

Second Regular Session  
Seventy-fourth General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO

**REENGROSSED**

*This Version Includes All Amendments  
Adopted in the House of Introduction*

LLS NO. 24-0557.01 Kristen Forrestal x4217

**HOUSE BILL 24-1329**

**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

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**House Committees**  
Business Affairs & Labor

**Senate Committees**

**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101 **CONCERNING THE CONTINUATION OF THE STATE BOARD OF LICENSURE**  
102 **FOR ARCHITECTS, PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS, AND**  
103 **PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYORS, AND, IN CONNECTION**  
104 **THEREWITH, IMPLEMENTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS**  
105 **CONTAINED IN THE 2023 SUNSET REPORT BY THE DEPARTMENT**  
106 **OF REGULATORY AGENCIES.**

**Bill Summary**

*(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://leg.colorado.gov/>.)*

**Sunset Process - House Business Affairs and Labor**

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.  
*Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing law.*  
*Dashes through the words or numbers indicate deletions from existing law.*

HOUSE  
3rd Reading Unamended  
March 21, 2024

HOUSE  
Amended 2nd Reading  
March 20, 2024

**Committee.** The bill implements the recommendations of the department of regulatory agencies (department) contained in the department's 2023 sunset review of the state board of licensure for architects, professional engineers, and professional land surveyors (board) as follows:

- **Sections 1 and 2** continue the board for 9 years, from September 1, 2024, until September 1, 2033;
- **Sections 5, 9, and 14** include in the grounds for discipline of licensees a failure to respond to the allegations of a complaint within the length of time specified by the board;
- **Sections 3, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, and 12** update statutory references to the names of examinations for professional engineers and professional land surveyors;
- **Section 2** repeals the requirement that board members be citizens of the United States and residents of Colorado;
- **Section 3** repeals the requirement that applicants supply a business address on a license application;
- **Sections 6, 7, 10, 11, 12, and 15** repeal references in current law regarding the occupational credential portability program; and
- **Sections 16 through 27** make a technical amendment to replace gendered pronouns with gender-neutral terms.

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1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-34-104, **repeal**  
3 (25)(a)(IV); and **add** (34)(a)(IX) as follows:

4 **24-34-104. General assembly review of regulatory agencies**  
5 **and functions for repeal, continuation, or reestablishment - legislative**  
6 **declaration - repeal.** (25) (a) The following agencies, functions, or both,  
7 are scheduled for repeal on September 1, 2024:

8 (IV) ~~The state board of licensure for architects, professional~~  
9 ~~engineers, and professional land surveyors in the department of regulatory~~  
10 ~~agencies created in section 12-120-103;~~

11 (34) (a) The following agencies, functions, or both, are scheduled  
12 for repeal on September 1, 2033:

13 (IX) THE STATE BOARD OF LICENSURE FOR ARCHITECTS,

1 PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS, AND PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYORS IN THE  
2 DEPARTMENT OF REGULATORY AGENCIES CREATED IN SECTION  
3 12-120-103.

4 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-120-103, **amend**  
5 (2) and (4)(a); and **repeal** (4)(b)(I) and (4)(c)(I) as follows:

6 **12-120-103. State board of licensure for architects,**  
7 **professional engineers, and professional land surveyors - creation -**  
8 **composition - appointment of members - terms - meetings - program**  
9 **director and staff - subject to review - repeal of article. (2) Sunset.**

10 This article 120 is repealed, effective ~~September 1, 2024~~ SEPTEMBER 1,  
11 2033. Before the repeal, this article 120 is scheduled for review in  
12 accordance with section 24-34-104.

13 (4) (a) **Professional engineer members.** Each professional  
14 engineer member of the board ~~shall be a citizen of the United States and~~  
15 ~~a resident of this state for at least one year and~~ shall have been licensed  
16 as a professional engineer and practicing as such for at least five years.

