

# BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS AND LAND SURVEYORS

## INITIAL STATEMENT OF REASONS

Hearing Date: July 23, 2009

Subject Matter of Proposed Regulations: Approved Curricula

### Sections Affected:

The proposed regulation would amend Sections 404, 424, and 425 and repeal Section 460 of Title 16, Division 5, of the California Code of Regulations.

### Specific Purpose of each adoption, amendment, or repeal:

Current regulations define the board-approved curricula and specify the number of years of experience an applicant will be given credit for based on whether or not they have an undergraduate or post-graduate degree in a board-approved curricula. This proposal would move the definitions from Section 460 to Section 404, which contains all of the other definitions of terms used in the statutes and regulations, and would repeal Section 460. In addition, this proposal would update and clarify the definitions to use the current terminology used by ABET, which is the organization that accredits engineering and land surveying curricula. This proposal would also clarify the number of years of experience an applicant will be given credit for based on their education.

### Factual Basis/Rationale

An applicant for licensure as a professional engineer or a professional land surveyor must have six years of experience (either six years of work experience or a combination of work experience and education) in order to become licensed.

Under current statutes, an applicant for licensure may receive four years of experience credit for an undergraduate degree from a board-approved curriculum; an applicant with an undergraduate degree from a non-board-approved curriculum may receive two years of experience credit. In addition, an applicant may receive five years of experience credit for a post-graduate degree in a school of engineering with a board-approved undergraduate or post-graduate curriculum.

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Section 460. In addition, this proposal would update and clarify the definitions to use the current terminology used by ABET, which is the organization that accredits engineering and land surveying curricula. This proposal would also clarify the number of years of experience an applicant will be given credit for based on their education.

#### Underlying Data

Technical, theoretical or empirical studies or reports relied upon (if any):

1. Staff report and minutes from the November 20, 2008, Board Meeting.

#### Business Impact

These proposed amendments will not have any adverse economic impact on businesses.

#### Specific Technologies or Equipment

These proposed amendments do not mandate the use of specific technologies or equipment.

#### Consideration of Alternatives

No reasonable alternative to the regulation would be either more effective in carrying out the purpose for which the action is proposed or would be as effective and less burdensome to affected private persons than the proposed regulation.

The proposed amendments update and clarify the terminology used regarding board-approved curricula.