
Commerce & Labor Committee

HB 2602

Brief Description: Establishing continuing education requirements for engineers.

Sponsors: Representatives Moeller and Green.

Brief Summary of Bill

- Requires registered engineers to complete at least 15 hours of continuing professional development per year.

Hearing Date: 1/29/10

Staff: Alison Hellberg (786-7152).

Background:

Engineers must be registered in order to practice engineering in Washington. The State Board of Registration for Engineers and Land Surveyors (Board), through the Department of Licensing, Business and Professions Division, regulates the practice of engineering, as well as land surveying. Candidates for registration as an engineer must have graduated from an approved program, have eight years of work experience, and have passed the required examinations.

The National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES) is an organization composed of the professional regulatory boards of all states.

Beginning in 2007, land surveyors renewing their registration certificates have been required to verify that they have completed 15 continuing professional development hours per year. The Board was required to adopt rules "governing continuing professional development for land surveyors that are generally patterned after the model rules" of NCEES.

This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.

Summary of Bill:

Like land surveyors, engineers are required to complete 15 hours of continuing professional development per year. The Board is required to adopt rules "governing continuing professional development for land surveyors that are generally patterned after the model rules" of NCEES. The Department of Licensing may set fees to cover the costs of administering the new requirement.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Available.

Effective Date: The bill takes effect July 1, 2011.