17 (b) **Professional land surveyor members.** (I) ~~A professional~~  
18 ~~land surveyor who is a member of the board shall be a citizen of the~~  
19 ~~United States and a resident of Colorado for at least one year.~~

20 (c) **Architect members.** To be eligible for membership on the  
21 board, an architect shall be:

22 (I) ~~A United States citizen and a resident of Colorado for at least~~  
23 ~~one year; and~~

24 **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-120-104, **amend**  
25 (1)(c) introductory portion, (2)(b), and (3)(a); **repeal** (1)(c)(III); and **add**  
26 (3)(c) as follows:

27 **12-120-104. Powers and duties of the board and division.**

1 (1) **General powers and duties.** In order to carry into effect the  
2 provisions of this article 120, the board shall:

3 (c) Keep a record of its proceedings and of all applications for  
4 licensing under this article 120. The application record for each applicant  
5 ~~shall~~ MUST include:

6 (III) ~~Place of business of the applicant;~~

7 (2) **Board powers and duties regarding professional engineers.**

8 For purposes of administering part 2 of this article 120 pertaining to the  
9 regulation of professional engineers, the board shall:

10 (b) Provide for examinations of professional engineer license  
11 applicants. ~~in the "fundamentals of engineering" and the "principles and~~  
12 ~~practice of engineering".~~ THE BOARD SHALL ADOPT THE APPROPRIATE  
13 EXAMINATIONS. Examinations ~~shall~~ MUST be given as often as practicable.  
14 The board shall ensure that the passing score for any examination is set  
15 to measure the level of minimum competency. An applicant who fails to  
16 pass the prescribed examination may be reexamined.

17 (3) **Board powers and duties regarding professional land**  
18 **surveyors.** For purposes of administering part 3 of this article 120  
19 pertaining to the regulation of professional land surveyors, the board  
20 shall:

21 (a) Require each applicant for professional land surveyor licensing  
22 to demonstrate competence by means of examination and education and  
23 may require work examples as it deems necessary and sufficient for  
24 licensing. ~~and~~

25 (c) PROMULGATE RULES TO ESTABLISH CONTINUING EDUCATION  
26 REQUIREMENTS FOR PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYORS AS A CONDITION OF  
27 LICENSE RENEWAL.

1           **SECTION 4.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-120-203, **amend**  
2 (1) introductory portion as follows:

3           **12-120-203. Exemptions.** (1) ~~This part 2 does not affect any of~~  
4 NOTHING IN THIS PART 2 REQUIRES LICENSURE AS A PROFESSIONAL  
5 ENGINEER FOR the following:

6           **SECTION 5.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-120-206, **add**  
7 (1)(n) as follows:

8           **12-120-206. Disciplinary actions - grounds for discipline.**  
9 (1) The board may take disciplinary or other action as authorized by  
10 section 12-20-404 against, or limit the scope of practice of, any  
11 professional engineer or engineer-intern for:

12           (n) FAILING TO RESPOND TO THE ALLEGATIONS IN A COMPLAINT  
13 WITHIN THE LENGTH OF TIME SPECIFIED IN THE LETTER ISSUED BY THE  
14 BOARD IN ACCORDANCE WITH SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS SECTION.

15           **SECTION 6.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-120-211, **amend**  
16 (2)(a), (3)(a), and (4)(a); and **repeal** (1) as follows:

17           **12-120-211. Qualifications for engineer-interns.** (1) ~~An~~  
18 ~~applicant may qualify for enrollment as an engineer-intern by~~  
19 ~~endorsement if the applicant satisfies the requirements of the occupational~~  
20 ~~credential portability program.~~

21           (2) (a) An applicant may qualify for enrollment as an  
22 engineer-intern by graduation and examination if the applicant passes the  
23 ~~fundamentals of engineering~~ APPROPRIATE examination AS ADOPTED BY  
24 THE BOARD IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 12-120-104 (2)(b).

