

CHAPTER 574

S.B. No. 1434

AN ACT

relating to the continuation and functions of the Texas State Board of Examiners of Dietitians and the regulation of dietetics.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

SECTION 1. Section 2, Licensed Dietitian Act (Article 4512h, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes), is amended by amending Subdivision (6) and adding Subdivisions (10), (11), and (12) to read as follows:

(6) "Dietetics" means the professional discipline of applying and integrating scientific principles of *food, nutrition, biochemistry, physiology, management, and behavioral and social sciences* under different health, social, cultural, physical, psychological, and economic conditions to the proper nourishment, care, and education of individuals or groups throughout the life cycle to *achieve and maintain the health of people*. The term includes without limitation the development, management, and provision of *nutrition [nutritional] services*.

(10) "Nutrition services" means:

(A) *assessing the nutritional needs of individuals and groups and determining resources and constraints in the practice;*

(B) *establishing priorities, goals, and objectives that meet nutritional needs and are consistent with available resources and constraints;*

(C) *providing nutrition counseling in health and disease;*

(D) *developing, implementing, and managing nutritional care systems; or*

(E) *evaluating, making changes in, and maintaining appropriate standards of quality in food and nutritional care services.*

(11) "Nutrition assessment" means *the evaluation of the nutritional needs of individuals and groups based on appropriate biochemical, anthropometric, physical, and dietary data to determine nutrient needs and recommend appropriate nutritional intake including enteral and parenteral nutrition.*

(12) "Nutrition counseling" means *advising and assisting individuals or groups on appropriate nutritional intake by integrating information from the nutrition assessment*

with information on food and other sources of nutrients and meal preparation consistent with cultural background and socioeconomic status.

SECTION 2. Section 3, Licensed Dietitian Act (Article 4512h, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes), is amended by amending Subsections (e) through (h) and adding Subsections (i) and (j) to read as follows:

(e) A person is *not* eligible for appointment as a public member of *the board* if the person or ~~[and]~~ the person's spouse:

(1) *is registered, certified, or* ~~[are not]~~ licensed by an occupational regulatory agency in the field of *dietetics* ~~[health care]~~;

(2) *is* ~~[are not]~~ employed by *or participates* ~~[and do not participate]~~ in the management of a ~~[an agency or]~~ business entity *or other organization regulated by the board or receiving funds from the board* ~~[that provides health care services or that sells, manufactures, or distributes health care supplies or equipment]~~; ~~[and]~~

(3) *owns or controls, directly or indirectly,* ~~[do not own, control, or have a direct or indirect interest in]~~ more than a 10 percent *interest in* ~~[of]~~ a business entity *or other organization regulated by the board or receiving funds from the board*; ~~[that provides health care services or that sells, manufactures, or distributes health care supplies or equipment.]~~

(4) *uses or receives a substantial amount of tangible goods, services, or funds from the board, other than compensation or reimbursement authorized by law for board membership, attendance, or expenses.*

(f) *Appointments* ~~[It is the intent of the legislature that the membership of the board reflect the historical and cultural diversity of the inhabitants of this state; therefore, appointments]~~ to the board *shall* ~~[should]~~ be made without regard to *the* ~~[discrimination based on]~~ race, color, disability ~~[creed]~~, sex, religion, age, or national origin~~[, or geographical distribution]~~ of the appointees.

(g) *An officer, employee, or paid consultant of a Texas trade association in the field of dietetics may not be a member or employee of the board who is exempt from the state's position classification plan or is compensated at or above the amount prescribed by the General Appropriations Act for step 1, salary group 17, of the position classification salary schedule* ~~[A member or employee of the board may not be an officer, employee, or paid consultant of a trade association in the field of health care].~~

(h) *A person who is the spouse of an officer, manager, or paid consultant of a Texas trade association in the field of dietetics may not be a board member and may not be an employee of the board who is exempt from the state's position classification plan or is compensated at or above the amount prescribed by the General Appropriations Act for step 1, salary group 17, of the position classification salary schedule.*

(i) *For the purposes of this section, a Texas trade association is a nonprofit, cooperative, and voluntarily joined association of business or professional competitors in this state designed to assist its members and its industry or profession in dealing with mutual business or professional problems and in promoting their common interest.*

(j) ~~[(h)]~~ A person *may not serve as a member of the board or act as general counsel to the board if the person* ~~[who]~~ is required to register as a lobbyist under Chapter 305, Government Code, because of *the person's activities for compensation on behalf of a profession related to the operation of* ~~[in a health-related area may not serve as a member of the board or act as the general counsel to]~~ the board.

