

1 HB327  
2 206823-1  
3 By Representatives Pringle and Crawford  
4 RFD: State Government  
5 First Read: 04-FEB-21

SYNOPSIS: Under existing law, the Alabama State Board of Registered Foresters imposes a continuing annual education requirement upon its licensees.

This bill would grant discretion to the board to modify the continuing annual education requirement based upon extenuating circumstances of the licensee.

A BILL  
TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

Relating to the Alabama State Board of Registered Foresters; to amend Section 34-12-8, Code of Alabama 1975, to grant discretion to the board to relax or suspend the continuing annual education requirement of its licensees on a case by case basis in the event of extenuating circumstances.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. Section 34-12-8, Code of Alabama 1975, is amended to read as follows:

1           "§34-12-8.

2           "(a) Licenses shall expire on the 30th day of  
3           September next following their issuance or renewal and shall  
4           become invalid on that date unless renewed. The secretary of  
5           the board shall notify, at his or her last registered address,  
6           every person registered under this chapter of the date of the  
7           expiration of his or her license and the amount of the fee  
8           that shall be required for its renewal for one year. The  
9           notice shall be mailed three months in advance of the date of  
10          the expiration of the licenses. Two subsequent monthly notices  
11          may be mailed, the second by certified mail, return receipt  
12          requested. The annual renewal fee for licenses shall be  
13          established annually by the board and shall not exceed two  
14          hundred dollars (\$200). Renewal of licenses for the following  
15          year may be effected at any time during the three months  
16          preceding September 30 of the year in which the license has  
17          been issued or renewed by the payment of the renewal fee so  
18          fixed by this chapter. Licensees who renew their licenses  
19          between September 30 and December 31 of any year renewal is  
20          due shall pay a late renewal fee set by the board not to  
21          exceed an amount equal to twice the annual renewal fee. The  
22          board shall make an exception to the foregoing renewal  
23          provision in the case of a person who is in the armed services  
24          of the United States. A licensee who fails to renew a license  
25          by December 31 of any year renewal is due shall have his or  
26          her license revoked.

1           "(b) The state board shall adopt a program of  
2 continuing education for its licensees not later than October  
3 1, 1991, and after that date no licensee shall have his or her  
4 active license renewed unless, in addition to any other  
5 requirements of this chapter, the minimum continuing annual  
6 education requirements are met. It is further provided that  
7 the continuing education program herein required shall not  
8 apply to any licensee who is 65 years of age or older and  
9 shall not include testing or examination of the licensees in  
10 any manner. The Board may relax or suspend the continuing  
11 annual education requirements for retirees or for reasons of  
12 the health, hardship, or other extenuating circumstances of  
13 the licensee based on the licensee's specific case."

14           Section 2. This act shall become effective on the  
15 first day of the third month following its passage and  
16 approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.