25           (3) (a) An applicant may qualify for enrollment as an  
26 engineer-intern by graduation, experience, and examination if the  
27 applicant passes the ~~fundamentals of engineering~~ APPROPRIATE

1 examination AS ADOPTED BY THE BOARD IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION  
2 12-120-104 (2)(b) and possesses a total of six years of progressive  
3 engineering experience, of which educational study may be a part.

4 (4) (a) An applicant may qualify for enrollment as an  
5 engineer-intern by experience and examination if the applicant passes the  
6 ~~fundamentals of engineering~~ APPROPRIATE examination AS ADOPTED BY  
7 THE BOARD IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 12-120-104 (2)(b).

8 **SECTION 7.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-120-213, **amend**  
9 (2)(a) and (3)(a); and **repeal** (1) as follows:

10 **12-120-213. Qualifications for professional engineer.** (1) ~~An~~  
11 ~~applicant may qualify for licensing as a professional engineer by~~  
12 ~~endorsement if the applicant satisfies the requirements of the occupational~~  
13 ~~credential portability program.~~

14 (2) (a) An applicant may qualify for licensing as a professional  
15 engineer by graduation, experience, and examination if the applicant  
16 passes the ~~principles and practice of engineering~~ APPROPRIATE  
17 examination AS ADOPTED BY THE BOARD IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION  
18 12-120-104 (2)(b).

19 (3) (a) An applicant may qualify for licensing as a professional  
20 engineer by experience and examination if the applicant passes the  
21 ~~principles and practice of engineering~~ APPROPRIATE examination AS  
22 ADOPTED BY THE BOARD IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 12-120-104  
23 (2)(b).

24 **SECTION 8.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-120-215, **amend**  
25 (1)(a)(IV), (1)(a)(VII), (1)(b)(I), and (1)(b)(II); and **repeal** (1)(a)(III) and  
26 (1)(b)(III) as follows:

27 **12-120-215. Fees - disposition.** (1) Pursuant to section

1 12-20-105, the board shall charge and collect fees for the following:

2 (a) With respect to professional engineers:

3 (III) ~~Application for licensure pursuant to the occupational~~  
4 ~~credential portability program;~~

5 (IV) Application for the ~~principles and practice of engineering~~  
6 APPROPRIATE examination AS ADOPTED BY THE BOARD IN ACCORDANCE  
7 WITH SECTION 12-120-104 (2)(b);

8 (VII) Reexamination for the ~~principles and practice of engineering~~  
9 APPROPRIATE examination AS ADOPTED BY THE BOARD IN ACCORDANCE  
10 WITH SECTION 12-120-104 (2)(b);

11 (b) With respect to engineer-interns:

12 (I) Application for the ~~fundamentals of engineering~~ APPROPRIATE  
13 examination AS ADOPTED BY THE BOARD IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION  
14 12-120-104 (2)(b);

15 (II) Reexamination for the ~~fundamentals of engineering~~  
16 APPROPRIATE examination AS ADOPTED BY THE BOARD IN ACCORDANCE  
17 WITH SECTION 12-120-104 (2)(b);

18 (III) ~~Application for enrollment pursuant to the occupational~~  
19 ~~credential portability program.~~

20 **SECTION 9.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-120-306, **amend**  
21 (1) introductory portion, (1)(m), and (1)(n); and **add** (1)(o) as follows:

22 **12-120-306. Disciplinary actions - grounds for discipline.**

23 (1) The board may take disciplinary or other action as authorized by  
24 section 12-20-404 AGAINST, limit the scope of practice of, or require  
25 additional training of any professional land surveyor or land  
26 surveyor-intern for:

27 (m) Attempting to use an expired, revoked, suspended, or

1 nonexistent license; practicing or offering to practice when not qualified;  
2 or falsely claiming that the individual is licensed; ~~or~~

3 (n) Using in any manner a license, license number, or certificate  
4 that has not been issued to the individual by the board; OR

5 (o) FAILING TO RESPOND TO ALLEGATIONS IN A COMPLAINT WITHIN  
6 THE LENGTH OF TIME SPECIFIED IN THE LETTER ISSUED BY THE BOARD IN  
7 ACCORDANCE WITH SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS SECTION.

