

AN ACT concerning regulation.

**Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,
represented in the General Assembly:**

Section 5. The Electronic Commerce Security Act is amended by changing Section 5-120 as follows:

(5 ILCS 175/5-120)

Sec. 5-120. Electronic signatures.

(a) Where a rule of law requires a signature, or provides for certain consequences if a document is not signed, an electronic signature satisfies that rule of law.

(a-5) In the course of exercising any permitting, licensing, or other regulatory function, a municipality may accept, but shall not require, documents with an electronic signature, including, but not limited to, the technical submissions of a design professional with an electronic signature.

(b) An electronic signature may be proved in any manner, including by showing that a procedure existed by which a party must of necessity have executed a symbol or security procedure for the purpose of verifying that an electronic record is that of such party in order to proceed further with a transaction.

(c) The provisions of this Section shall not apply:

(1) when its application would involve a construction

of a rule of law that is clearly inconsistent with the manifest intent of the lawmaking body or repugnant to the context of the same rule of law, provided that the mere requirement of a "signature" or that a record be "signed" shall not by itself be sufficient to establish such intent;

(2) to any rule of law governing the creation or execution of a will or trust, living will, or healthcare power of attorney; and

(3) to any record that serves as a unique and transferable instrument of rights and obligations including, without limitation, negotiable instruments and other instruments of title wherein possession of the instrument is deemed to confer title, unless an electronic version of such record is created, stored, and transferred in a manner that allows for the existence of only one unique, identifiable, and unalterable original with the functional attributes of an equivalent physical instrument, that can be possessed by only one person, and which cannot be copied except in a form that is readily identifiable as a copy.

(Source: P.A. 90-759, eff. 7-1-99.)

Section 10. The Illinois Architecture Practice Act of 1989 is amended by changing Section 14 as follows:

(225 ILCS 305/14) (from Ch. 111, par. 1314)

(Section scheduled to be repealed on January 1, 2020)

Sec. 14. Display of license; Seal. Every holder of a license as a licensed architect shall display it in a conspicuous place in the principal office of the architect.

Every licensed architect shall have a reproducible seal, or facsimile, the print of which shall contain the name of the architect, the license number, and the words "Licensed Architect, State of Illinois". The licensed architect shall affix the signature, current date, date of license expiration and seal to the first sheet of any bound set or loose sheets of technical submissions utilized as contract documents between the parties to the contract or prepared for the review and approval of any governmental or public authority having jurisdiction by that licensed architect or under that licensed architect's responsible control. The sheet of technical submissions in which the seal is affixed shall indicate those documents or parts thereof for which the seal shall apply. The seal and dates may be electronically affixed. The licensee may provide, at his or her sole discretion, an original signature in the licensee's handwriting, a scanned copy of the document bearing an original signature, or a signature generated by a computer. ~~The signature must be in the original handwriting of the licensee. Signatures generated by computer shall not be permitted.~~ All technical submissions issued by any corporation, partnership, professional service corporation, or professional design firm as registered under this Act shall

contain the corporate or assumed business name and design firm registration number, in addition to any other seal requirements as set forth in this Section.

"Responsible control" means that amount of control over and detailed professional knowledge of the content of technical submissions during their preparation as is ordinarily exercised by architects applying the required professional standard of care. Merely reviewing or reviewing and correcting the technical submissions or any portion thereof prepared by those not in the regular employment of the office where the architect is resident without control over the content of such work throughout its preparation does not constitute responsible control.

An architect licensed under the laws of this jurisdiction shall not sign and seal technical submissions that were not prepared by or under the responsible control of the architect except that:

(1) the architect may sign and seal those portions of the technical submissions that were prepared by or under the responsible control of persons who hold a license under this Act, and who shall have signed and sealed the documents, if the architect has reviewed in whole or in part such portions and has either coordinated their preparation or integrated them into his or her work;

(2) the architect may sign and seal portions of the professional work that are not required by this Act to be

prepared by or under the responsible control of an architect if the architect has reviewed and adopted in whole or in part such portions and has integrated them into his or her work; and

(3) a partner or corporate officer of a professional design firm registered in Illinois who is licensed under the architecture licensing laws of this State, and who has professional knowledge of the content of the technical submissions and intends to be responsible for the adequacy of the technical submissions, may sign and seal technical submissions that are prepared by or under the responsible control of architects who are licensed in this State and who are in the regular employment of the professional design firm.

