

By the Committee on Business Regulation & Consumer Affairs
and Representative Ogles

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to industrial hygienists and
3 safety professionals; creating s. 501.937,
4 F.S.; providing requirements for use of
5 professional titles by industrial hygienists
6 and safety professionals; providing
7 definitions; providing that violation of such
8 requirements is a deceptive and unfair trade
9 practice; providing an effective date.

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11 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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13 Section 1. Section 501.937, Florida Statutes, is
14 created to read:

15 501.937 Industrial hygienists and safety
16 professionals; use of professional titles; failure to
17 comply.--

18 (1) Any person representing himself or herself as a
19 "safety professional" or "industrial hygienist" must
20 accurately disclose his or her credentials.

21 (2) A person may not represent himself or herself as a
22 "certified safety professional," "associate safety
23 professional," "certified occupational health and safety
24 technologist," "industrial hygienist in training," or
25 "certified industrial hygienist" unless he or she holds a
26 current valid certificate in the field of safety or industrial
27 hygiene from either the American Board of Industrial Hygiene
28 or the Board of Certified Safety Professionals, or unless the
29 Department of Business and Professional Regulation has, upon
30 request, examined another certification program and has
31 formally concluded that the certification standards of that

1 certification program are substantially equivalent to the
2 standards for certificates issued by those organizations; nor
3 may the person mislead or deceive anyone by the unauthorized
4 use of any certification mark that has been awarded by the
5 United States Patent and Trademark Office.

6 (3)(a) A "safety professional" is a person having a
7 baccalaureate degree in safety, engineering, chemistry,
8 physics, or a closely related physical or biological science
9 who has acquired competency in the field of safety. The
10 studies and training necessary to acquire such competency
11 should have been sufficient in all of the above cognate
12 sciences to provide the abilities to anticipate, identify, and
13 evaluate hazardous conditions and practices; to develop hazard
14 control designs, methods, procedures, and programs; to
15 implement, administer, and advise others on hazard controls
16 and hazard control programs; and to measure, audit, and
17 evaluate the effectiveness of hazard controls and hazard
18 control programs.

19 (b) An "industrial hygienist" is a person having a
20 baccalaureate degree in engineering, chemistry, physics, or a
21 closely related physical or biological science who has
22 acquired competency in the field of industrial hygiene. The
23 studies and training necessary to acquire such competency
24 should have been sufficient in all of the above cognate
25 sciences to provide the abilities to anticipate and recognize
26 the environmental factors and stresses associated with work
27 and work operations and to understand their effects on people
28 and their well-being; to evaluate, on the basis of training
29 and experience and with the aid of quantitative measurement
30 techniques, the magnitude of these factors and stresses in
31 terms of ability to impair human health and well-being; and to

1 prescribe methods to eliminate, control, or reduce such
2 factors and stresses when necessary to alleviate their
3 effects.

4 (4) Failure to comply with this section constitutes a
5 deceptive and unfair trade practice.

6 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1 of the
7 year in which enacted.

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HOUSE SUMMARY

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12 Provides requirements for use of professional titles by
13 industrial hygienists and safety professionals, and
14 provides that violation of such requirements is a
15 deceptive and unfair trade practice. See bill for
16 details.

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