8 **SECTION 10.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-120-311, **amend**  
9 (2)(a) and (3)(a); and **repeal** (1) as follows:

10 **12-120-311. Qualifications for land surveyor-interns.** (1) ~~An~~  
11 ~~applicant may qualify for enrollment as a land surveyor-intern by~~  
12 ~~endorsement if the applicant satisfies the requirements of the occupational~~  
13 ~~credential portability program.~~

14 (2) (a) An applicant may qualify for enrollment as a land  
15 surveyor-intern by graduation and examination if the applicant passes the  
16 ~~fundamentals of surveying~~ APPROPRIATE examination AS ADOPTED BY THE  
17 BOARD IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 12-120-104 (2)(b).

18 (3) (a) An applicant may qualify for enrollment as a land  
19 surveyor-intern by education, experience, and examination if the applicant  
20 passes the ~~fundamentals of surveying~~ APPROPRIATE examination AS  
21 ADOPTED BY THE BOARD IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 12-120-104  
22 (2)(b).

23 **SECTION 11.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-120-313, **amend**  
24 (2)(a); and **repeal** (1) as follows:

25 **12-120-313. Qualifications for professional land surveyor.**  
26 (1) ~~An applicant may qualify for licensing as a professional land surveyor~~  
27 ~~by endorsement if the applicant satisfies the requirements of the~~



1 ~~occupational credential portability program.~~

2 (2) (a) An applicant may qualify for licensing as a professional  
3 land surveyor by education, experience, and examination if the applicant  
4 passes the ~~principles and practice of surveying~~ APPROPRIATE examination  
5 AS ADOPTED BY THE BOARD IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 12-120-104  
6 (2)(b) and the examination pertaining to Colorado law.

7 **SECTION 12.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-120-315, **amend**  
8 (1)(a)(IV), (1)(a)(VII), (1)(b)(I), and (1)(b)(II); and **repeal** (1)(a)(III) and  
9 (1)(b)(III) as follows:

10 **12-120-315. Fees - disposition.** (1) Pursuant to section  
11 12-20-105, the board shall charge and collect fees for the following:

12 (a) With respect to professional land surveyors:

13 (III) ~~Application for licensure pursuant to the occupational~~  
14 ~~credential portability program;~~

15 (IV) Application for the ~~principles and practice of surveying~~  
16 ~~examination or the legal aspects of surveying~~ APPROPRIATE examination  
17 AS ADOPTED BY THE BOARD IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 12-120-104  
18 (2)(b);

19 (VII) Reexamination for the ~~principles and practice of surveying~~  
20 ~~examination or the legal aspects of surveying~~ APPROPRIATE examination  
21 AS ADOPTED BY THE BOARD IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 12-120-104  
22 (2)(b);

23 (b) With respect to land surveyor-interns:

24 (I) Application for the ~~fundamentals of surveying~~ APPROPRIATE  
25 examination AS ADOPTED BY THE BOARD IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION  
26 12-120-104 (2)(b);

27 (II) Reexamination for the ~~fundamentals of surveying~~

1 APPROPRIATE examination AS ADOPTED BY THE BOARD IN ACCORDANCE  
2 WITH SECTION 12-120-104 (2)(b);

3 (III) ~~Application for enrollment as a land surveyor-intern pursuant~~  
4 ~~to the occupational credential portability program.~~

5

6 **SECTION 13.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-120-406, **amend**  
7 (1)(q) and (1)(r); and **add** (1)(s) as follows:

8 **12-120-406. Disciplinary actions - grounds for discipline.**

9 (1) The board may take disciplinary or other action as authorized by  
10 section 12-20-404 against, or limit the scope of practice of, a licensee for  
11 the following:

