AN ACT relating to the licensing of professional engineers.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:

➔Section 1. KRS 322.040 is amended to read as follows:

(1) A person shall qualify for licensure as a professional engineer by meeting the requirements set forth in paragraph (a) or (b) of this subsection.

(a) A person shall qualify if he or she has:

1. Graduated from ***one (1) of the following:***

a. An engineering program of four (4) years or more accredited by the Engineering Accreditation Commission of the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology or any engineering program deemed equivalent by the board; ***or***

b. A fire protection engineering technology program of four (4) years or more accredited by the Engineering Technology Accreditation Commission of the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology with at least forty-five (45) college semester credit hours of engineering topics, including engineering science or engineering design courses;

2. ***For an applicant qualifying for licensure pursuant to subparagraph 1.a. of this paragraph,*** four (4) or more additional years of progressive experience in engineering or teaching of a grade and character which indicates to the board that the applicant is competent to practice engineering;~~[and]~~

3. ***For an applicant qualifying for licensure pursuant to subparagraph 1.b. of this paragraph, the individual shall obtain six (6) or more additional years of progressive experience in engineering or teaching of a grade and character that indicates to the board that the applicant is competent to practice fire protection engineering; and***

4. A passing score on:

a. The Principles and Practice of Engineering Examination; and

b. The Fundamentals of Engineering Examination. The board may allow students enrolled in the final year of an undergraduate engineering program to take this examination. Upon passing the examination, the applicant shall be designated an engineer in training.

(b) If an instructor in an engineering program accredited by the Engineering Accreditation Commission of the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology***, a fire protection engineering technology program accredited by the Engineering Technology Accreditation Commission of the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology,*** or an engineering program deemed equivalent by the board is not eligible for the exemption under subsection (2) of this section, the instructor shall have four (4) years from the date of hire to qualify for licensure by showing that he or she has:

1. Graduated from an engineering program of four (4) years or more accredited by the Engineering Accreditation Commission of the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology, or an engineering program deemed equivalent by the board;
2. Four (4) or more additional years of progressive experience in engineering or teaching of a grade and character which indicates to the board that the applicant is competent to practice engineering;
3. Passed the Principles and Practice of Engineering Examination; and
4. Either passed the Fundamentals of Engineering Examination or graduated from a board-approved doctoral engineering degree program.

(2) For the purpose of teaching engineering design courses only, an instructor who, on January 1, 1999, holds a tenured or tenure-track position in an engineering program

defined in KRS 322.010(4)(a)3. shall be exempt from the licensure requirements of KRS 322.020 for the period that instructor is continuously employed by the institution offering that program. However, an instructor may apply and shall qualify for licensure as a professional engineer during this exempt period if he or she:

(a) Has graduated from an engineering program of four (4) years or more accredited by the Engineering Accreditation Commission of the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology or an engineering program deemed equivalent by the board;

(b) Has graduated from a board-approved doctoral engineering degree program, with an additional three (3) years or more of progressive experience in engineering or teaching of a grade and character which indicate to the board that the applicant is competent to practice engineering; and

(c) Has passed the Principles and Practice of Engineering Examination.

(3) Any person having the necessary qualifications prescribed in subsection (1) or (2) of this section shall be eligible to apply for licensure, even if the applicant is not practicing the profession at the time of application.

(4) The board shall promulgate administrative regulations to establish requirements for consideration of experience gained prior to graduation from an engineering program as described in subsection (1)(a)1. of this section.

(5) The board shall promulgate administrative regulations to establish requirements for consideration of engineering topics, including engineering science or engineering design courses, as described in subsection (1)(a)1.b. of this section.