

HB 2575 -- CERTAIN OCCUPATIONS

SPONSOR: Ross

This bill provides clarity to the definition of person and eliminates a circular definition (Section 327.011 RSMo).

The bill updates the definition of architecture with current practices and includes the administration of construction contracts, observations, and inspections. The bill restricts the use of the title "architect", "architecture", or architectural" to those persons with the license to practice (Section 327.091).

The bill clarifies the provisions allowing a person to engage in the practice of architecture and as long as he or she is not performing architectural work using the title "architect" or the terms "architect" or "architecture" or "architectural" so as to imply they are qualified as architects. This bill allows unlicensed design of buildings solely for agricultural use (Section 327.101).

The bill provides clarity that an exempt building should not be a very large structure to be occupied by only a few people, nor smaller structures that accommodate high volumes of occupants (Section 327.101).

The bill eliminates the age requirement of 21 for architects. This change brings consistency to the age requirement among professions (Section 327.131).

The bill removes exemption language from the definition of professional engineering and sets forth all the exceptions to the prohibition on unlicensed practice. The bill allows an unlicensed individual to design buildings solely for agricultural use (Section 327.191).

The bill defines the exceptions to the prohibition of the practice of professional engineering for buildings of certain uses, sizes, and occupancy into conformity with the exceptions to the prohibition of the practice of architecture as to such buildings found in Section 327.101 (Section 327.191).

The bill modifies the requirements of the qualification process into conformity with developing standards of national practice. The bill removes barriers toward licensure by allowing an individual who has already passed the Fundamentals of Engineering Exam to take the required professional engineering exam at any time after having obtained their accredited degree instead of waiting four years (Section 327.241).

The bill modifies the requirements for experience to qualify for land surveyor-in-training, and beginning January 1, 2025, requires licensure for professional land surveyors to have passed 15 semester hours of approved surveying course work (Section 327.314).

The bill proposes to eliminate the age requirement of 21 for landscape architects and further reduce barriers toward licensure by allowing the Board to license those individuals who have a degree that is equivalent to an accredited (LAAB) landscape architectural degree (Section 327.612).