A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO PUBLIC ACCOUNTANCY.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

- 1 SECTION 1. Chapter 466, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
- 2 amended by adding a new part to be appropriately designated and
- 3 to read as follows:
- 4 "PART . PEER REVIEW PROCESS
- 5 §466-A Definitions. As used in this part, unless the
- 6 context clearly indicates otherwise:
- 7 "Rating" means the type of report issued following a peer
- 8 review. Rating shall be "pass", "pass with deficiency", or
- 9 "fail".
- 10 "Sponsoring organization" means a third-party entity that
- 11 meets the standards specified by this part for administering a
- 12 peer review.
- 13 §466-B Establishment of peer review process;
- 14 confidentiality. (a) There is established a peer review
- 15 process to review the attest work of firms. The peer review
- 16 process shall be for educational or remedial and not punitive
- 17 purposes.



- 1 (b) The peer review process shall keep confidential the
- 2 identity of any person or firm for whom attest work has been
- 3 performed by the firm under review.
- 4 (c) Neither the proceedings nor the records of any peer
- 5 review process shall be subject to discovery. No person
- 6 involved in the peer review process shall be required to testify
- 7 on that process; provided that statements made by any person in
- 8 connection with the peer review process who is a party to an
- 9 action or proceeding, the subject matter of which was reviewed
- 10 in that process, shall be subject to discovery.
- (d) This part shall not be construed to require any firm
- 12 to become a member of any sponsoring organization.
- 13 §466-C Standards for peer reviews and sponsoring
- 14 organizations. (a) Except as otherwise provided by section
- 15 466-F, the board shall adopt the Standards for Performing and
- 16 Reporting on Peer Reviews and any applicable ethical
- 17 requirements adopted by the American Institute of Certified
- 18 Public Accountants and the public company accounting oversight
- 19 board firm inspection standards for public company audit firms
- 20 required under the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, as amended, as
- 21 its minimum standards for peer reviews.

- 1 (b) Subject to sections 466-J and 466-K, qualified
- 2 sponsoring organizations shall be the American Institute of
- 3 Certified Public Accountants peer review program, the Hawaii
- 4 Society of Certified Public Accountants peer review program,
- 5 state certified public accountant societies fully involved in
- 6 the administration of the American Institute of Certified Public
- 7 Accountants peer review program, the public company accounting
- 8 oversight board, the board, and other entities that are approved
- 9 by the board.
- 10 §466-D Enrollment and participation. (a) Every firm,
- 11 including the Hawaii offices and Hawaii engagements of foreign
- 12 or multistate firms, that is required to obtain a firm permit to
- 13 practice pursuant to section 466-7 shall undergo a peer review
- 14 every three years. The firm's Hawaii offices, if any, and
- 15 Hawaii attest engagements shall be included in the scope of the
- 16 peer review performed in accordance with the American Institute
- 17 of Certified Public Accountants Standards for Performing and
- 18 Reporting on Peer Reviews.
- 19 (b) All firms subject to this part and performing Hawaii
- 20 attest work as of December 31, 2014, shall enroll in the
- 21 applicable program of an approved sponsoring organization by

14

1	December	31,	2015,	notify	the	board	of	enrollment	in	that
---	----------	-----	-------	--------	-----	-------	----	------------	----	------

- 2 program, and have a peer review performed by December 31, 2017.
- 3 (c) Any firm that begins performing Hawaii attest work
- 4 after December 31, 2014, shall:
- (1) Notify the board within thirty days of the beginningof the performance of attest work;
- 7 (2) Enroll in the applicable programs of an approved
 8 sponsoring organization within one year from its
 9 initial licensing date or the performance of Hawaii
 10 attest work that requires a peer review;
- 11 (3) Provide the board with enrollment information within
 12 one year of the date the Hawaii attest work was first
 13 performed;
 - (4) Have a peer review performed within eighteen months of the date the Hawaii attest work was first performed;
- 16 (5) Adopt the peer review due date assigned by the
 17 sponsoring organization and notify the board of the
 18 peer review due date within thirty days of its
 19 assignment; and
- 20 (6) Schedule and begin an additional review within three
 21 years of the previous review's due date, or earlier if
 22 required by the sponsoring organization or the board;

1	provided that the firm shall be responsible for
2	anticipating its needs for peer review services in
3	sufficient time to enable the reviewer to complete the
4	review by the assigned review due date.

