

## Senate Bill No. 1563

### CHAPTER 678

An act to amend Sections 8741, 8761, 8762, 8771, and 8773.2 of the Business and Professions Code, and to amend Section 66466 of the Government Code, relating to land surveyors.

[Approved by Governor September 24, 2000. Filed  
with Secretary of State September 26, 2000.]

#### LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1563, Leslie. Real property.

(1) Existing law, with respect to licensure under the Professional Land Surveyors' Act, authorizes the Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors to prescribe by regulation reasonable educational or experience requirements but not to exceed 2 years of postsecondary education in land surveying for admission to the first division of the licensure examination.

This bill would require the board to prescribe by regulation reasonable educational or experience requirements to include 2 years of postsecondary education in land surveying, 2 years experience in land surveying, or a combination of one year of postsecondary education and one year of experience in land surveying for admission to the first division of the examination.

(2) Existing law requires every map or plat issued by a licensed land surveyor or registered civil engineer to show the bearing and length of lines, scale of map and north arrow, the name and legal designation of the property depicted, and the date or time period of the preparation of the map or plat.

This bill would delete the requirement that these items be included on each map or plat issued by a licensed land surveyor or registered civil engineer.

(3) Existing law requires the perpetuation by specified means of the location of monuments that control the location of boundaries and improvements or that provide survey control when a highway, right-of-way, or easement is improved, constructed, reconstructed, or relocated.

This bill would additionally impose this requirement when a highway, right-of-way, or easement is maintained or resurfaced and would specify that it applies only if the monument could be destroyed, damaged, covered, or otherwise obliterated as a result of these activities.

(4) Existing law provides for the filing of a record of survey, after the making of a field survey with the county surveyor, and the record of survey to thereafter be filed with the county recorder.

This bill would require the county recorder to provide the preparer of the map with the filing data, as defined, within 10 days of the filing if a postage-paid, self-addressed envelope or postcard was submitted by the preparer. The bill would also require the county surveyor to provide the preparer of a corner record with applicable filing data, as defined, within 20 days of a final filing if a postage-paid, self-addressed envelope or postcard was submitted by the preparer and the county surveyor's office does not maintain an electronic data base of filed corner records that is accessible to the public. The bill would also make certain clarifying changes in the act, and conforming changes in provisions of the Subdivision Map Act, as specified. The bill would impose a state-mandated local program because it requires local officials to provide a higher level of service.

(5) This bill would incorporate additional changes in Sections 8761 and 8771 of the Business and Professions Code proposed by SB 1863, to become operative only if both bills are enacted and become operative on or before January 1, 2001, and this bill is enacted last.

(6) The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

SECTION 1. Section 8741 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

8741. (a) The first division of the examination shall test the applicant's fundamental knowledge of surveying, mathematics, and basic science. The board shall prescribe by regulation reasonable educational or experience requirements including two years of postsecondary education in land surveying, two years of experience in land surveying, or a combination of one year of postsecondary education and one year of experience in land surveying for admission to the first division of the examination. Applicants who have passed the engineer-in-training examination, or who hold professional engineer registration, are exempt from this division of the examination.

The second division of the examination shall test the applicant's ability to apply his or her knowledge and experience and to assume responsible charge in the professional practice of land surveying.

(b) The applicant for the second division examination shall have successfully passed the first division examination, or shall be exempt therefrom. The applicant shall be thoroughly familiar with (1) the procedure and rules governing the survey of public lands as set forth in "Manual of Surveying Instructions," published by the Bureau of



Land Management, Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. and (2) the principles of real property relating to boundaries and conveyancing.

(c) The board may by rule provide for a waiver of the first division of the examination for applicants whose education and experience qualifications substantially exceed the requirements of Section 8742.

(d) The board may by rule provide for a waiver of the second division of the examination and the assignment to a special examination for those applicants whose educational qualifications are equal to, and whose experience qualifications substantially exceed, those qualifications established under subdivision (c). The special examination may be either written or oral, or a combination of both.

SEC. 2. Section 8761 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

8761. Any licensed land surveyor or registered civil engineer may practice land surveying and prepare maps, plats, reports, descriptions, or other documentary evidence in connection with that practice. All maps, plats, reports, descriptions, or other documents issued by the licensed land surveyor or registered civil engineer shall be signed by the surveyor or engineer to indicate the surveyor's or engineer's responsibility for them. In addition to the signature, the map, plat, report, description, or other document shall bear the seal or stamp of the licensee or registrant and the expiration date of the license or registration. If the map, plat, report, description, or other document has multiple pages or sheets, the signature, seal or stamp, and expiration date of the license or registration need only appear on the originals of the map or plat and on the title sheet of the report, description, or other document.