12 (q) Engaging in conduct that is intended or reasonably might be  
13 expected to mislead the public into believing that the person is an  
14 architect; ~~or~~

15 (r) Engaging in the practice of an architect as a corporation or  
16 partnership or group of persons, unless the entity meets the requirements  
17 of section 12-120-404; OR

18 (s) FAILING TO RESPOND TO ALLEGATIONS IN A COMPLAINT WITHIN  
19 THE LENGTH OF TIME SPECIFIED IN THE LETTER ISSUED BY THE BOARD IN  
20 ACCORDANCE WITH SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS SECTION.

21 **SECTION 14.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-120-413, **amend**  
22 (3) as follows:

23 **12-120-413. Qualifications for architect licensure.** (3) ~~An~~  
24 ~~applicant may obtain licensure by endorsement if the applicant satisfies~~  
25 ~~the requirements of the occupational credential portability program. AN~~  
26 ~~APPLICANT FOR LICENSURE BY ENDORSEMENT MUST HOLD A LICENSE IN~~  
27 ~~GOOD STANDING IN A JURISDICTION THAT REQUIRES QUALIFICATIONS THAT~~

1 ARE SUBSTANTIALLY EQUIVALENT TO THE REQUIREMENTS FOR LICENSURE  
2 SET FORTH IN SUBSECTIONS (1) AND (2) OF THIS SECTION. AN APPLICANT  
3 FOR LICENSURE BY ENDORSEMENT SHALL SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO THE  
4 BOARD IN A FORM AND MANNER PRESCRIBED BY THE BOARD. The board  
5 may also provide an alternative application procedure so that an applicant  
6 may ~~at the applicant's option, instead~~ apply to a national clearinghouse  
7 designated by the board. The national clearinghouse shall then forward  
8 the application to the board.

9 **SECTION 15.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-120-202, **amend**  
10 (6)(b) as follows:

11 **12-120-202. Definitions.** As used in this part 2, unless the context  
12 otherwise requires:

13 (6) (b) An individual practices or offers to practice "professional  
14 engineering" within the meaning and intent of this section if the  
15 individual by oral claim, sign, advertisement, letterhead, card, or in any  
16 other way represents ~~himself or herself~~ ONESELF to be a professional  
17 engineer OR through the use of any other means implies that the  
18 individual is licensed under this part 2 or performs engineering services.

19 **SECTION 16.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-120-205, **amend**  
20 (1) as follows:

21 **12-120-205. Unlawful practice - penalties - enforcement.** (1) It  
22 is unlawful for any individual to hold ~~himself or herself~~ ONESELF out to  
23 the public as a professional engineer unless the individual has complied  
24 with ~~the provisions contained in~~ this part 2.

25 **SECTION 17.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-120-206, **amend**  
26 (2) as follows:

27 **12-120-206. Disciplinary actions - grounds for discipline.**

1 (2) The board may issue and send a letter of admonition by first-class  
2 mail to a professional engineer or engineer-intern at ~~his or her~~ THE  
3 INDIVIDUAL'S last-known address under the circumstances specified in  
4 and in accordance with section 12-20-404 (4).

5 **SECTION 18.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-120-302, **amend**  
6 (5)(b) as follows:

7 **12-120-302. Definitions.** As used in this part 3, unless the context  
8 otherwise requires:

9 (5) (b) An individual practices or offers to practice "professional  
10 land surveying" within the meaning and intent of this part 3 if the  
11 individual engages therein or, by oral claim, sign, letterhead, or card or  
12 in any other way, holds ~~himself or herself~~ ONESELF out to be a  
13 professional land surveyor or as being able to perform any professional  
14 land surveying service or if the individual performs any professional land  
15 surveying service or work.

