by a manufacturing, mining,
- 23 communications common carrier, research and development or other
- 24 industrial corporation or by employes of such corporation,
- 25 provided such work is in connection with or incidental to
- 26 products of, or non-engineering or non-forestry services
- 27 rendered by, such corporation or its affiliates.
- 28 (h) The running of lines or grades and layout work on or
- 29 within established property limits, or from established points
- 30 outside the property limits to or within such property limits

- 1 when performed by a contractor or home builder in conjunction
- 2 with the construction, reconstruction, alteration, maintenance
- 3 or demolition of a structure or other facility.
- 4 (i) The writing of deed descriptions.
- 5 (j) The preparation of shop drawings or the performance of
- 6 construction management services by persons customarily engaged
- 7 in construction work.
- 8 (k) The practice of individuals providing geologic services
- 9 to businesses engaged in the exploration or development of gas
- 10 or oil.
- 11 Section 8. Section 6 of the act, amended May 12, 2010
- 12 (P.L.192, No.25), is amended to read:
- 13 Section 6. Practice by Firms and Corporations. -- The practice
- 14 of engineering, of land surveying [and], of geology and of
- 15 forestry being the function of an individual or of individuals
- 16 working in concerted effort, it shall be unlawful for any firm
- 17 or corporation to engage in such practice, or to offer to
- 18 practice, or to assume use or advertise any title or
- 19 description, including the use of the term "engineer" or
- 20 "engineering" in its firm or corporate name, conveying the
- 21 impression that such firm or corporation is engaged in or is
- 22 offering to practice such profession, unless the directing heads
- 23 and employes of such firm or corporation in responsible charge
- 24 of its activities in the practice of such profession are
- 25 licensed and registered in conformity with the requirements of
- 26 this act, and whose name, seal and signature, along with the
- 27 date of signature, shall be stamped on all plans,
- 28 specifications, plats and reports issued by such firm or
- 29 corporation.
- 30 Section 9. Sections 7, 9, 10.2, 11 and 11.1 of the act,

- 1 amended December 16, 1992 (P.L.1151, No.151), are amended to
- 2 read:
- 3 Section 7. Seal of Registrants. -- (a) Each person,
- 4 registered under this act, shall obtain a seal of a design
- 5 authorized by the board which shall bear the registrant's name
- 6 and number and the legend "Registered Professional Engineer,"
- 7 "Registered Professional Land Surveyor," [or] "Registered
- 8 Professional Geologist<u>" or "Registered Professional Forester</u>."
- 9 Such seal, or a facsimile imprint of same, shall be stamped on
- 10 all plans, specifications, plats and reports issued by a
- 11 professional engineer, professional land surveyor [or],
- 12 professional geologist or professional forester.
- 13 (b) It shall be unlawful for any person to use such seal
- 14 during the period the license or registration of the holder
- 15 thereof has been suspended or revoked, or to use a seal of any
- 16 design not approved by the board.
- 17 Section 9. Fees.--(a) The fee for an applicant for
- 18 licensure as a professional engineer, professional land surveyor
- 19 [or], professional geologist or professional forester, including
- 20 examination, and for examination or certification, or both, as
- 21 an engineer-in-training or a surveyor-in-training, shall be as
- 22 fixed by the board by regulation and shall be subject to review
- 23 in accordance with the act of June 25, 1982 (P.L.633, No.181),
- 24 known as the "Regulatory Review Act." If the revenues generated
- 25 by fees, fines and civil penalties imposed in accordance with
- 26 the provisions of this act are not sufficient to match
- 27 expenditures over a two-year period, the board shall increase
- 28 those fees by regulation, subject to review in accordance with
- 29 the "Regulatory Review Act," such that the projected revenues
- 30 will meet or exceed projected expenditures.