SECTION 3. Section 4, Licensed Dietitian Act (Article 4512h, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes), is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 4. GROUNDS FOR REMOVAL. (a) It is a ground for removal from the board if a member:

(1) does not have at the time of appointment the qualifications required for appointment to the board;

(2) does not maintain during service on the board the qualifications required for appointment to the board; ~~[or]~~

(3) violates a prohibition established by this Act;

(4) cannot discharge the member's duties for a substantial part of the term for which the member is appointed because of illness or disability; or

(5) is absent from more than half of the regularly scheduled board meetings that the member is eligible to attend during a calendar year unless the absence is excused by majority vote of the board.

(b) *The validity of an action of the board is not affected by the fact that it is taken when [If] a ground for removal of a member of [from] the board exists[~~the board's actions taken during the existence of the ground for removal are valid~~].*

(c) *If the executive secretary has knowledge that a potential ground for removal exists, the executive secretary shall notify the chairman of the board of the ground. The chairman shall then notify the governor that a potential ground for removal exists.*

SECTION 4. The Licensed Dietitian Act (Article 4512h, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes) is amended by adding Section 7A to read as follows:

Sec. 7A. **PUBLIC INTEREST INFORMATION.** (a) *The board shall prepare information of public interest describing the functions of the board and the board's procedures by which complaints are filed with and resolved by the board. The board shall make the information available to the public and appropriate state agencies.*

(b) *The board by rule shall establish methods by which consumers and service recipients are notified of the name, mailing address, and telephone number of the board for the purpose of directing complaints to the board. The board may provide for that notification:*

(1) *on each registration form, application, or written contract for services of an individual or entity regulated by the board;*

(2) *on a sign prominently displayed in the place of business of each individual or entity regulated by the board; or*

(3) *in a bill for service provided by an individual or entity regulated by the board.*

(c) *The board shall list along with its regular telephone number the toll-free telephone number that may be called to present a complaint about a health professional if the toll-free number is established under other state law.*

SECTION 5. The Licensed Dietitian Act (Article 4512h, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes) is amended by adding Section 7B to read as follows:

Sec. 7B. **EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY POLICIES.** (a) *The executive secretary or the secretary's designee shall prepare and maintain a written policy statement to assure implementation of a program of equal employment opportunity under which all personnel transactions are made without regard to race, color, disability, sex, religion, age, or national origin. The policy statement must include:*

(1) *personnel policies, including policies relating to recruitment, evaluation, selection, application, training, and promotion of personnel that are in compliance with the Commission on Human Rights Act (Article 5221k, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes) and its subsequent amendments;*

(2) *a comprehensive analysis of the board work force that meets federal and state guidelines;*

(3) *procedures by which a determination can be made of significant underutilization in the board work force of all persons for whom federal or state guidelines encourage a more equitable balance; and*

(4) *reasonable methods to appropriately address those areas of underutilization.*

(b) *A policy statement prepared under Subsection (a) of this section must cover an annual period, be updated annually, be reviewed by the Commission on Human Rights for compliance with Subsection (a)(1) of this section, and be filed with the governor's office.*

(c) *The governor's office shall deliver a biennial report to the legislature based on the information received under Subsection (b) of this section. The report may be made separately or as part of other biennial reports to the legislature.*

SECTION 6. The Licensed Dietitian Act (Article 4512h, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes) is amended by adding Section 7C to read as follows:

Sec. 7C. TRAINING; STANDARDS OF CONDUCT INFORMATION. (a) Each board member shall comply with the board member training requirements established by any other state agency that is given authority to establish the requirements for the board.

(b) The board shall provide to its members and employees, as often as necessary, information regarding their qualifications for office or employment under this Act and their responsibilities under applicable laws relating to standards of conduct for state officers or employees.

