

2022 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 305

BY REPRESENTATIVE GADBERRY

ENGINEERS: Provides relative to the Louisiana Professional Engineering and Land Surveying Board

AN ACT

To enact R.S. 37:701(I), relative to the Louisiana Professional Engineering and Land Surveying Board; to provide for the incidental practice of engineering by architects; to provide for the scope of practice for architects engaging in incidental engineering work; to provide for certain conditions; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 37:701(I) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§701. Public and private work; application of provisions

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I. An architect as defined in R.S. 37:141(B)(1) has a right to engage in certain activities that fall within the definition of the practice of engineering as defined in R.S. 37:682, but only to the extent such activities are necessarily incidental to the architect's

practice of architecture as defined in R.S. 37:141(B)(3).Such incidental engineering work is limited to minor mechanical, electrical, or civil-structural engineering work necessarily incidental to the architect's practice of architecture, ~~but does not include a complete engineering system~~. The incidental engineering work shall be of a secondary nature and shall be substantially less in scope and magnitude when compared to the architectural portion of the work. Incidental engineering work includes additions, renovations, or alterations that do not require significant adjustments to the engineering calculations for the changes to the engineering systems or components. The incidental engineering work shall be safely and competently performed by the architect without jeopardizing the life, health, property, or welfare of the public. The incidental engineering work shall also satisfy all of the following conditions for new construction ~~or; additions, or renovations~~:

(1) For new construction, the total proposed occupant load for the new construction shall not exceed ~~two hundred ninety-nine individuals for assembly occupancy and forty-nine individuals for all other occupancies~~. The occupant load shall be defined and determined by the method set forth in the currently enforced building code.

(2) For additions, the total proposed occupant load for the addition shall not exceed ~~two hundred ninety-nine individuals for assembly occupancy and forty-nine individuals for all other occupancies~~. The occupant load shall be defined and determined by the method set forth in the currently enforced building code. ~~The addition shall be less than fifty percent of the gross floor area of the existing building.~~

~~(3) For renovations, the total proposed occupant load for the renovation shall not exceed forty nine individuals. The occupant load shall be defined and determined by the method set forth in the currently enforced building code.~~

~~(4) The construction value of the incidental engineering work shall not exceed fifteen percent of the total construction value for new construction.~~

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## DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

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HB 305 Original

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**Abstract:** Authorizes architects to engage in the incidental practice of engineering under certain circumstances.

Proposed law adds provisions to present law to authorize an architect to engage in the practice of engineering, but only insofar as is necessary for the architect in his practice of architecture as defined in present law (R.S. 37:141(B)(3)).

Proposed law limits an architect's practice of engineering to minor mechanical, electrical, or civil-structural engineering work necessary as long as the work is secondary in scope and magnitude when compared to the architectural portion of the work.

Proposed law limits the maximum allowed occupancy load, size, and value for construction projects in which architects may engage in incidental engineering work for new construction, additions, or renovations to the following:

- (1) For new construction - not more than 49 occupants.
- (2) For additions - not more than 49 occupants and less than 50% of the gross floor area of the existing building.
- (3) For renovations - not more than 49 occupants.

(4) Construction value - not more than 15% of the total construction value for new construction.

(Adds R.S. 37:701(I))