- (d) A firm that does not perform Hawaii attest work shallbe exempt from the peer review process.
- 7 (e) If a firm is merged, combined, dissolved, or
 8 separated, the sponsoring organization shall determine which
 9 resultant firm shall be considered the succeeding firm. The
 10 succeeding firm shall retain its peer review status and the
 11 review due date.
- (f) 12 The board shall accept extensions granted by the 13 sponsoring organization to complete a peer review; provided that 14 the board is notified by the firm within twenty days of the date 15 that an extension is granted. The board may also grant a firm 16 an extension of time to comply with the peer review requirement **17** of this part based on a showing of hardship, including reasons 18 of health, military service, or other good cause as determined 19 by the board.
- 20 (g) A firm that has been rejected by a sponsoring21 organization for any reason shall make a request in writing to

- 1 the board for authorization to enroll in a program of another
- 2 sponsoring organization.
- 3 (h) A firm that chooses to enroll in a program of another
- 4 sponsoring organization pursuant to subsection (g) may do so;
- 5 provided that the firm authorizes the previous sponsoring
- 6 organization to communicate to the succeeding sponsoring
- 7 organization any outstanding corrective actions related to the
- 8 firm's most recent peer review. Any outstanding corrective
- 9 actions shall be cleared and outstanding fees paid prior to the
- 10 transfer between sponsoring organizations.
- 11 (i) An out-of-state firm performing Hawaii attest work
- 12 shall comply with this part.
- 13 (j) If a firm is subject to inspections pursuant to the
- 14 Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, as amended, and also performs Hawaii
- 15 attest work not subject to those inspections, the firm shall
- 16 enroll in a peer review program for review of its non-public
- 17 company Hawaii attest work in addition to the firm inspection
- 18 program required by the public company accounting oversight
- 19 board.
- 20 §466-E Peer review compliance reporting form. (a) Upon
- 21 the completion of a peer review, each reviewed firm shall submit
- 22 a peer review compliance reporting form to the board pursuant to

1	section 4	66-H. The peer review compliance reporting form shall
2	include t	he following:
3	(1)	The name of the firm conducting the peer review;
4	(2)	The name of the approved sponsoring organization;
5	(3)	Except for public company accounting oversight board
6		inspections, the name of the team captain or peer
7		reviewer or reviewers, who shall not be affiliated
8		with the firm being reviewed;
9	· (4)	The rating issued to the firm as a result of the
10		review, which shall be clearly indicated in the review
11		report;
12	(5)	The date of completion of the firm review; and
13	(6)	A representation that the peer review or the
14		inspection by the public company accounting oversight
15		board firm inspection program includes the firm's
16		Hawaii attest engagements within the scope of the
17		review or the inspection.
18	(b)	A firm shall include, with the peer review compliance

reporting form, the contemporaneous Hawaii supplement to the

peer review report pursuant to section 466-F, if:

19

1	(1)	A peer review report from an approved sponsoring
2		organization does not include the selection of a
3		Hawaii office or Hawaii attest engagement;
4	(2)	The peer reviewer does not hold permits to practice
5		public accountancy under section 466-7, and is
6		required to have permits to practice under section
7		466-7, except inspectors for the public company
8		accounting oversight board; or
9	(3)	The final report resulting from any inspection by the
10		public company accounting oversight board firm
11		inspection program does not include the firm's Hawaii
12		offices, if any, and Hawaii attest engagements in the
13		scope of the inspection, and the firm is not required
14		to enroll in another peer review program under section
15		466-D.
16	§ 466	-F Hawaii supplement to the peer review report. (a)
17	A firm re	quired to undergo a peer review under this chapter
18	shall eng	age the services of a practitioner or firm holding a
19	permit is	sued under section 466-7 to perform the following
20	procedure	s to supplement the peer review report:
21	(1)	Obtain from the reviewed firm a list of Hawaii attest