SECTION 7. The Licensed Dietitian Act (Article 4512h, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes) is amended by adding Section 7D to read as follows:

Sec. 7D. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN BOARD HEARINGS. The board shall develop and implement policies that provide the public with a reasonable opportunity to appear before the board and to speak on any issue under the jurisdiction of the board.

SECTION 8. The Licensed Dietitian Act (Article 4512h, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes) is amended by adding Section 7E to read as follows:

Sec. 7E. DIVISION OF RESPONSIBILITIES. The board shall develop and implement policies that clearly define the respective responsibilities of the board and the staff of the board.

SECTION 9. The Licensed Dietitian Act (Article 4512h, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes) is amended by adding Section 7F to read as follows:

Sec. 7F. PROGRAM ACCESSIBILITY. The board shall prepare and maintain a written plan that describes how a person who does not speak English can be provided reasonable access to the board's programs. The board shall also comply with federal and state laws for program and facility accessibility.

SECTION 10. The Licensed Dietitian Act (Article 4512h, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes) is amended by adding Section 7G to read as follows:

Sec. 7G. TRAINING AND GUIDELINES FOR MEMBERS OF THE BOARD. (a) The board shall establish a training program for the members of the board.

(b) Before a member of the board may assume the member's duties and before the member may be confirmed by the senate, the member must complete at least one course of the training program established under this section.

(c) A training program established under this section shall provide information to a participant regarding:

- (1) the enabling legislation that created the board to which the member is appointed;*
- (2) the programs operated by the board;*
- (3) the role and functions of the board;*
- (4) the rules of the board with an emphasis on the rules that relate to disciplinary and investigatory authority;*
- (5) the current budget for the board;*
- (6) the results of the most recent formal audit of the board;*
- (7) the requirements of the:*

(A) open meetings law, Chapter 271, Acts of the 60th Legislature, Regular Session, 1967 (Article 6252-17, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes), and its subsequent amendments;

(B) open records law, Chapter 424, Acts of the 63rd Legislature, Regular Session, 1973 (Article 6252-17a, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes), and its subsequent amendments; and

(C) Administrative Procedure and Texas Register Act (Article 6252-13a, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes) and its subsequent amendments;

(8) the requirements of the conflict of interest laws and other laws relating to public officials; and

(9) any applicable ethics policies adopted by the board or the Texas Ethics Commission.

(d) *In developing the training requirements provided for in this section, the board shall consult with the governor's office, the attorney general's office, and the Texas Ethics Commission.*

(e) *In the event that another state agency or entity is given the authority to establish the training requirements, the board shall allow that training in lieu of developing its own program.*

SECTION 11. Subsections (a) and (c), Section 8, Licensed Dietitian Act (Article 4512h, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes), are amended to read as follows:

(a) *After consultation with the commissioner or the department, the board by rule shall set reasonable and necessary [the] fees [imposed by this Act] in amounts that are adequate to collect sufficient revenue to meet the expenses necessary to administer this Act [without accumulating an unnecessary surplus in the Licensed Dietitian Act fund created by this section]. The fee amounts set by the board may be adjusted so that the total fees collected are sufficient to cover the cost of administering this Act. The board may not set a fee for an amount less than the amount of that fee on September 1, 1993.*

(c) *The [Not later than January 1 each year, the] department shall file annually with [make a written report to] the governor[, lieutenant governor,] and presiding officer of each [speaker of the] house of the legislature a complete and detailed written report [representatives] accounting for all funds received and disbursed by the board or the department for the administration of this Act during the preceding fiscal year. The annual report must be in the form and reported in the time provided by the General Appropriations Act.*

SECTION 12. Subsection (c), Section 9, Licensed Dietitian Act (Article 4512h, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes), is amended to read as follows:

(c) To qualify for the licensing examination under this Act, the applicant must:

(1) possess a baccalaureate or postbaccalaureate degree with a major course of study in human nutrition, food and nutrition, *nutrition education*, dietetics, or food systems management or an equivalent major course of study approved by the board; and

(2) have completed an internship or preplanned, *documented*, professional experience program in *dietetics practice of not less than 900 hours under the supervision of a licensed dietitian or a registered dietitian* approved by the board.