16 **SECTION 19.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-120-306, **amend**  
17 (2) as follows:

18 **12-120-306. Disciplinary actions - grounds for discipline.**

19 (2) The board may issue and send a letter of admonition by first-class  
20 mail to a professional land surveyor or land surveyor-intern at ~~his or her~~  
21 THE INDIVIDUAL'S last-known address under the circumstances specified  
22 in and in accordance with section 12-20-404 (4).

23 **SECTION 20.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-120-402, **amend**  
24 (5)(c) as follows:

25 **12-120-402. Definitions.** As used in this part 4, unless the context  
26 otherwise requires:

27 (5) (c) An individual practices or offers to practice architecture

1 within the meaning and intent of this subsection (5) if the individual, by  
2 oral claim, sign, advertisement, letterhead, card, or in any other way,  
3 represents ~~himself or herself~~ ONESELF to be an architect, implies that ~~he~~  
4 ~~or she~~ THE INDIVIDUAL is licensed under this part 4, or performs or offers  
5 to perform a service listed in subsection (5)(b) of this section.

6 **SECTION 21.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-120-403, **amend**  
7 (4) as follows:

8 **12-120-403. Exemptions - definitions.** (4) Nothing in this part  
9 4 shall be construed as prohibiting the practice of architecture by any  
10 employee of the United States government or any bureau, division, or  
11 agency ~~thereof~~ OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT while in the  
12 discharge of ~~his or her~~ THE EMPLOYEE'S official duties.

13 **SECTION 22.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-120-404, **amend**  
14 (3)(b) as follows:

15 **12-120-404. Forms of organizations permitted to practice -**  
16 **requirements.** (3) An entity listed in subsection (2) of this section may  
17 practice architecture, but only if:

18 (b) The architect remains individually responsible to the board and  
19 the public for ~~his or her~~ THE ARCHITECT'S professional acts and conduct;  
20 and

21 **SECTION 23.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-120-405, **amend**  
22 (2)(a) as follows:

23 **12-120-405. Unauthorized practice - penalties - enforcement.**  
24 (2) (a) It is unlawful for any individual to hold ~~himself or herself~~  
25 ONESELF out to the public as an architect unless the individual has  
26 complied with this part 4.

27 **SECTION 24.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-120-406, **amend**

1 (6) as follows:

2 **12-120-406. Disciplinary actions - grounds for discipline.**

3 (6) If, as a result of a proceeding held pursuant to article 4 of title 24, the  
4 board determines that a person licensed to practice architecture pursuant  
5 to this part 4 has acted in such a manner as to be subject to disciplinary  
6 action, the board may, in lieu of or in addition to other forms of  
7 disciplinary action that may be authorized by this section, require a  
8 licensee to take courses of training or education relating to ~~his or her~~ THE  
9 LICENSEE'S profession. The board shall determine the conditions that may  
10 be imposed on the licensee, including, but not limited to, the type and  
11 number of hours of training or education. All training or education  
12 courses are subject to approval by the board, and the licensee ~~shall be~~ IS  
13 required to furnish satisfactory proof of completion of the training or  
14 education.

15 **SECTION 25.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-120-414, **amend**  
16 (1) as follows:

17 **12-120-414. Retired architects - classification - fees.** (1) An  
18 architect who has been duly licensed and is over sixty-five years of age  
19 may apply to the board for classification as a retired architect. Retired  
20 architects shall not practice architecture and shall pay a fee established by  
21 the board to be listed with and retain retired architect status. A person  
22 classified as a retired architect may hold ~~himself or herself~~ ONESELF out  
23 as a retired architect.

24 **SECTION 26.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-120-417, **amend**  
25 (2) as follows:

26 **12-120-417. Architect's seal - rules.** (2) An architect shall use  
27 ~~his or her~~ THE ARCHITECT'S seal AND signature and the date of signature

1 only when the work to which the seal is applied was prepared under the  
2 architect's responsible control.

3 **SECTION 27. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act  
4 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the  
5 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly; except  
6 that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V  
7 of the state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this  
8 act within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take  
9 effect unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in  
10 November 2024 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the  
11 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.