- 1 (b) If the Bureau of Professional and Occupational Affairs
- 2 determines that the fees established by the board are inadequate
- 3 to meet the minimum enforcement efforts required, then the
- 4 bureau, after consultation with the board, shall increase the
- 5 fees by regulation, subject to review in accordance with the
- 6 "Regulatory Review Act," such that adequate revenues are raised
- 7 to meet the required enforcement effort.
- 8 (c) All persons now qualified and engaged in the practice of
- 9 engineering, land surveying [and], geology and forestry, or who
- 10 shall hereafter be licensed by the board, shall register,
- 11 biennially, with the board and pay the fee for each biennial
- 12 registration. All fees collected under the provisions of this
- 13 act shall be received by the board and shall be paid into the
- 14 Professional Licensure Augmentation Account.
- 15 Section 10.2. Reporting of Multiple Licensure. -- Any licensee
- 16 of this Commonwealth who is also licensed to practice
- 17 engineering, land surveying [or] geology or forestry in any
- 18 other state, territory or country shall report this information
- 19 to the board on the biennial renewal application. Any
- 20 disciplinary action taken in other states, territories or
- 21 countries shall be reported to the board on the biennial renewal
- 22 application or within ninety days of final disposition,
- 23 whichever is sooner. Multiple licensure shall be noted by the
- 24 board on the engineer's, land surveyor's [or], geologist's or
- 25 <u>forester's</u> record, and each state, territory or country shall be
- 26 notified by the board of any disciplinary action taken against
- 27 the licensee in this Commonwealth.
- 28 Section 11. Penalties. -- (a) Whoever shall engage in the
- 29 practice of engineering, the practice of land surveying [or],
- 30 the practice of geology or the practice of forestry without

- 1 being licensed and registered as required by this act, or
- 2 exempted therefrom, as provided in this act, or shall present or
- 3 attempt to use, as his own, the license or certificate of
- 4 registration of another, or shall give any false or forged
- 5 evidence of any kind to the board, or to any member thereof, in
- 6 order to obtain a license or registration as a professional
- 7 engineer, professional land surveyor [or], professional
- 8 geologist or professional forester or a certificate as an
- 9 engineer-in-training or surveyor-in-training, or shall use any
- 10 expired, suspended or revoked certificate of registration, or
- 11 shall otherwise violate the provisions of this act, shall be
- 12 guilty of a summary offense and upon conviction thereof for a
- 13 first offense, shall be sentenced to pay a fine not exceeding
- 14 one thousand dollars, or suffer imprisonment, not exceeding
- 15 three months, or both and for a second or subsequent offense
- 16 shall be guilty of a felony, and upon conviction thereof, shall
- 17 be sentenced to pay a fine of not less than two thousand dollars
- 18 but not more than five thousand dollars or to imprisonment for
- 19 not less than one year but not more than two years, or both.
- 20 (b) In addition to any other civil remedy or criminal
- 21 penalty provided for in this act, the board, by a vote of the
- 22 majority of the maximum number of the authorized membership of
- 23 the board as provided by law, or by a vote of the majority of
- 24 the duly qualified and confirmed membership or a minimum of
- 25 [six] <u>seven</u> members, whichever is greater, may levy a civil
- 26 penalty of up to one thousand dollars on any current licensee
- 27 who violates any provision of this act or on any person who
- 28 practices the profession of an engineer, land surveyor [or],
- 29 geologist or forester without being properly licensed to do so
- 30 under this act. The board shall levy this penalty only after

- 1 affording the accused party the opportunity for a hearing, as
- 2 provided in Title 2 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes
- 3 (relating to administrative law and procedure).
- 4 (c) All fines and civil penalties imposed in accordance with
- 5 this section shall be paid into the Professional Licensure
- 6 Augmentation Account.
- 7 Section 11.1. Injunction Against Unlawful Practice. -- It
- 8 shall be unlawful for any person to practice, or attempt to
- 9 offer to practice, engineering, land surveying [or], geology or
- 10 forestry, as defined in this act, without having at the time of
- 11 so doing a valid, unexpired, unrevoked and unsuspended license
- 12 issued under this act. The unlawful practice of engineering,
- 13 land surveying [or], geology or forestry, as defined in this
- 14 act, may be enjoined by the courts on petition of the board or
- 15 the Commissioner of Professional and Occupational Affairs. In
- 16 any such proceeding, it shall not be necessary to show that any
- 17 person is individually injured by the actions complained of. If
- 18 the respondent is found guilty of the unlawful practice of
- 19 engineering, land surveying [or], geology or forestry, the court
- 20 shall enjoin him from so practicing unless and until he has been
- 21 duly licensed. Procedure in such cases shall be the same as in
- 22 any other injunction suit. The remedy by injunction hereby given
- 23 is in addition to any other civil or criminal prosecution and
- 24 punishment.
- 25 Section 10. Within 90 days of the effective date of this
- 26 act, the Governor shall nominate one forester to serve a six-
- 27 year term and one forester to serve a four-year term on the
- 28 State Registration Board for Professional Engineers, Land
- 29 surveyors, Geologists and Foresters.
- 30 Section 11. This act shall take effect in 60 days.