It is unlawful for any person to sign, stamp, seal, or approve any map, plat, report, description, or other document unless the person is authorized to practice land surveying.

SEC. 2.5. Section 8761 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

8761. Any licensed land surveyor or registered civil engineer may practice land surveying and prepare maps, plats, reports, descriptions, or other documentary evidence in connection with that practice. All maps, plats, reports, descriptions, or other documents issued by the licensed land surveyor or registered civil engineer shall be signed by the surveyor or engineer to indicate the surveyor's or engineer's responsibility for them. In addition to the signature, the map, plat, report, description, or other document shall bear the seal or stamp of the licensee or registrant and the expiration date of the license or registration. If the map, plat, report, description, or other document has multiple pages or sheets, the signature, seal or stamp, and expiration date of the license or registration need only appear on the originals of the map or plat and on the title sheet of the report, description, or other document.



It is unlawful for any person to sign, stamp, seal, or approve any map, plat, report, description, or other document unless the person is authorized to practice land surveying.

It is unlawful for any person to stamp or seal any map, plat, report, description, or other document with the seal after the certificate of the licensee that is named on the seal has expired or has been suspended or revoked, unless the certificate has been renewed or reissued.

SEC. 3. Section 8762 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

8762. After making a field survey in conformity with the practice of land surveying, the surveyor or civil engineer may file with the county surveyor in the county in which the survey was made, a record of the survey.

After making a field survey in conformity with the practice of land surveying, the licensed land surveyor or registered civil engineer shall file with the county surveyor in the county in which the field survey was made a record of the survey relating to land boundaries or property lines, if the field survey discloses any of the following:

(a) Material evidence or physical change, which in whole or in part does not appear on any subdivision map, official map, or record of survey previously recorded or properly filed in the office of the county recorder or county surveying department, or map or survey record maintained by the Bureau of Land Management of the United States.

(b) A material discrepancy with the information contained in any subdivision map, official map, or record of survey previously recorded or filed in the office of the county recorder or the county surveying department, or any map or survey record maintained by the Bureau of Land Management of the United States. For purposes of this subdivision, a “material discrepancy” is limited to a material discrepancy in the position of points or lines, or in dimensions.

(c) Evidence that, by reasonable analysis, might result in materially alternate positions of lines or points, shown on any subdivision map, official map, or record of survey previously recorded or filed in the office of the county recorder or the county surveying department, or any map or survey record maintained by the Bureau of Land Management of the United States.

(d) The establishment of one or more points or lines not shown on any subdivision map, official map, or record of survey, the positions of which are not ascertainable from an inspection of the subdivision map, official map, or record of survey.

(e) The points or lines set during the performance of a field survey of any parcel described in any deed or other instrument of title recorded in the county recorder’s office are not shown on any subdivision map, official map, or record of survey.



The record of survey required to be filed pursuant to this section shall be filed within 90 days after the setting of boundary monuments during the performance of a field survey or within 90 days after completion of a field survey, whichever occurs first.

If the 90-day time limit contained in this section cannot be complied with for reasons beyond the control of the licensed land surveyor or registered civil engineer, the 90-day time period shall be extended until the time at which the reasons for delay are eliminated. If the licensed land surveyor or registered civil engineer cannot comply with the 90-day time limit, he or she shall, prior to the expiration of the 90-day time limit, provide the county surveyor with a letter stating that he or she is unable to comply. The letter shall provide an estimate of the date for completion of the record of survey, the reasons for the delay, and a general statement as to the location of the survey, including the assessor's parcel number or numbers.

The licensed land surveyor or registered civil engineer shall not initially be required to provide specific details of the survey. However, if other surveys at the same location are performed by others which may affect or be affected by the survey, the licensed land surveyor or registered civil engineer shall then provide information requested by the county surveyor without unreasonable delay.

Any record of survey filed with the county surveyor shall, after being examined by him or her, be filed with the county recorder. The county recorder shall provide the preparer of the map with the filing data within 10 days of the filing of the map.

SEC. 4. Section 8771 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

8771. (a) Monuments set shall be sufficient in number and durability and efficiently placed so as not to be readily disturbed, to assure, together with monuments already existing, the perpetuation or facile reestablishment of any point or line of the survey.

