

November 30, 2012

The Honorable Joan Carter Conway, Chair  
Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee  
Miller Senate Office Building, 2 East Wing  
11 Bladen St.  
Annapolis, MD 21401

The Honorable Dereck E. Davis, Chairman  
House Economic Matters Committee  
House Office Building, Room 231  
6 Bladen St.  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Chair Conway and Chairman Davis:

I herewith transmit on behalf of the Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation and the State Board of Examiners of Landscape Architects, the follow-up report required by Chapter 132 of 2010 and specified in the 2009 *Preliminary Evaluation of the State Board of Examiners of Landscape Architects* published in December 2009.

I apologize on behalf of the Department and the Board for our failure to submit this report by the specified October 1, 2011, deadline.

Should you or any of your committee members have follow-up questions or concerns regarding the report, please do not hesitate to contact me directly. I can be reached by telephone at (410) 230-6225 or by e-mail at [mvorgetts@dllr.state.md.us](mailto:mvorgetts@dllr.state.md.us).

Sincerely,



Michael Vorgetts  
Deputy Commissioner

cc: Leonard J. Howie, III, Secretary  
Harry Loleas, Commissioner of Occupational and Professional Licensing  
Christopher Schein, Chair  
Pamela Edwards, Executive Director  
Jill Porter, Legislative Director  
Laura McCarty, Senior Manager  
Jennifer Chasse, Principal Policy Analyst  
Sara Fidler, Committee Analyst  
Laura Atas, Committee Analyst

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**FOLLOW-UP REPORT TO THE SENATE EDUCATION, HEALTH, AND  
ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE AND THE HOUSE ECONOMIC  
MATTERS COMMITTEE**

Uncodified language included in Chapter 132 of 2010 required the State Board of Examiners of Landscape Architects, in conjunction with the Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation (DLLR), to submit a follow-up report to the Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee and the House Economic Matters Committee by October 1, 2011, to address several issues identified in the 2009 Sunset Evaluation of the State Board of Examiners of Landscape Architects conducted by the Department of Legislative Services (DLS). Specifically, Chapter 132 required the Board and DLLR to report on the following issues:

1. the institution of continuing education requirements for landscape architects; and
2. the appropriateness of allowing individuals who have a college degree in a field related to landscape architecture to sit for the licensing examination under the academic option as described in § 9-203 of the Business Occupations and Professions Article.

DLLR and the Board have submitted the following comments regarding the issues raised in the 2009 sunset evaluation.

**1. The institution of continuing education requirements for landscape architects.**

Based upon the DLS recommendation, the Board regularly discussed the issue of establishing continuing education requirements for landscape architects. As part of its deliberations, the Board reviewed continuing education requirements of neighboring states and similar professions, and met with industry representatives to get input on implementing a continuing education program. Representatives of the Maryland Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA) attended Board meetings and, in a June 14, 2011, letter, the President of the Maryland Chapter ASLA expressed support for continuing education for Maryland licensees. After substantial deliberations, the Board has determined that continuing education requirements would be a benefit to the profession, and the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of Maryland. The Board intends to have the proposal formally implemented by the fall of 2013.

**2. The appropriateness of allowing individuals who have a college degree in a related field to sit for the licensing examination.**

Chapter 212 of 2011, which went into effect on October 1, 2011, specified that applicants holding a design-related degree and a nondesign-related degree can now qualify after obtaining commensurate work experience.