

JAN 23 2026

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that Hawaii's board of
2 professional engineers, architects, surveyors, and landscape
3 architects (board) previously voted in favor of adopting a
4 uniform standard for landscape architecture licensure developed
5 in 2022 by the Council of Landscape Architectural Registration
6 Boards, of which the board is a member. The Council of
7 Landscape Architectural Registration Boards is a nonprofit
8 organization that works to protect the public's health, safety,
9 and welfare by establishing and promoting professional licensure
10 standards for landscape architects. Its members are the
11 licensure boards across the United States and Canada.

12 The legislature further finds that the board is the entity
13 best suited to determine the eligibility requirements for the
14 licensure of landscape architects in the State and should be
15 authorized to implement standards as it deems appropriate.

16 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to authorize the
17 board of professional engineers, architects, surveyors, and



1 landscape architects to determine the appropriate educational,
2 examination, and experience requirements for landscape architect
3 licensure in the State.

4 SECTION 2. Section 464-1, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
5 amended by adding a new definition to be appropriately inserted
6 and to read as follows:

7 "Board" means the board of professional engineers,
8 architects, surveyors, and landscape architects established in
9 section 464-6."

10 SECTION 3. Section 464-8, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
11 amended by amending subsection (d) to read as follows:

12 "(d) No person shall be eligible for licensure as a
13 professional landscape architect unless:

14 (1) The person ~~is the holder of an unexpired license~~
15 ~~issued to the person by any jurisdiction, domestic or~~
16 ~~foreign, in which the requirements for licensure at~~
17 ~~the time the person was first licensed are of a~~
18 ~~standard satisfactory to the board; provided that if~~
19 ~~the board is in doubt as to whether the standards are~~
20 ~~satisfactory, or as to whether the holder was required~~
21 ~~to fully comply with them, it shall require that the~~



1 holder successfully pass the national landscape
2 architect licensing examination and a written
3 examination, prescribed by the board designed to test
4 the holder's knowledge of the State's climatic
5 conditions, native plants and native ecosystems, land
6 use ordinance and special management area
7 requirements, and cultural and historical conditions
8 affecting landscape architecture;] satisfies the
9 board's requirements for licensure by endorsement,
10 including:
11 (A) Completing all education and experience
12 requirements; and
13 (B) Passing a state examination, as prescribed by the
14 board, testing the person's knowledge of the
15 State's:
16 (i) Climatic conditions;
17 (ii) Native plants and ecosystems;
18 (iii) Land use ordinances and special management
19 area requirements; and
20 (iv) Historical conditions affecting landscape
21 architecture; or



1 (2) The person is the holder of a [master's] degree in
2 landscape architecture from [an institution of higher
3 education approved by the board; is a graduate of] a
4 school or college approved by the board [~~as of~~
5 satisfactory standing and has completed a landscape
6 architectural curriculum of four years or more; has
7 had two years of full-time lawful experience in
8 landscape architecture work of a character
9 satisfactory to the board, or part-time experience
10 which the board finds to be the equivalent thereof;
11 and has successfully passed the national landscape
12 architect licensing examination and a written
13 examination, prescribed by the board designed to test
14 the person's knowledge of the State's climatic
15 conditions, native plants and native ecosystems, land
16 use ordinance and special management area
17 requirements, and cultural and historical conditions
18 affecting landscape architecture;] and satisfies the
19 board's requirements for licensure, including:
20 (A) Completing all education and experience
21 requirements; and

1 (B) Passing a state examination, as prescribed by the
2 board, testing the person's knowledge of the
3 State's:
4 (i) Climatic conditions;
5 (ii) Native plants and ecosystems;
6 (iii) Land use ordinances and special management
7 area requirements; and
8 (iv) Historical conditions affecting landscape
9 architecture.

10 ~~(+3) The person is a graduate of a school or college~~
11 ~~approved by the board as of satisfactory standing, and~~
12 ~~has completed a landscape architectural curriculum of~~
13 ~~four years or more; has had three years of full-time~~
14 ~~lawful experience in landscape architecture work of a~~
15 ~~character satisfactory to the board, or part-time~~
16 ~~experience which the board finds to be the equivalent~~
17 ~~thereof; and has successfully passed the national~~
18 ~~landscape architect licensing examination and a~~
19 ~~written examination, prescribed by the board designed~~
20 ~~to test the person's knowledge of the State's climatic~~
21 ~~conditions, native plants and native ecosystems, land~~



1 use ordinance and special management area
2 requirements, and cultural and historical conditions
3 affecting landscape architecture;

4 (4) The person is a graduate of a school or college
5 approved by the board as of satisfactory standing, and
6 has completed a pre-landscape architecture or arts and
7 science curriculum of four years or more; has had five
8 years of full-time lawful experience in landscape
9 architecture work of a character satisfactory to the
10 board, or part-time experience which the board finds
11 to be the equivalent thereof; and has successfully
12 passed the national landscape architect licensing
13 examination and a written examination, prescribed by
14 the board designed to test the person's knowledge of
15 the State's climatic conditions, native plants and
16 native ecosystems, land use ordinance and special
17 management area requirements, and cultural and
18 historical conditions affecting landscape
19 architecture; or

20 (5) The person has had twelve years of full-time lawful
21 experience in landscape architecture work of a



1 character satisfactory to the board, or part-time
2 experience which the board finds to be the equivalent
3 thereof; and has successfully passed the national
4 landscape architect licensing examination and a
5 written examination, prescribed by the board designed
6 to test the person's knowledge of the State's climatic
7 conditions, native plants and native ecosystems, land
8 use ordinance and special management area
9 requirements, and cultural and historical conditions
10 affecting landscape architecture.

11 {6} The applicant shall also certify on the application
12 that the applicant has read, understood, and agrees to comply
13 with the laws and rules that the board determines are required
14 for licensure.

15 In addition to the foregoing requirements, the board, in
16 its discretion, may also require additional proof that the
17 applicant is competent to practice professionally, and whenever
18 the board is not fully satisfied [from] with the results of an
19 examination that any applicant is competent to practice
20 professionally, it may give the applicant a further examination
21 or examinations.



1 No person shall be eligible for licensure as a professional
2 engineer, architect, land surveyor, or landscape architect if
3 the person does not possess a history of honesty, truthfulness,
4 financial integrity, and fair dealing."

5 SECTION 4. This Act does not affect rights and duties that
6 matured, penalties that were incurred, and proceedings that were
7 begun before its effective date.

8 SECTION 5. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
9 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

10 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

11

INTRODUCED BY: 



S.B. NO. 2607

Report Title:

Board of Professional Engineers, Architects, Surveyors, and Landscape Architects; Landscape Architecture Licensing Requirements

Description:

Authorizes the Board of Professional Engineers, Architects, Surveyors, and Landscape Architects to determine the appropriate educational, examination, and experience requirements for landscape architect licensure.

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

