

Regular Session, 2013

HOUSE BILL NO. 222

BY REPRESENTATIVE TIM BURNS

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

ACCOUNTANTS/CPA: Provides relative to qualifications for and enforcement of certificates of certified public accountants

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 37:75(G) and 79(B)(3), relative to certified public accountants;
3 to provide for qualifications; to provide relative to enforcement against holders of
4 certificates; and to provide for related matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1. R.S. 37:75(G) and 79(B)(3) are hereby amended and reenacted to read as
7 follows:

8 §75. Qualifications for a certificate as a certified public accountant

9 * * *

10 G. An applicant for initial issuance of a certificate under this Section shall
11 show that he has had one year of experience. Such experience shall include
12 providing any type of service or advice involving the use of accounting, attest,
13 management advisory, financial advisory, tax, or consulting skills. All such
14 experience shall be obtained within the four-year period preceding the application
15 and be ~~supervised and~~ verified by a licensee. Experience gained through
16 employment in government, industry, academia, or public practice is acceptable.

17 * * *

18 §79. Enforcement against holders of certificates, permits, and privileges

19 * * *

1 B. In lieu of or in addition to any remedy provided for in Subsection A of
2 this Section, the board may require a licensee or privilege holder to:

3 * * *

(3) ~~Pay the costs of any proceedings~~ all costs of board proceedings, including
but not limited to investigation fees, stenographer fees, and attorney fees involved
in the imposition of a remedy pursuant to this Section.

7 * * *

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

Tim Burns

HB No. 222

Abstract: Clarifies that the experience required for initial certification as a CPA does not need to be supervised by a licensee, only verified, and allows the board to impose all costs of board proceedings involved in the imposition of a remedy for violations.

Present law requires applicants for initial certification as a certified public accountant to show at least one year of experience which shall be obtained during the four-year period preceding the application and must be supervised and verified by a licensee.

Proposed law retains present law except deletes the requirement that the experience be supervised by a licensee thereby requiring only verification.

Present law allows the State Board of Certified Public Accountants to enforce the provisions regulating certified public accountants and allows the board to revoke or suspend certificates to practice for various reasons. Further allows the board additional remedies for enforcement such as requiring the licensee to pay the costs of any proceedings involving the imposition of a remedy.

Proposed law retains present law and clarifies that the board may require the licensee to pay all costs of board proceedings, including investigation fees, stenographer fees, and attorney fees involved in the imposition of a remedy.

(Amends R.S. 37:75(G) and 79(B)(3))