



481068

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
01/17/2014	.	
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The Committee on Regulated Industries (Braynon) recommended the following:

**Senate Amendment (with title amendment)**

Delete everything after the enacting clause  
and insert:

Section 1. Subsection (2) of section 492.104, Florida  
Statutes, is amended to read

492.104 Rulemaking authority.—The Board of Professional  
Geologists has authority to adopt rules pursuant to ss.

120.536(1) and 120.54 to implement this chapter. Every licensee



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11 shall be governed and controlled by this chapter and the rules  
12 adopted by the board. The board is authorized to set, by rule,  
13 fees for application, examination, certificate of authorization,  
14 late renewal, initial licensure, and license renewal. These fees  
15 should not exceed the cost of implementing the application,  
16 examination, initial licensure, and license renewal or other  
17 administrative process and shall be established as follows:

18 (2) The examination fee shall not exceed \$250 and the fee  
19 may be apportioned to each part of a multi-part examination. The  
20 examination fee shall be refundable in whole or part if the  
21 applicant is found to be ineligible to take any portion of the  
22 licensure examination.

23 Section 2. Paragraphs (d) and (e) of subsection (1) of  
24 section 492.105, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

25 492.105 Licensure by examination; requirements; fees.—

26 (1) Any person desiring to be licensed as a professional  
27 geologist shall apply to the department to take the licensure  
28 examination. The written licensure examination shall be designed  
29 to test an applicant's qualifications to practice professional  
30 geology, and shall include such subjects as will tend to  
31 ascertain the applicant's knowledge of the fundamentals, theory,  
32 and the practice of professional geology and may include such  
33 subjects as are taught in curricula of accredited colleges and  
34 universities. The written licensure examination may be a multi-  
35 part examination. The department shall examine each applicant  
36 who the board certifies:

37 (d) Has fulfilled ~~Fulfills~~ the following educational  
38 requirements at a college or university, the geological  
39 curricula of which meet the criteria established by an



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40 accrediting agency recognized by the United States Department of  
41 Education:

42 1. Graduation from such college or university with a major  
43 in geology or other related science acceptable to the board; and

44 2. Satisfactory completion of at least 30 semester hours or  
45 45 quarter hours of geological coursework ~~courses, 24 of which~~  
46 ~~must be at the third or fourth year or graduate level.~~

47 (e) Has at least 5 ~~7~~ years of verified professional  
48 geological work experience, which includes ~~shall include~~ a  
49 minimum of 3 years of professional geological work under the  
50 supervision of a licensed or qualified geologist or professional  
51 engineer registered under chapter 471 as qualified in the field  
52 or discipline of professional engineering work performed  
53 ~~involved; or has have~~ a minimum of 5 accumulative years of  
54 verified geological work years' experience in responsible charge  
55 of geological work as determined by the board. ~~The following~~  
56 ~~criteria of education and experience qualify, as specified,~~  
57 ~~toward accumulation of the required 7 years of professional~~  
58 ~~geological work:~~

59 1. ~~Each year of undergraduate study in the geological~~  
60 ~~sciences shall count as 1/2 year of the experience requirement,~~  
61 ~~up to a maximum of 2 years, and each year of graduate study~~  
62 ~~shall count as 1 year of the experience requirement.~~

63 2. ~~Credit for undergraduate study, graduate study, and~~  
64 ~~graduate courses, individually or in any combination thereof,~~  
65 ~~shall in no case exceed a total of 2 years toward meeting the~~  
66 ~~requirements for at least 7 years of professional geological~~  
67 ~~work.~~

68 3. ~~Full-time teaching or research in the geological~~



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69 ~~sciences at the college level shall be credited year for year~~  
70 ~~toward meeting the requirement in this category.~~

71 ~~4. The ability of the applicant shall have been~~  
72 ~~demonstrated by his or her having performed the work in a~~  
73 ~~responsible position as determined by the board.~~

74 Section 3. Section 492.1051, Florida Statutes, is created  
75 to read:

76 492.1051 Registered geologist in training; requirements.—

77 (1) A person desiring to register as a geologist in  
78 training shall apply to the department to take a discrete  
79 portion of the examination required for licensure as a  
80 professional geologist in this state. This discrete portion  
81 shall cover the fundamentals of geology. The department shall  
82 examine each applicant who the board certifies:

83 (a) Has completed the application form and remitted a  
84 nonrefundable application fee and an examination fee that is  
85 refundable if the applicant is found to be ineligible to take  
86 the examination.

87 (b) Has not committed an act or offense in any jurisdiction  
88 which constitutes grounds for disciplining a professional  
89 geologist licensed under this chapter; and

90 (c) Has successfully completed at least 30 semester hours  
91 or 45 quarter hours of geological coursework at a college or  
92 university, the geological curricula of which meet the criteria  
93 established by an accrediting agency recognized by the United  
94 States Department of Education and, if still enrolled, has  
95 provided a letter of good academic standing from the college or  
96 university.

97 (2) The department shall register as a geologist in



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98 training each applicant who the board certifies has passed the  
99 fundamentals of geology portion of the licensure examination.

100 (3) A registered geologist in training desiring to be  
101 licensed as a professional geologist shall apply to the  
102 department to take the licensure examination as prescribed in s.  
103 492.105(1), but is not required to retake the fundamentals of  
104 geology portion of the licensure examination.

105 Section 4. This act shall take effect October 1, 2014.

107 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

108 And the title is amended as follows:

109 Delete everything before the enacting clause  
110 and insert:

111 A bill to be entitled  
112 An act relating to professional geology; amending s.  
113 492.104, F.S.; providing for apportionment of  
114 examination fees; amending s. 492.105, F.S.; revising  
115 examination requirements for professional geologists;  
116 creating s. 492.1051, F.S.; providing requirements for  
117 registration as a geologist-in-training; requiring  
118 geologist-in-training applicants to successfully  
119 complete the fundamentals of geology portion of the  
120 licensure examination; requiring an application fee  
121 and a refundable examination fee; requiring the  
122 Department of Business and Professional Regulation to  
123 submit each completed application to the Board of  
124 Professional Geologists for certification; setting  
125 forth the criteria the board may use to certify  
126 applicants; requiring the department to register each



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127 person as a geologist-in-training whom the board  
128 certifies has successfully completed the fundamentals  
129 portion of the geology examination; exempting  
130 registered geologist-in-training seeking licensure as  
131 a professional geologist from retaking the  
132 fundamentals of geology portion of the examination;  
133 providing an effective date.