



**House  
Legislative  
Analysis  
Section**

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**PROFESSIONAL SURVEYORS**

**House Bill 4726**

**Sponsor: Rep. James A. Kosteva**

**Committee: State Affairs**

**Complete to 6-18-91**

**A SUMMARY OF HOUSE BILL 4726 AS INTRODUCED 5-8-91**

Article 20 of the Occupational Code regulates architects, land surveyors, and "professional" engineers. The bill would amend the code (MCL 339.2001 et al.) to change the reference from "land surveyor" to that of "professional surveyor" (the bill would keep the existing definition for the new term) and to redefine the practice of surveying.

The Occupational Code defines a "land surveyor" as someone "who, by reason of knowledge of law, mathematics, physical sciences, and techniques of measuring land acquired by professional education and practical experience, is qualified to engage in the practice of land surveying." The bill would retain this definition for "professional surveyor," substituting only "professional surveying" for "land surveying."

The code also defines the "practice of land surveying" to mean "the surveying of an area for its correct determination, description, and conveyancing, or for the establishment or reestablishment of a land boundary and the plotting of land and subdivisions of land." The bill would strike this definition and instead define the "practice of professional surveying" to mean "providing professional services such as consultation, investigation, testimony, evaluation, planning, mapping, assembling, and interpreting reliable scientific measurements and information relative to the location, size, shape, or physical features of the earth, improvements on the earth, the space above the earth, or any part of the earth, and the utilization and development of these facts and interpretations into an orderly survey map, plan, report, description or project." Professional land surveying would include all of the following:

- \* "land surveying which is the surveying of an area for its correct determination or description for its conveyance, or for the establishment or reestablishment of a land boundary and the designing or design coordination of the plotting of land and the subdivision of land";

- \* geodetic surveying which includes surveying for determination of the size and shape of the earth both horizontally and vertically and the precise positioning of points on the earth utilizing angular and linear measurements through spatially oriented spherical geometry";

- \* "utilizing and managing land information systems through establishment of datums and local coordinate systems and points of reference";

- \* "engineering and architectural surveying for design and construction layout of infrastructure"; and

- \* "cartographic surveying for the making of maps, including topographic and hydrographic mapping."