engagements included in the scope of the peer review,

1		in accordance with the American Institute of Certified
2		Public Accountants Standards for Performing and
3		Reporting on Peer Reviews;
4	(2)	Select engagements from the list of engagements
5		obtained from the reviewed firm;
6	(3)	Obtain from the reviewed firm, the reports, financial
7		statements, work papers, and work product resulting
8		from the attest engagements selected;
9	(4)	Read and compare the reports, work papers, and work
10		product to an appropriate disclosure checklist to
11		evaluate the firm's compliance with professional
12		standards; and
13	(5)	Document all instances of noncompliance with
14		professional standards detected while performing the
15		procedures listed in this section.
16	(b)	The procedures required by this section shall be
17	performed	in accordance with AT section 201 of the Statements on
18	Standards	for Attestation Engagements adopted by the American
19	Institute	of Certified Public Accountants.
20	(c)	The Hawaii supplement to the peer review report to the
21	firm and t	to the board shall state, at a minimum, the following:

Name of firm;

(1)

1	(2)	Date the Hawaii supplement to the peer review report
2		was completed;
3	(3)	Period that was reviewed;
4	(4)	Any Hawaii office or offices selected;
5	(5)	Number and type of Hawaii engagements reviewed;
6	(6)	Any limitations that may have been imposed upon the
7		peer reviewer in complying with the subsection (a),
8		including the selection of Hawaii engagements and peer
9		review standards by the peer reviewer; provided that
10		the acceptability of the limitations shall be subject
11		to board approval; and
12	(7)	The procedures performed and any instances of
13		noncompliance with professional standards found.
14	(d)	The practitioner or firm selected to perform the
15	procedure	s required by this section shall:
16	(1)	Hold a permit to practice under section 466-7;
17	(2)	Not be affiliated with the firm being reviewed; and
18	(3)	Be recognized as a qualified peer reviewer by a
19		sponsoring organization.
20	§466·	-G Retention of documents. (a) Each reviewer shall
21	maintain a	all documentation necessary to establish that each
22	review co	nforms to the review standards of the relevant review

HB2169 HD2 HMS 2012-2547

- 1 program, including the review working papers, copies of the
- 2 review report, and any correspondence indicating the firm's
- 3 concurrence and non-concurrence, along with any proposed
- 4 remedial actions and any related implementation.
- 5 (b) The documents described in subsection (a) shall be
- 6 retained by the reviewer for a period of time corresponding to
- 7 the retention period of the sponsoring organization, and upon
- 8 request of the board, shall be made available to the board;
- 9 provided that the document shall be retained for at least one
- 10 hundred twenty days after the date of completion of the review
- 11 by the sponsoring organization.
- 12 §466-H Reporting to the board. (a) A firm shall submit
- 13 to the board:
- 14 (1) A copy of the peer review report and the final letter
- of acceptance from the sponsoring organization, if the
- report has a rating of "pass";
- 17 (2) A copy of the peer review report, the firm's letter of
- 18 response, the corrective action letter, and the final
- 19 letter of acceptance if the report has a rating of
- 21 (3) A copy of any report or Part I and any other public
- 22 portion of the report resulting from any inspection by

1 .	the public company accounting oversight board firm
2	inspection program together with documentation of any
3	significant deficiencies, findings, and the firm's
4	response.