SECTION 13. Section 10, Licensed Dietitian Act (Article 4512h, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes), is amended by amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsection (f) to read as follows:

(a) To qualify for a license under this Act, an applicant must pass a competency examination. Examinations shall be prepared or approved by the board and administered to qualified applicants at least twice each calendar year. *The board shall have the written portion of the examination, if any, validated by an independent testing professional.*

(f) *The board shall waive the examination requirement for an applicant who, at the time of application, is registered as a registered dietitian by the Commission on Dietetic Registration.*

SECTION 14. Section 12, Licensed Dietitian Act (Article 4512h, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes), is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 12. LICENSE EXPIRATION; RENEWAL; INACTIVE STATUS. (a) A license is valid for one year from the date it is issued and may be renewed annually.

(b) The board of health by rule may adopt a system under which licenses expire on various dates during the year. *For the year in which the license expiration date is changed, license fees payable on the original expiration date shall be prorated on a monthly basis so that each licensee shall pay only that portion of the license fee that is allocable to the number of months during which the license is valid. On renewal of the license on the new expiration date, the total license renewal fee is payable.*

(c) A person may renew an unexpired license by paying to the board before the expiration date of the license the required renewal fee [~~to the department before the expiration date of the license~~].

(d) If a person's license has been expired for ~~[not more than]~~ 90 days or less, the person may renew the license by paying to the board ~~[department]~~ the required renewal fee and a ~~[penalty]~~ fee that is one-half of the ~~examination [renewal]~~ fee for the license.

(e) If a person's license has been expired for longer ~~[more]~~ than 90 days but less than one year ~~[two years]~~, the person may renew the license by paying to the board ~~[department]~~ all unpaid renewal fees and a ~~[penalty]~~ fee that is equal to the renewal fee for the license.

(f) If a person's license has been expired one year ~~[two years]~~ or longer ~~[more]~~, the person may not renew the license. The person may obtain a new license by ~~[submitting to reexamination and]~~ complying with the current requirements and procedures for obtaining an original ~~[a]~~ license. *However, the board may renew without reexamination an expired license of a person who was licensed in this state, moved to another state, and is currently licensed and has been in practice in the other state for the two years preceding application. The person must pay to the board a fee that is equal to the examination fee for the license.*

(g) ~~At [The department shall notify each licensee in writing of the license expiration date at]~~ least 30 days before the expiration of a person's license, the board shall send written notice of the impending license expiration to the person at the licensee's last known address according to the records of the board ~~[that date and shall obtain from the licensee a signed receipt confirming receipt of notification].~~

(h) *The board by rule may provide for a person who holds a license under this Act to be placed on inactive status. Rules adopted under this section shall include a time limit for a licensee to remain on inactive status.*

SECTION 15. The Licensed Dietitian Act (Article 4512h, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes) is amended by adding Section 12A to read as follows:

Sec. 12A. *CONTINUING EDUCATION.* (a) *The board by rule shall establish a minimum number of hours of continuing education required to renew a license under this Act. The board may assess the continuing education needs of licensees and may require licensees to attend continuing education courses specified by the board. The board shall develop a process to evaluate and approve continuing education courses.*

(b) *The board shall identify the key factors for the competent performance by a licensee of the licensee's professional duties. The board shall adopt a procedure to assess a licensee's participation in continuing education programs.*

SECTION 16. Subsection (d), Section 13, Licensed Dietitian Act (Article 4512h, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes), is amended to read as follows:

(d) A provisional license is valid for one year from the date it is issued and may be renewed annually *not more than twice* by the same procedures established for renewal under Section 12 of this Act if the application for renewal is signed by the supervising licensed dietitian.