(b) When monuments exist that control the location of subdivisions, tracts, boundaries, roads, streets, or highways, or provide survey control, the monuments shall be located and referenced by or under the direction of a licensed land surveyor or registered civil engineer prior to the time when any streets, highways, other rights-of-way, or easements are improved, constructed, reconstructed, maintained, resurfaced, or relocated, and a corner record or record of survey of the references shall be filed with the county surveyor. They shall be reset in the surface of the new construction, a suitable monument box placed thereon, or permanent witness monuments set to perpetuate their location if any monument could be destroyed, damaged, covered, or otherwise obliterated, and a corner record or record of survey filed with the county surveyor prior to the recording of a certificate of completion



for the project. Sufficient controlling monuments shall be retained or replaced in their original positions to enable property, right-of-way and easement lines, property corners, and subdivision and tract boundaries to be reestablished without devious surveys necessarily originating on monuments differing from those that currently control the area. It shall be the responsibility of the governmental agency or others performing construction work to provide for the monumentation required by this section. It shall be the duty of every land surveyor or civil engineer to cooperate with the governmental agency in matters of maps, field notes, and other pertinent records. Monuments set to mark the limiting lines of highways, roads, streets or right-of-way or easement lines shall not be deemed adequate for this purpose unless specifically noted on the corner record or record of survey of the improvement works with direct ties in bearing or azimuth and distance between these and other monuments of record.

(c) The decision to file the required corner record or a record of survey shall be at the election of the licensed land surveyor or registered civil engineer submitting the document.

SEC. 4.5. Section 8771 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

8771. (a) Monuments set shall be sufficient in number and durability and efficiently placed so as not to be readily disturbed, to assure, together with monuments already existing, the perpetuation or facile reestablishment of any point or line of the survey.

(b) When monuments exist that control the location of subdivisions, tracts, boundaries, roads, streets, or highways, or provide survey control, the monuments shall be located and referenced by or under the direction of a licensed land surveyor or registered civil engineer prior to the time when any streets, highways, other rights-of-way, or easements are improved, constructed, reconstructed, maintained, resurfaced, or relocated, and a corner record or record of survey of the references shall be filed with the county surveyor. They shall be reset in the surface of the new construction, a suitable monument box placed thereon, or permanent witness monuments set to perpetuate their location if any monument could be destroyed, damaged, covered, or otherwise obliterated, and a corner record or record of survey filed with the county surveyor prior to the recording of a certificate of completion for the project. Sufficient controlling monuments shall be retained or replaced in their original positions to enable property, right-of-way and easement lines, property corners, and subdivision and tract boundaries to be reestablished without devious surveys necessarily originating on monuments differing from those that currently control the area. It shall be the responsibility of the governmental agency or others performing construction work to provide for the monumentation required by this section. It shall be the duty of every



land surveyor or civil engineer to cooperate with the governmental agency in matters of maps, field notes, and other pertinent records. Monuments set to mark the limiting lines of highways, roads, streets or right-of-way or easement lines shall not be deemed adequate for this purpose unless specifically noted on the corner record or record of survey of the improvement works with direct ties in bearing or azimuth and distance between these and other monuments of record.

(c) The decision to file either the required corner record or a record of survey pursuant to subdivision (b) shall be at the election of the licensed land surveyor or registered civil engineer submitting the document.

SEC. 5. Section 8773.2 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

8773.2. (a) A “corner record” submitted to the county surveyor or engineer shall be examined by him or her for compliance with subdivision (d) of Section 8765 and Sections 8773, 8773.1, and 8773.4, endorsed with a statement of his or her examination, and filed with the county surveyor or returned to the submitting party within 20 working days after receipt.

(b) In the event the submitted “corner record” fails to comply with the examination criteria of subdivision (a), the county surveyor or engineer shall return it to the person who submitted it together with a written statement of the changes necessary to make it conform to the requirements of subdivision (a). The licensed land surveyor or registered civil engineer submitting the corner record may then make the changes in compliance with subdivision (a) and resubmit the corner record for filing. The county surveyor or engineer shall file the corner record within 10 working days after receipt of the resubmission.

(c) If the matters appearing on the corner record cannot be agreed upon by the licensed land surveyor or the registered civil engineer and the county surveyor within 10 working days after the licensed land surveyor or registered civil engineer resubmits and requests the corner record be filed without further change, an explanation of the differences shall be noted on the corner record and it shall be submitted to and filed by the county surveyor. When the county surveyor places an explanatory note on a corner record, the county surveyor shall transmit a copy of the filed corner record within 10 working days of the filing to the licensed land surveyor or registered civil engineer who submitted the corner record.