- (b) For peer reviews scheduled after December 31, 2014,
 any report or document required to be submitted under subsection
 (a) shall be filed with the board as follows:
- 8 Firms enrolled in the American Institute of Certified (1)9 Public Accountants and Hawaii Society of Certified 10 Public Accountants peer review programs and 11 administered by the Hawaii Society of Certified Public 12 Accountants, within ten days of receipt of the notice of completion from the Hawaii Society of Certified **13** Public Accountants, shall complete the peer review 14 15 compliance reporting form under section 466-E and 16 submit the form to the board along with the required **17** documents;
- 18 (2) Firms otherwise enrolled in the American Institute of
 19 Certified Public Accountants peer review program,
 20 including those whose peer reviews are administered by
 21 the National Peer Review Committee, within ten days of
 22 receipt of the notice of completion from the

5

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

L	sponsoring organization, shall complete the peer
2	review compliance reporting form under section 466-E
3	and submit the form to the board along with the
1	required documents;

- oversight board inspection program shall, within ten days of receipt of the issuance of the Part I report from the public company accounting oversight board, complete the peer review compliance reporting form required by section 466-E and submit the form to the board along with the required documents; and
- (4) Firms enrolled in any other firm review program approved by this part shall submit the report generated by that review process and all associated documentation to the board in a form acceptable to the board.
- 17 (c) Any report or document submitted to the board under
 18 this section, including the board's peer review compliance
 19 reporting form, shall be confidential.
- 20 §466-I Appeals. (a) A firm shall have ten days after the 21 filing of the peer review compliance reporting form to appeal a

- 1 "pass with deficiency" or a "fail" rating that may result in the
- 2 denial, termination, or nonrenewal of a permit to practice.
- 3 (b) A firm may also appeal the findings or conclusions of
- 4 any peer review process under this part that results in the
- 5 denial, termination, or nonrenewal of a permit to practice.
- 6 (c) The appeal process under this section shall include
- 7 the postponement of any adverse action during the pendency of
- 8 the appeal.
- 9 §466-J Procedures for sponsoring organization. (a) To
- 10 qualify as a sponsoring organization, a third-party entity shall
- 11 submit a peer review administration plan to the board for review
- 12 and approval. The peer review administration plan shall:
- (1) Establish a peer review report committee and any
- 14 necessary subcommittees and provide professional staff
- 15 as needed for the operation of the peer review
- program;
- 17 (2) Establish a program to communicate to firms
- 18 participating in the peer review program the latest
- developments in peer review standards and the most
- 20 common findings in the peer reviews conducted by the
- 21 sponsoring organization;

1	(3)	Establish procedures for resolving any disagreement
2		that may arise out of the performance of a peer
3		review;
4	(4)	Establish procedures to resolve matters that may lead
5		to the dismissal of a firm from the peer review
6		program;
7	(5)	Establish procedures to evaluate and document the
8		performance of each peer reviewer, including
9		procedures related to the disqualification of a
10		reviewer who does not meet the American Institute of
11		Certified Public Accountants standards;
12	(6)	Require the maintenance of records of peer reviews
13		conducted under the program in accordance with the
14		records retention rules of the American Institute of
15		Certified Public Accountants and this part; and
16	(7)	Provide for periodic reports to the board on the
17		results of the peer review program; provided that
18		reports submitted to the board shall not contain
19		information concerning specific firms or peer
20		reviewers.

Shall be subject to review and oversight by the board;

(1)

(b) A sponsoring organization:

21

(2)	Shall not require firms or the firms' owners or
	employees to become members of the sponsoring
	organization to participate in a peer review; and
(3)	Shall charge the same rate for peer review services to
	members and nonmembers.
(c)	The public company accounting oversight board shall be
exempt fr	om the requirements of this section.
§466	-K Oversight of sponsoring organizations. (a) The
board sha	ll retain oversight of sponsoring organizations through
the peer	review oversight committee described in section 466-L.
(b)	The board shall periodically publish a list of
sponsorin	g organizations that have been approved by the board.
§ 4 66	-L Peer review oversight committee. (a) The board
shall est	ablish a peer review oversight committee for the
purpose o	f.:
(1)	Monitoring sponsoring organizations to ensure that
	peer reviews are being conducted and reported in
	accordance with standards for performing and reporting
	on peer reviews adopted by the American Institute of
	Certified Public Accountants Peer Review Board;
(2)	Reviewing the policies and procedures of sponsoring
	(3) (c) exempt fr \$466 board shatthe peer (b) sponsoring \$466 shall est purpose of (1)

