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FLORIDA

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NEW
REGULATORY
LAW
IN
SOUTH
CAROLINA



LEGISLATIVE REPORT

June 24, 1969

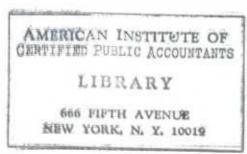
Vol. 5, No. 5

The long-standing dispute between members of the Florida Institute and out-of-state accounting firms appears to have reached an amicable settlement. Legislation drafted after lengthy negotiations between the Florida Institute and out-of-state firms under which Florida CPA partnerships may practice as agents in the names of out-of-state firms was enacted early this month. The new law contains detailed provisions regulating agency relationships, particularly in defining unethical conduct.

The Florida rules on temporary practice were also amended to provide that the application for a temporary practice permit would constitute the appointment of the secretary of state as an agent for service of process in the event that litigation arose from the temporary engagement.

Out-of-state CPAs applying for a reciprocal certificate will have to meet new requirements under the legislation. To qualify for the issuance of a Florida certificate by waiver of examination, a CPA of another state will have to show that 1) he meets the education requirements necessary to sit for the CPA examination, 2) he is both a resident and a domiciliary of Florida, 3) he intends to enter into the full-time, year-round practice of public accounting, and 4) he is morally and technically fit. Failure of the holder of a Florida reciprocal certificate to be domiciled in Florida and to practice public accounting in the state on a full-time basis for three continuous years immediately after the issuance of the certificate will be grounds for the revocation of the certificate.

South Carolina has followed Indiana in enacting a regulatory accounting law that will register on a grandfather basis a class of Public Accountants and license on a continuing basis a class of Accounting Practitioners. While for constitutional reasons Public Accountants will be permitted to render the same services as CPAs, Accounting Practitioners will be prohibited from performing the attest function. To qualify for an Accounting Practitioner license, a candidate will have to pass two parts of the CPA examination or hold



(over)

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a baccalaureate degree with a major in accounting. The South Carolina law follows closely the new statutory language on the attest function adopted by the Committee on State Legislation. South Carolina is now the 12th state to license on a continuing basis a class of accountants in addition to CPAs.

IN ILLINOIS AND IOWA

The Illinois Society's campaign to defeat legislation to license another class of accountants in Illinois has been successful. Rather than risk defeat, the sponsors of the bill voluntarily asked that it be tabled in committee.

During the closing minutes of the legislative session in Iowa, sponsors of a bill to license a continuing class of "Licensed Accountants" to perform the same services as CPAs were successful in dislodging the bill from committee and placing it on the calendar of the Iowa House of Representatives, where it may be called up for a vote in 1970.

TAX PREPARERS BILL

The Tennessee Legislature recently enacted a law prohibiting the preparation of certain state tax returns for a fee, excluding income tax returns, in certain counties of Tennessee by persons other than lawyers, CPAs, or public accountants. The law is a much watered-down version of a bill sponsored by Tennessee public accountants to restrict the preparation of all state tax returns to lawyers, CPAs, and public accountants. (See <u>LR</u> Vol. 5, No. 3.)

ETHICS CODE

The State Board of Certified Public Accountants of Louisiana has adopted a Code of Professional Ethics. There are now only six jurisdictions without rules of professional conduct. They are the District of Columbia, Illinois, Indiana, Maryland, Virginia, and the Virgin Islands.

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Attached is a tabulation on "State Accounting Laws."
Also available on request from the Legislative Advisory
Service is a recent tabulation on licensing requirements
for Public Accountants and Accounting Practitioners.

STATE PUBLIC ACCOUNTING LAWS

STATE	FIRST ACCOUNTING LAW	LAW BECAME REGULATORY	STATE	FIRST ACCOUNTING LAW	LAW BECAME REGULATORY
Alabama	1919		Nevada	1913	1960
Alaska	1937	1949*	New Hampshire	1921	
Arizona	1919	1933,1955*	New Jersey	1904	
Arkansas	1915		New Mexico	1921	1947*
California	1901	1945	New York	1896	1959
Colorado	1907	1937	North Carolina	1913	1925
Connecticut	1907	1955	North Dakota	1913	
Delaware	1913		Ohio	1908	1959*
Dist. of Col.	1923		Oklahoma	1917	1968*
Florida	1905	1927	Oregon	1913	1951*
Georgia	1908	1943*	Pennsylvania	1899	
Hawaii	1923	1955	Rhode Island	1906	1962
Idaho	1919		South Carolina	1915	1969**
Illinois	1903	1927,1943	South Dakota	1917	1961*
Indiana	1921	1969**	Tennessee	1913	1955*
Iowa	1915	1929	Texas	1915	1945
Kansas Kentucky Louisiana Maine	1915 1916 1908 1913	1946 1924 1967	Utah Vermont Virginia Washington	1907 1912 1910 1903	1959 1953* 1928 1949
Maryland	1907	1924	West Virginia Wisconsin Wyoming Puerto Rico	1911	1959
Massachusetts	1909	1963		1913	1935
Michigan	1905	1925		1911	
Minnesota	1909			1927	1945
Mississippi Missouri Montana Nebraska	1920 1909 1909 1909	1930 1943 1969* 1957	Virgin Islands Guam	1942 1967	1957 1967
			TOTALS	54	42

^{*} Law provides for continuing registration of Public Accountants, who are entitled to render the same services as CPAs.

^{**} Law provides for the licensing of Accounting Practitioners, who are not permitted to perform the attest function.

⁻⁻ Law remains permissive, only CPAs are licensed and only the use of the CPA title is regulated.