

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 2118

103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE OWEN.

4212H.01I

JOSEPH ENGLER, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To repeal section 326.271, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof one new section relating to continuing education requirements for certified public accountants.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Section 326.271, RSMo, is repealed and one new section enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as section 326.271, to read as follows:

326.271. 1. The board shall promulgate rules of procedure for governing the conduct of matters before the board.

2. The board shall promulgate rules of professional conduct for establishing and maintaining high standards of competence and integrity in the profession of public accounting.

3. In promulgating rules and regulations regarding the requirements of continuing education, the board:

(1) May use and rely upon guidelines and pronouncements of recognized educational and professional associations;

(2) May prescribe for content, duration and organization of courses;

(3) Shall consider applicant accessibility to continuing education as required by the board, and any impediments to the interstate practice of public accounting which may result from differences in requirements in states;

(4) May in its discretion relax or suspend continuing education requirements for instances of individual hardship;

(5) Shall not require the completion of more than one hundred twenty hours of continuing education or its equivalent in any three-year period, not more than one-third of

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

18 which shall be required in any one year. The continuing education requirements must be
19 capable of being fulfilled in programs or courses reasonably available to licensees within the
20 state.

21 4. The board may require by rule licensees to submit any continuing education
22 reporting as the board deems necessary.

23 5. **A certified public accountant shall be exempt from any continuing education**
24 **requirements for any year that the certified public accountant is actively serving in the**
25 **general assembly.**

26 6. Any rule or portion of a rule, as that term is defined in section 536.010, that is
27 created under the authority delegated in this chapter shall become effective only if it complies
28 with and is subject to all of the provisions of chapter 536 and, if applicable, section 536.028.
29 This chapter and chapter 536 are nonseverable and if any of the powers vested with the
30 general assembly pursuant to chapter 536 to review, to delay the effective date or to
31 disapprove and annul a rule are subsequently held unconstitutional, then the grant of
32 rulemaking authority and any rule proposed or adopted after August 28, 2001, shall be invalid
33 and void.

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