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AB-1010 Architects: continuing education. (2021-2022)

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Assembly Bill No. 1010

CHAPTER 176

An act to amend Section 5600.05 of the Business and Professions Code, relating to professions and vocations.

[Approved by Governor September 16, 2021. Filed with Secretary of State September 16, 2021.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1010, Berman. Architects: continuing education.

Existing law, the Architects Practice Act, provides for the licensure and regulation of architects by the California Architects Board. Existing law requires a person licensed to practice architecture to complete, as a condition of license renewal, 5 hours of coursework regarding disability access requirements and provides that the coursework shall be presented by trainers or educators with knowledge and expertise in these requirements. Existing law further requires the board to promulgate regulations to establish qualifications for courses and course providers by January 1, 2023.

This bill would additionally require a person licensed to practice architecture to complete, as a condition of a license renewal occurring on or after January 1, 2023, 5 hours of coursework regarding zero net carbon design and would require the board to adopt regulations to establish qualifications for those courses and course providers by July 1, 2024.

Vote: majority Appropriation: no Fiscal Committee: yes Local Program: no

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Section 5600.05 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

5600.05. (a) (1) As a condition of license renewal, a licensee shall complete continuing education coursework pursuant to paragraph (2).

(2) (A) Five hours of coursework regarding disability access requirements. The coursework shall include information and practical guidance concerning requirements imposed by the federal Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (Public Law 101-336; 42 U.S.C. Sec. 12101 et seq.), state laws that govern access to public facilities, and federal and state regulations adopted pursuant to those laws. Coursework provided pursuant to this subparagraph shall be presented by trainers or educators with knowledge and expertise in these requirements. The board shall promulgate regulations to establish qualifications for courses and course providers by January 1, 2023.

(B) Five hours of coursework regarding zero net carbon design for all renewals occurring on or after January 1, 2023. The coursework shall be presented by trainers or educators with knowledge and expertise in these design requirements. The board shall adopt regulations to establish qualifications for courses and course providers by July 1, 2024.

(b) The board may audit the records of a licensee to verify the completion of the coursework requirements of subdivision (a). A licensee shall maintain records of completion of the required coursework for two years from the date of license renewal, containing the following information: course title, subjects covered, name of provider and trainer or educator, date of completion, number of hours completed, and a statement about the trainer's or educator's knowledge and experience background. A licensee shall make those records available to the board for auditing upon request. A licensee who provides false or misleading information as it relates specifically to the requirements of this subdivision shall be subject to an administrative citation, which may include an administrative fine pursuant to Section 125.9, or to disciplinary action by the board.

(c) The board shall audit at least 3 percent of the license renewals received each year to verify the completion of the continuing education requirements of this section.

(d) A continuing education provider may submit evidence of coursework to the board directly.