organization applicants as to their conformity with

1	th	e peer review standards of any applicable peer
2	re	view organization and this part; and
3	(3) Re	porting to the board on the conclusions and
4	re	commendations reached as a result of performing the
5	fu	nctions in paragraphs (1) and (2).
6	(b) Ex	cept to the extent otherwise required under this
7	section and	section 466-K(b), information concerning a specific
8	firm or revi	ewer obtained by the peer review oversight committee
9	during overs	ight activities shall be confidential and shall not
10	be subject t	o discovery, pursuant to section 466-B, and reports
11	submitted to	the board by the peer review oversight committee
12	shall not co	ntain information concerning specific firms or
13	reviewers.	Members of the peer review oversight committee shall
14	be required	to execute confidentiality statements for the
15	sponsoring o	rganization that they oversee.
16	(c) Ef	fective January 1, 2013, the peer review oversight
17	committee sh	all consist of three individuals who hold permits to
18	practice und	er section 466-7. No member of the peer review
19	oversight co	mmittee shall be a current member of the board, the
20	Hawaii Socie	ty of Certified Public Accountants Peer Review or
21	Professional	Ethics Committees, or the American Institute of

Certified Public Accountants Professional Ethics Executive

1	Committee. In	e members shall have significant experience with
2	attest engagem	ents and currently be in the practice of public
3	accountancy at	the partner or equivalent level. The member's
4	firm shall hav	e received a report with a rating of pass or an
5	unmodified opi	nion from its last peer review.
6	(d) The	peer review oversight committee shall make an
7	annual recomme	andation to the board as to the qualifications of
8	an approved sp	onsoring organization to continue as an approved
9	sponsoring org	anization on the basis of the results of the
10	following proc	edures:
11	(1) Wher	e the sponsoring organization is:
12	(A)	The American Institute of Certified Public
13		Accountants;
14	(B)	A state certified public accountant society,
15		including the Hawaii Society of Certified Public
16		Accountants, fully involved in administering the
17		American Institute of Certified Public
18		Accountants peer review program; or
19	(C)	The public company accounting oversight board,
20		the peer review oversight committee shall review
21		the published reports of the entity or the

1		enti	ty's successor to determine whether there is
2		an a	cceptable level of oversight; and
3	(2)	Where the	sponsoring organization is other than any
4		organizat	ion listed in paragraph (1), the peer review
5		oversight	committee shall perform the following
6		functions	:
7		(A) At 1	east one member of the peer review oversight
8		comm	ittee shall attend at least one meeting of
9		the	sponsoring organization's peer review
10		comm	ittee; and
11		(B) Duri	ng these visits, the peer review oversight
12		comm	ittee members shall:
13		(i)	Meet with the organization's peer review
14			committee during the committee's
15			consideration of peer review documents;
16		(ii)	Evaluate the organization's procedures for
17			administering the peer review program;
18		(iii)	Examine, on the basis of a random selection,
19			a number of reviews performed by the
20		·	organization to include, at a minimum, a
21			review of the report on the peer review, the
22			firm's response to the matters discussed,

1		the sponsoring organization's letter of
2		acceptance outlining any additional
3		corrective or monitoring procedures, and the
4		required technical documentation maintained
5		by the sponsoring organization on the
6		selected reviews; and
7		(iv) Expand the examination of peer review
8		documents if significant deficiencies,
9		problems, or inconsistencies are encountered
10	1	during the analysis of the materials.
11	(e)	In the evaluation of policies and procedures of
12	sponsoring	g organization applicants, the peer review oversight
13	committee	shall:
14	(1)	Examine the policies as drafted by the applicant to
15		determine whether the policies provide reasonable
16		assurance of conforming to the standards for peer
17		reviews;
18	(2)	Evaluate the procedures proposed by the applicant to
19		determine whether:
20		(A) Assigned reviewers are appropriately qualified to
21		perform the review for the specific firm;

