

**ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION - 2019**  
**COMMITTEE STATEMENT**  
**LB30**

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**Hearing Date:** Friday January 25, 2019  
**Committee On:** Government, Military and Veterans Affairs  
**Introducer:** Kolterman  
**One Liner:** Change and eliminate provisions under the Professional Landscape Architects Act

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**Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:**  
Advanced to General File with amendment(s)

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**Vote Results:**  
**Aye:** 7 Senators Blood, Brewer, Hansen, M., Hunt, Kolowski, La Grone, Lowe  
**Nay:**  
**Absent:** 1 Senator Hilgers  
**Present Not Voting:**

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**Oral Testimony:**

**Proponents:**

Senator Mark Kolterman  
Dennis E. Bryers  
Eileen Bergt  
John Royster  
Vanessa Silke

**Representing:**

Introducer  
Landscape Architect Profession  
Nebraska State Board of Landscape Architects  
NE Professional Landscape Architect  
Baird Holm

**Opponents:**

**Representing:**

**Neutral:**

Laura Ebke

**Representing:**

Platte Institute

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**Summary of purpose and/or changes:**

This bill would change statutes governing landscape architects, their interns, and the Board that governs the profession.

License applicants would be required to pay a fee, submit documents showing affiliation with the Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards, graduate from an accredited program, pass of an examination created by the State Board, three years experience (post-education) under supervision of a landscape architect, and good character and reputation. The bill provides for licensure of professionals previously licensed in other jurisdictions. Examination records would not be considered public records. The bill sets out requirements for usage of an official seal by licensed landscape architects.

The bill also adds new requirements for appointees to the State Board of Landscape Architects to demonstrate five years experience in the field. Terms would be limited to five years. The Board with be authorized to expend funds for promotion of the new license and to impose new fees. The State Board's power to enforce its decisions and seek injunctions against those not in compliance is also revised by this bill, and new procedural details are added regarding investigation and disposition of complaints.

The bill significantly enhances criminal penalties for violation of the act from a Class III Misdemeanor to a Class I Misdemeanor (first offense) or Class IV Felony (subsequent offenses).

Finally, the bill provides requirements for a coordinating professional for design projects involving more than one design professional.

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**Explanation of amendments:**

The committee amendment, AM 380, removes enhanced criminal penalties, clarifies that character evidence will be in the form of professional references, and removes language relating to expanded internship requirements.

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Tom Brewer, Chairperson