(d) The corner record filed with the county surveyor of any county shall be securely fastened by him or her into a suitable book provided for that purpose.

(e) A charge for examining, indexing, and filing the corner record may be collected by the county surveyor, not to exceed the amount required for the recording of a deed.



(f) If the preparer of the corner record provides a postage-paid, self-addressed envelope or postcard with the filing of the corner record, the county surveyor shall provide the preparer of the corner record with the filing data within 20 days of final filing. For the purposes of this subdivision, “filing data” includes the date, book or volume, and the page at which the corner record is filed by the county surveyor. This subdivision shall not apply to a county surveyor’s office that maintains an electronic data base of filed corner records that is accessible to the public by reference to the preparer’s license number.

SEC. 6. Section 66466 of the Government Code is amended to read:

66466. (a) The county recorder shall have not more than 10 days within which to examine a final or parcel map and either accept or reject it for filing.

(b) If the county recorder rejects a final or parcel map for filing, the county recorder shall, within 10 days thereafter, mail notice to the subdivider and the city engineer if the map is within a city, or the county surveyor if the map is within the unincorporated area, that the map has been rejected for filing, giving the reasons therefor, and that the map is being returned to the city clerk if the map is within a city, or to the clerk of the board if the map is within the unincorporated area, for action by the legislative body. Upon receipt of the map, the clerk shall place the map on the agenda of the next regular meeting of the legislative body and the legislative body shall, within 15 days thereafter, rescind its approval of the map and return the map to the subdivider unless the subdivider presents evidence that the basis for the rejection by the county recorder has been removed. The subdivider may consent to a continuance of the matter; however, the prior approval of the legislative body shall be deemed rescinded during any period of continuance. If a map is returned to the county recorder, the county recorder shall have a new 10-day period to examine the map and either accept or reject it for filing.

(c) If the county recorder accepts the map for filing, the acceptance shall be certified on the face thereof. The map shall be securely fastened in a book of subdivision maps, in a book of parcel maps, or in a book of cities and towns which shall be kept for that purpose, or in any other manner as will assure that the maps will be kept together. The map shall become a part of the official records of the county recorder upon its acceptance by the county recorder for filing. If the preparer of the map provides a postage-paid, self-addressed envelope or postcard with the filing of the map, the county recorder shall provide the preparer of the map with the filing data within 10 days of the filing of the map. For the purposes of this subdivision, “filing data” includes the date, book or volume, and the page at which the map is filed by the county recorder.



(d) The fee for filing and indexing the map is as prescribed in Section 27372 of the Government Code.

(e) The original map shall be stored for safekeeping in a reproducible condition. The county recorder may maintain for public reference a set of counter maps that are prints of the original maps and produce the original maps for comparison upon demand.

(f) Upon the filing of any map, including amended maps and certificates of correction for recordation pursuant to this section or any record of survey pursuant to the Professional Land Surveyors' Act (Chapter 15 (commencing with Section 8700) of Division 3 of the Business and Professions Code), the surveyor or engineer who prepared the document shall transmit a copy of the document, including all recording information, to the county surveyor, who shall maintain an index, by geographic location, of the documents. The county surveyor may charge a fee not to exceed the fee charged for recording the document, for purposes of financing the costs of maintaining the index of the documents.

The requirements of this subdivision shall not apply to any county that requires a document filed pursuant to this section to be transmitted to the county surveyor and requires that official to maintain an index of those documents.

SEC. 7. Section 2.5 of this bill incorporates amendments to Section 8761 of the Business and Professions Code proposed by both this bill and SB 1863. It shall only become operative if (1) both bills are enacted and become effective on or before January 1, 2001, (2) each bill amends Section 8761 of the Business and Professions Code, and (3) this bill is enacted after SB 1863, in which case Section 2 of this bill shall not become operative.

SEC. 8. Section 4.5 of this bill incorporates amendments to Section 8771 of the Business and Professions Code proposed by both this bill and SB 1863. It shall only become operative if (1) both bills are enacted and become effective on or before January 1, 2001, (2) each bill amends Section 8771 of the Business and Professions Code, and (3) this bill is enacted after SB 1863, in which case Section 4 of this bill shall not become operative.

SEC. 9. No reimbursement is required by this act pursuant to Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution because a local agency or school district has the authority to levy service charges, fees, or assessments sufficient to pay for the program or level of service mandated by this act, within the meaning of Section 17556 of the Government Code.