SECTION 17. Section 14, Licensed Dietitian Act (Article 4512h, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes), is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 14. *TEMPORARY LICENSE [RECIPROCITY].* (a) *On receipt of an application and application fee, the board may grant a temporary license to [shall waive the examination requirement for] an applicant who[, at the time of application]:*

(1) *is licensed in good standing as a dietitian in another state, the District of Columbia, or a territory of the United States that has licensing requirements that are substantially equivalent to the requirements of this Act; [registered by the Commission on Dietetic Registration as a registered dietitian; or]*

(2) *has passed a national or other examination recognized by the board relating to dietetics; and*

(3) *is sponsored by a person licensed by the board under this Act with whom the temporary licensee may practice under this section [holds a valid license or certificate as a licensed or registered dietitian issued by another state with which this state has a reciprocity agreement].*

(b) *An applicant for a temporary license may be excused from the requirement of Subsection (a)(3) of this section if the board determines that compliance with that subsection constitutes a hardship to the applicant.*

(c) A temporary license is valid until the date the board approves or denies the temporary licensee's application for a license. The board shall issue a license under this Act to the holder of a temporary license under this section if:

(1) the temporary licensee passes the examination required by Section 10 of this Act;

(2) the board verifies that the temporary licensee has the academic and experience requirements for a license under this Act; and

(3) the temporary licensee satisfies any other license requirements under this Act.

(d) The board must complete the processing of a temporary licensee's application for a license not later than the 180th day after the date the temporary license is issued. The board may extend this deadline to receive pending examination results.

SECTION 18. Section 16, Licensed Dietitian Act (Article 4512h, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes), is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 16. COMPLAINT FILE AND STATUS. (a) The board [department] shall keep an information file about each complaint filed with the board [~~related to a licensee~~].

(b) If a written complaint is filed with the board ~~that the board or department has authority to resolve [relating to a licensee]~~, the board [department], at least as frequently as quarterly and until final disposition of the complaint, shall notify the parties to the complaint of the status of the complaint unless the notice would jeopardize an undercover investigation [~~until final disposition of the complaint~~].

SECTION 19. The Licensed Dietitian Act (Article 4512h, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes) is amended by adding Section 16A to read as follows:

Sec. 16A. COMPLAINT PROCEDURE IN GENERAL. (a) The board's information file shall be kept current and contain a record for each complaint of:

(1) all persons contacted in relation to the complaint;

(2) a summary of findings made at each step of the complaint process;

(3) an explanation of the legal basis and reason for a complaint that is dismissed; and

(4) other relevant information.

(b) The board by rule shall adopt a form to standardize information concerning complaints made to the board. The board by rule shall prescribe information to be provided to a person when the person files a complaint with the board.

(c) The board shall provide reasonable assistance to a person who wishes to file a complaint with the board.

SECTION 20. The Licensed Dietitian Act (Article 4512h, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes) is amended by adding Section 16B to read as follows:

Sec. 16B. COMPLAINT INVESTIGATION AND DISPOSITION. (a) The board shall adopt rules concerning the investigation of a complaint filed with the board. The rules adopted under this subsection shall:

(1) distinguish between categories of complaints;

(2) ensure that complaints are not dismissed without appropriate consideration;

(3) require that the board be advised of a complaint that is dismissed and that a letter be sent to the person who filed the complaint explaining the action taken on the dismissed complaint;

(4) ensure that the person who filed the complaint has an opportunity to explain the allegations made in the complaint; and

(5) prescribe guidelines concerning the categories of complaints that require the use of a private investigator and the procedures for the board to obtain the services of a private investigator.

(b) The board shall dispose of all complaints in a timely manner. The board shall establish a schedule for conducting each phase of a complaint that is under the control of the board not later than the 30th day after the date the complaint is received by the board. The schedule shall be kept in the information file for the complaint and all parties shall be notified of the projected time requirements for pursuing the complaint. A change in the

schedule must be noted in the complaint information file and all parties to the complaint must be notified not later than the seventh day after the date the change is made.

(c) The executive secretary of the board shall notify the board of a complaint that extends beyond the time prescribed by the board for resolving the complaint so that the board may take necessary action on the complaint.

SECTION 21. The Licensed Dietitian Act (Article 4512h, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes) is amended by adding Section 16C to read as follows:

Sec. 16C. INFORMAL PROCEEDINGS. (a) The board by rule shall adopt procedures governing:

(1) informal disposition of a contested case under Section 13(e), Administrative Procedure and Texas Register Act (Article 6252-13a, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes), and its subsequent amendments; and

(2) informal proceedings held in compliance with Section 13(c), Administrative Procedure and Texas Register Act (Article 6252-13a, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes), and its subsequent amendments.

