

HB 998 “Business Occupations and Professions – Professional Engineers”

DELEGATE NEIL PARROTT

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What this Bill Does

- ❖ Requires that those who apply under both the approved and unapproved college curriculum are required to pass the “Fundamentals of Engineering” exam
- ❖ Allows the Maryland Board of Professional Engineers to accept the certification of CPC credits issued to Professional Engineers residing in another state, to be licensed in Maryland without a requirement to obtain additional CPC credits **IF** the state in which that P.E. resides “**reciprocates**” by accepting the CPC credits issued to P. E. residing in Maryland, applying for a license in that state may do so without a requirement to obtain any additional CPC credits.

Fundamentals of Engineering Exam

- ❖ Maryland is one of a few states that permit an individual without a college degree to apply for a professional engineering license.
- ❖ The National Society of Professional Engineers and members of the Maryland Board of Professional Engineers have been moving toward eliminating this option.
- ❖ The Maryland General Assembly has chosen to maintain the avenue for people to obtain an engineering license without a college degree.

3 Paths To Being an Engineer

Approved Curriculum

If you graduate college with and an engineering degree that meets the approved curriculum, the Board of Professional Engineers will recognize approve your degree. You will be required to pass the “Fundamentals of Engineering” exam and work four (4) years in engineering before you can take the examination in the Principles and Practice of Engineering.

Unapproved Curriculum

If you graduate college with a degree that does not meet the approved engineering curriculum the Board of Professional Engineers may not approve that degree. You will also be required to pass the “Fundamentals of Engineering” exam but you must work eight (8) years in engineering before you can take the examination in the Principles and Practice of Engineering.

Non-Academic Option

If you go to work for an engineering firm after high school, there is no requirement to take the fundamentals exam. You can apply for an engineering license after 12 years experience, before a candidate can take the examination in the Principles and Practice of Engineering.

- Note there is currently no requirement for those applying in the Non-Academic Option to complete the “Fundamentals of Engineering” exam

Reciprocity Needs

- ❖ Many Professional Engineers practice in multiple states, which makes it essential that they meet the CPC requirements to maintain their license in each state. All but a few states have CPC requirements for license renewal.
- ❖ The problem that arises is that the CPC requirements vary from state to state such that an engineer cannot easily use educational credits in one state to satisfy **ALL** the CPC requirements in other states.

Time to Join Other States

It is time for the states to stop thinking separately about CPC for engineers and other professions and start thinking about ways to reciprocate so that professionals who are, **BY NECESSITY** licensed in multiple states can comply with reasonable continuing education requirements.

I respectfully request a favorable vote for HB 998

Questions?