1		(B)	Reviewers are provided with appropriate
2			materials;
3		(C)	The applicant has provided for consultation with
4			the reviewers on problems arising during the
5			review and that specified occurrences requiring
6			consultation are outlined;
7		(D)	The applicant has provided for the assessment of
8			the results of the review; and
9		(E)	The applicant has provided for an independent
10			report acceptance body that considers and accepts
11			the reports of the review and requires corrective
12			actions by firms with significant deficiencies;
13			and
14	(3)	Make	recommendations to the board as to approval of
15		the a	applicant as a sponsoring organization.
16	(f)	Annua	ally, the peer review oversight committee shall
17	provide th	ne boa	ard with a report on the continued reliability of
18	sponsoring	orga	anizations' peer reviews. The peer review
19	oversight	commi	ttee report shall provide reasonable assurance
20	that peer	revie	ews are being conducted and reported on
21	consistent	:ly ar	nd in accordance with the Standards for Performing
22	and Report	ing o	on Peer Review adopted by the American Institute

- 1 of Certified Public Accountants. A summary of oversight visits
- 2 shall be included with the annual report.
- 3 §466-M Oversight of peer reviewers for a Hawaii
- 4 supplemental peer review. (a) A peer reviewer for a Hawaii
- 5 supplement to the peer review report under section 466-F shall
- **6** be a person who:
- 7 (1) Holds a permit to practice public accountancy under
- 8 section 466-7; and
- 9 (2) Is not affiliated with the firm being reviewed.
- 10 (b) The board shall retain oversight of the peer reviewers
- 11 for a Hawaii supplement to the peer review report by monitoring
- 12 the peer reviewers to ensure that the peer reviewers are in
- 13 compliance with subsection (a) and that peer reviews are
- 14 conducted in accordance with the standards established under
- 15 section 466-F.
- 16 (c) Information concerning any peer reviewer that is
- 17 obtained during the board's peer review oversight activities
- 18 shall be confidential as required by section 466-B.
- 19 (d) The board shall annually assess the qualifications of
- 20 all peer reviewers for a Hawaii supplement to the peer review
- 21 report based on a random selection of each reviewer's published
- 22 Hawaii supplement to the peer review reports and shall determine

- 1 whether the published reports comply with subsection (b). The
- 2 board may suspend a person from being a peer reviewer for a
- 3 Hawaii supplement to the peer review report for a period not to
- 4 exceed one year for failure to comply with subsection (b).
- 5 (e) A peer reviewer suspended under subsection (d) may
- 6 appeal the suspension to the board at a public hearing that
- 7 shall be an action or proceeding subject to discovery under the
- 8 provisions of section 466-B(c)."
- 9 SECTION 2. Chapter 466, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
- 10 amended by designating sections 466-1 through 466-17 as part I
- 11 and inserting a title before section 466-1 to read as follows:
- 12 "PART I. GENERAL PROVISIONS"
- 13 SECTION 3. Act 66, Session Laws of Hawaii 2010, is amended
- 14 as follows:
- 15 1. By amending section 3 to read:
- 16 "SECTION 3. Section 466-7, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
- 17 amended by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:
- 18 "(b) An applicant for the initial issuance or renewal of a
- 19 permit shall have:
- 20 (1) A valid license;
- 21 (2) Completed continuing professional education hours, the
- content of which shall be specified by the board which