(b) Rules adopted under this section must provide the complainant and the licensee an opportunity to be heard and must require the presence of a representative of the office of the attorney general or the board's legal counsel to advise the board or board's employees.

SECTION 22. The Licensed Dietitian Act (Article 4512h, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes) is amended by adding Section 16D to read as follows:

Sec. 16D. MONITORING OF LICENSEE. The board by rule shall develop a system for monitoring a licensee's compliance with the requirements of this Act. Rules adopted under this section shall include procedures for monitoring a licensee who is ordered by the board to perform certain acts to ascertain that the licensee performs the required acts and to identify and monitor licensees who represent a risk to the public.

SECTION 23. Section 17, Licensed Dietitian Act (Article 4512h, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes), is amended by amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsections (e) and (f) to read as follows:

(a) The board shall revoke or suspend a license, place on probation a person whose ~~probate a~~ license has been suspended ~~[suspension]~~, or reprimand a licensee for ~~[on proof of]~~:

(1) any violation of this Act; or

(2) any violation of a rule or code of ethics adopted by the board.

(e) If a license suspension is probated, the board may require the licensee to:

(1) report regularly to the board on matters that are the basis of the probation;

(2) limit practice to the areas prescribed by the board; or

(3) continue or review continuing professional education until the licensee attains a degree of skill satisfactory to the board in those areas that are the basis of the probation.

(f) The schedule of sanctions adopted by the board by rule shall be used by the State Office of Administrative Hearings for any sanction imposed as the result of a hearing conducted by that office.

SECTION 24. The Licensed Dietitian Act (Article 4512h, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes) is amended by adding Section 18A to read as follows:

Sec. 18A. OFFICIAL SEAL. (a) The board by rule may require that each licensee obtain an authorized seal of the design authorized by the board, bearing the licensee's name and the legend "Licensed Dietitian."

(b) The board by rule may require that formal documentation of nutrition services provided by a licensed dietitian, as determined necessary and appropriate by the board, must include the licensee's seal affixed to the document.

(c) If the board exercises the authority granted by this section, the rules adopted by the board shall authorize a licensed dietitian providing services in a facility licensed under the Health and Safety Code or on behalf of an agency of local, state, or federal government, or in such other circumstances as the board determines reasonable and necessary, to maintain a facsimile of the seal of the licensee on file in such facility or with such agency in satisfaction

of the requirements of Subsection (b) of this section. The facsimile of the seal of the licensee shall be maintained on file at all times during which the licensee provides such services.

(d) It shall be unlawful for any person to affix a seal on any document if the license of the licensee named thereon has expired or has been suspended or revoked, unless such license shall have been renewed or reissued.

(e) A violation of this section or the rules adopted by the board pursuant to this section shall subject a licensee to disciplinary action by the board in accordance with this chapter.

(f) Use of a seal authorized by the board by a person not licensed under this Act is a prohibited act under Section 15 of this Act and may be punished accordingly.

SECTION 25. Section 19, Licensed Dietitian Act (Article 4512h, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes), is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 19. SUNSET PROVISION. The Texas State Board of Examiners of Dietitians is subject to Chapter 325, Government Code (Texas Sunset Act). Unless continued in existence as provided by that chapter, the board is abolished September 1, 2005 [1993].

SECTION 26. This Act takes effect September 1, 1993.

SECTION 27. The importance of this legislation and the crowded condition of the calendars in both houses create an emergency and an imperative public necessity that the constitutional rule requiring bills to be read on three several days in each house be suspended, and this rule is hereby suspended.

Passed the Senate on May 5, 1993, by a viva-voce vote; May 19, 1993, Senate refused to concur in House amendments and requested appointment of Conference Committee; May 22, 1993, House granted request of the Senate; May 26, 1993, Senate adopted Conference Committee Report by a viva-voce vote; passed the House, with amendments, on May 18, 1993, by a non-record vote; May 22, 1993, House granted request of the Senate for appointment of Conference Committee; May 27, 1993, House adopted Conference Committee Report by a non-record vote.

Approved June 11, 1993.

Effective Sept. 1, 1993.