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**LICENSES AND PERMITS:** Reciprocity.

**ARCHITECTS:** Licensure acquired by reciprocity.

**ENGINEERS:** Licensure acquired by reciprocity.

**LAND SURVEYORS:** Licensure acquired by reciprocity.

After January 1, 1977 an architect, engineer or land surveyor who does not possess a baccalaureate degree acceptable to the Board may not be admitted to practice in Michigan by reciprocity.

An individual who obtains registration as an architect, engineer or land surveyor in a state other than Michigan prior to January 1, 1977, but does not possess a baccalaureate degree acceptable to the Board, may not be admitted to practice in Michigan after January 1, 1977.

Opinion No. 5044

August 3, 1976.

Mr. Jack C. Sharpe, Admin. Sec'y.  
Board of Registration for Architects,  
Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors  
1116 South Washington Avenue  
Lansing, Michigan 48926

In your letter of May 18, 1976 you posed the following questions with regard to 1937 PA 240; MCLA 338.551 *et seq*; MSA 18.84(1) *et seq*, for my consideration:

"1. If an individual obtains registration in his home state prior to January 1, 1977, and he does not possess a bachelors degree, can he apply for registration in Michigan based upon Section 20 of the Registration Act after January 1, 1977?

"2. If an individual obtains registration in his home state after January 1, 1977, and he does not possess a bachelors degree as required by Section 12 of the Michigan Registration Act, can he be granted registration in Michigan pursuant to Section 20 of the Registration Act?"

1937 PA 240, *supra*, § 20, provides as follows:

"The board may, upon application therefor, and the payment of a fee of \$70.00, issue a certificate of registration as an architect, a professional engineer, or land surveyor to any person who holds an appropriate certificate of qualification or registration issued to the person by proper authority of a board of registration examiners of another state or jurisdiction or national council acceptable to the board if the requirements for the registration of architects, professional engineers, or land surveyors under which the certificate of qualification or registration was issued do not conflict with the provisions of this act *and are of a standard not lower than that specified in section 12* and if equal reciprocal privileges are granted to registrants of this state." (emphasis added)

1937 PA 240, *supra*, § 12, provides in pertinent part:

“(1) An applicant for examination for registration shall have had not less than 8 years of professional experience in architectural or engineering work or land surveying satisfactory to the board including up to 6 years of education satisfactory to the board.

“*Beginning January 1, 1977 an applicant for registration shall have a baccalaureate degree acceptable to the board. A person who has commenced the taking of examinations provided under this act shall be permitted to complete the taking of those examinations notwithstanding any provisions hereto to the contrary.*

“\* \* \*

“(4) The board shall issue certificates of registration only to those applicants who meet the requirements of this section.” (emphasis added)

1937 PA 240, § 12, *supra*, sets forth the prerequisites that must be possessed by an applicant to entitle him to take an examination for registration, and contains the provision quoted above which provides that as of January 1, 1977 an applicant must possess an acceptable baccalaureate degree in order to take the examination. 1937 PA 240, § 12(4), *supra*, states that the Board may only issue certificates to applicants who meet the requirements of the section.

1937 PA 240, § 20, *supra*, establishes the minimum standards that will allow a nonresident of Michigan to be admitted by reciprocity to practice under 1937 PA 240, *supra*. That section provides that the nonresident may be admitted by reciprocity to practice architecture, engineering or land surveying only if the qualifications and requirements of his state of registry do not conflict with the provisions of the Michigan act and are of a standard not lower than that specified in 1937 PA 240, § 12, *supra*.

It is clear that as of January 1, 1977 any state that has admitted or continues to admit applicants to practice architecture, engineering or land surveying who do not possess a baccalaureate degree, will have done so under a standard lower than the one provided for in 1937 PA 240, § 12, *supra*. It is therefore my opinion that these persons will not be entitled to be admitted to practice in Michigan by reciprocity.

FRANK J. KELLEY,  
*Attorney General.*