

HB 481 -- ARCHITECTS, PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS, LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS

SPONSOR: Coleman (32)

ARCHITECTS (Sections 327.091 and 327.101, RSMo.)

Current law sets forth the practice of an architect in Missouri as any person who renders or represents himself or herself as willing or able to render service or creative work which requires architectural education, training, and experience.

This bill instead sets forth the practice of architecture as rendering or offering to render services in connection with the design and construction of public and private buildings, structures, shelters, and site improvements which have as their principal purpose human occupancy or habitation. Only a person with the required architectural education, practical training, relevant work experience, and licensure may practice as an architect in Missouri.

Current law allows certain people to perform specified architectural work without a license. This bill removes the exception for people who perform certain architectural work for their employer that does not endanger the public health or safety. The bill allows an exception for people who render architectural services in connection with buildings used exclusively for agricultural purposes.

The bill also removes the exception for people who work on privately-owned commercial buildings that contain less than 10 people, or people who work on privately-owned buildings of less than 2,000 square feet, and instead allows the exception only for people who work on any one building that contains less than 10 people, contains less than 2,000 square feet, and is not part of another building.

Current law requires a person who applies for licensure as an architect to hold a certified Intern Development Program record with the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards. The bill allows a person to apply if he or she holds a certified Architectural Experience Program record.

PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS (Sections 327.191 and 327.241)

Current law allows certain people to perform specified professional engineering work without a license. This bill removes this exception for people who perform certain professional engineering work for their employer that does not endanger the public health or safety. The bill allows an exception for people who render

professional engineering services in connection with buildings used exclusively for agricultural purposes.

The bill also allows an exception for persons who work on a privately-owned:

- (1) Dwelling house;
- (2) Multiple-family dwelling house containing no more than two families;
- (3) Single building that contains less than 10 people, contains less than 2,000 square feet, and is not part of another building; and
- (4) Multiple-family dwelling house containing three or four families, as long as the work does not affect safety features of the building.

The bill clarifies that an applicant for an engineer-intern or a professional engineer can take the engineering exam before having acquired at least four years of satisfactory engineering experience.

The bill removes a provision requiring a professional engineer to be licensed within four years of being eligible for licensure.

#### LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS (Section 327.612)

The bill removes a provision requiring an applicant as a landscape architect to be 21 years old. The bill allows an applicant as a landscape architect to possess education that equals or exceeds the education received by a graduate of an accredited school in lieu of having a degree from an accredited school. The bill adds a requirement that an applicant pass all sections of the landscape architectural registration examination from the Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards.

This bill is similar to SB 992 and HB 2575 (2020); and provisions contained in HCS SCS SBs 673 & 560 (2020).