1		may provide for special consideration by the board to
2		applicants for permit renewal when, in the judgment of
3		the board, full compliance with all requirements of
4		continuing education cannot reasonably be met;
5	(3)	Completed an application;
6	(4)	Paid appropriate fees and assessments; and
7	(5)	[Undergone any applicable] In the case of a renewal,
8		undergone and provided proof of having undergone the
9		peer review process [approved by the board of
10		accountancy pursuant to section 466-13.] pursuant to
11		part .""
12	2.	By amending section 9 to read:
13	"SEC	TION 9. This Act shall take effect upon its approval[$ au$
14	provided	that sections 2, 3, 4, and 5 shall take effect one year
15	after the	board of public accountancy reports the adoption of
16	rules pur	suant to section 7 of this Act]."
17	3.	By repealing section 7.
18	[" SE (CTION 7. The board of public accountancy shall:
19	(1)	Adopt rules pursuant to section 466-13(d), Hawaii
20		Revised Statutes, in section 5 of this Act; and
21	(2)	Report the adoption of the rules under paragraph (1)
22		to the legislature immediately upon adoption of those

1	rules by means of written notice to the speaker of the
2	house of representatives and the president of the
3	senate."]
4	SECTION 4. Section 466-13, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
5	repealed.
6	[" \$466-13 Peer review. (a) Every firm, including the
7	Hawaii offices and Hawaii engagements of foreign or multistate
8	firms, required to obtain a firm permit to practice pursuant to
9	section 466-7 shall undergo a peer review every three years on
10	the firm's Hawaii attest work and submit evidence of such peer
11	review at the time of the renewal of the firm's permit to
12	practice under section 466 7.
13	(b) The board shall establish a peer review process to
14	review attest work of firms. The identity of the person or firm
15	for whom the professional work is done shall be preserved in
16	confidence. If the review discloses information that a firm has
17	not met the appropriate professional standards, the board may
18	require further investigation of the firm. The peer review
19	process required by this section shall be for educational or
20	remedial and not punitive purposes.
21	(c) The board may authorize a third party entity to
22	administer the peer review required under subsection (a);

1	provided	that the entity shall not require firms or the firms'
2	owners or	employees to become members of the entity to
3	participa	te in peer review and shall charge the same rate for
4	peer revi	ew services to both members and nonmembers. If the
5	board cho	oses to authorize a third party entity to administer
6	peer revi	ews, the third party shall be held to the highest
7	standards	of professionalism, quality, and ethics.
8	(d)-	The board shall adopt rules pursuant to chapter 91 to
9	establish	requirements and procedures for the qualification of
10	entities	to conduct peer reviews and for the performance of peer
11	reviews b	y these entities. The rules shall include:
12	(1)	A process for the conduct of peer review to be
13		followed by the board and by an authorized third party
14		entity;
15	(2)	Definitions, standards, and requirements for an
16		acceptable peer review;
17	(3)	Standards for certification and qualification of peer
18		reviewers;
19	(4)	A process for a firm to appeal the findings or
20		conclusions of any peer review process that results in
21		the denial, termination, or nonrenewal of a firm
22		permit pursuant to section 466 9; provided that the

1	appeal process shall include the postponement of any
2	adverse action during the pendency of the appeal; and
3	(5) Provisions for the grant of an extension of time to a
4	firm for compliance with the peer review requirement
5	based on a showing of hardship including for reasons
6	of health, military service, or other good cause as
7	determined by the board.
8	(c) Neither the proceedings nor the records of the peer
9	review process shall be subject to discovery. Except as
10	hereinafter provided, no person involved in the peer review
11	process shall be required to testify on that process; provided
12	that statements made by any person in connection with the peer
13	review process who is a party to an action or proceeding the
14	subject matter of which was reviewed in that process, shall be
15	subject to discovery."]
16	SECTION 5. In codifying the new sections added by section
17	1 of this Act, the revisor of statutes shall substitute
18	appropriate section numbers for the letters used in designating
19	the new sections in this Act.
20	SECTION 6. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
21	and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.
22	SECTION 7. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2012.

Report Title:

Public Accountancy; Peer Review; Attest

Description:

Establishes a peer review process for public accounting firms that engage in attest work. Effective July 1, 2012. (HB2169 HD2)

The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.