

ASSEMBLY, No. 1905

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED MAY 6, 1996

By Assemblymen ROMA and GARCIA

1 AN ACT concerning public accounting and supplementing P.L.1977,
2 c.144 (C.45:2B-1 et seq.).

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4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:

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7 1. On or after the effective date of this act, the New Jersey State
8 Board of Accountancy shall accept applications from any person
9 seeking licensure as an accountant practitioner in accordance with the
10 provisions of this act. A licensed accountant practitioner is authorized
11 to perform or offer to perform for a client or a potential client
12 compilation services as defined by the American Institute of Certified
13 Public Accountants, but shall be prohibited from performing or
14 offering to perform review or audit services for a client or potential
15 client.

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17 2. a. Except as provided in subsection b. of this section, no
18 person shall be issued a license by the board to practice as an
19 accountant practitioner unless he shall have passed all sections of a
20 written examination, as the board shall determine, which shall include
21 sections in accounting, taxation and law, with a passing grade of 75 on
22 each section.

23 b. A person who does not attain a passing grade in each section of
24 the written examination approved by the board the first time he sits for
25 the examination shall be issued a license as an accountant practitioner
26 if: (1) the applicant passes the remaining sections of the examination
27 within six consecutive examinations given after the one at which the
28 first section or sections were passed; and (2) at each subsequent sitting
29 at which the applicant seeks to pass any additional sections, the
30 applicant writes all sections not yet passed and attains an average
31 grade of 50 on all sections written but not yet passed.

32 Examinations shall be given by the board at least twice a year, and
33 any person who wishes to sit for an examination shall apply to the
34 board at least 60 days prior to the date of examination. The board
35 may make use of the applicable sections of the National Society of
36 Public Accountants Uniform Registered Accountants Examination and
37 Grading, or any other examination offered by an organization

1 recognized by the board, which the board deems appropriate.

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3 3. Every applicant for examination as an accountant practitioner
4 shall present to the board a written application on a form to be
5 provided by the board, together with the required fee, and satisfactory
6 proof of the following:

7 a. That the applicant is at least 18 years of age;

8 b. That the applicant is of good moral character; and

9 c. That the applicant has a baccalaureate degree or its equivalent as
10 determined by the Commission on Higher Education, including
11 courses in accounting and related professional courses as the board
12 may require.

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14 4. Every applicant for licensure as an accountant practitioner,
15 having passed the examination required pursuant to section 2 of this
16 act, shall show that the applicant has had one year of experience in the
17 practice of public accountancy, or its equivalent as determined by the
18 board, under the direction of a licensee meeting requirements
19 prescribed by the board.

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21 5. In accordance with the provisions of section 2 of this act, the
22 board may by regulation prescribe the terms and conditions under
23 which a candidate who has passed any part or parts of the appropriate
24 examination may be reexamined in only the remaining parts.

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26 6. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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31 This bill provides that the New Jersey State Board of Accountancy
32 shall license a new category of eligible individuals as accountant
33 practitioners to perform certain accounting functions. The new
34 category of accountant practitioners established under this bill will
35 only be allowed to perform compilation services as defined by the
36 American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

37 Any person shall be eligible for licensure as an accountant
38 practitioner who applies to the board and meets the following
39 requirements:

40 1. Is at least 18 years of age;

41 2. Is of good moral character;

42 3. Has a baccalaureate degree or its equivalent as determined by
43 the Commission on Higher Education, including courses in accounting
44 and related professional courses as the board may require.

45 Applicants for licensure as accountant practitioners, who have
46 passed the required examination, shall also show that they have had

1 one year of experience in the practice of public accountancy or its
2 equivalent, under the direction of a licensee meeting requirements
3 prescribed by the board.

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8 Provides for the licensure of accountant practitioners.