The architect exercising responsible control under which the documents or portions of the documents were prepared shall be identified on the documents or portions of the documents by name and Illinois license number.

Any licensed architect who signs and seals technical submissions not prepared by that architect but prepared under the architect's responsible control by persons not regularly employed in the office where the architect is resident shall maintain and make available to the board upon request for at least 5 years following such signing and sealing, adequate and complete records demonstrating the nature and extent of the architect's control over and detailed professional knowledge

of such technical submissions throughout their preparation.

(Source: P.A. 91-133, eff. 1-1-00; 92-360, eff. 1-1-02.)

Section 15. The Professional Engineering Practice Act of 1989 is amended by changing Section 14 as follows:

(225 ILCS 325/14) (from Ch. 111, par. 5214)

(Section scheduled to be repealed on January 1, 2020)

Sec. 14. Seal. Every professional engineer shall have a seal or stamp, the print of which shall be reproducible and contain the name of the professional engineer, the professional engineer's license number, and the words "Licensed Professional Engineer of Illinois". Any reproducible stamp heretofore authorized under the laws of this state for use by a professional engineer, including those with the words "Registered Professional Engineer of Illinois", shall serve the same purpose as the seal provided for by this Act. The engineer shall be responsible for his seal and signature as defined by rule. When technical submissions are prepared utilizing a computer or other electronic means, the seal may be generated by the computer. The licensee may provide, at his or her sole discretion, an original signature in the licensee's handwriting, a scanned copy of the technical submission bearing an original signature, or a signature generated by a computer. ~~Signatures generated by computer shall not be permitted.~~

The use of a professional engineer's seal on technical

submissions constitutes a representation by the professional engineer that the work has been prepared by or under the personal supervision of the professional engineer or developed in conjunction with the use of accepted engineering standards. The use of the seal further represents that the work has been prepared and administered in accordance with the standards of reasonable professional skill and diligence.

It is unlawful to affix one's seal to technical submissions if it masks the true identity of the person who actually exercised direction, control and supervision of the preparation of such work. A professional engineer who seals and signs technical submissions is not responsible for damage caused by subsequent changes to or uses of those technical submissions, where the subsequent changes or uses, including changes or uses made by State or local governmental agencies, are not authorized or approved by the professional engineer who originally sealed and signed the technical submissions.

(Source: P.A. 96-626, eff. 8-24-09.)

Section 20. The Illinois Professional Land Surveyor Act of 1989 is amended by changing Section 15 as follows:

(225 ILCS 330/15) (from Ch. 111, par. 3265)

(Section scheduled to be repealed on January 1, 2020)

Sec. 15. Seal. Every Professional Land Surveyor shall have a reproducible seal or facsimile, which may be computer

generated, the impression of which shall contain the name of the land surveyor, his or her place of business, the license number, of the Professional Land Surveyor, and the words "Professional Land Surveyor, State of Illinois". ~~Signatures generated by computer or rubber stamp shall not be permitted.~~ A Professional Land Surveyor shall seal all documents prepared by or under the direct supervision and control of the Professional Land Surveyor. Any seal authorized or approved by the Department under the Illinois Land Surveyors Act shall serve the same purpose as the seal provided for by this Act. The licensee's written signature and date of signing along with the date of license expiration shall be placed adjacent to the seal. The licensee may provide, at his or her sole discretion, an original signature in the licensee's handwriting, a scanned copy of the document bearing an original signature, or a signature generated by a computer.

It is unlawful to affix one's seal to documents if it masks the true identity of the person who actually exercised direction, control, and supervision of the preparation of that work. A Professional Land Surveyor who seals and signs documents is not responsible for damage caused by subsequent changes to or uses of those documents where the subsequent changes or uses, including changes or uses made by State or local governmental agencies, are not authorized or approved by the Professional Land Surveyor who originally sealed and signed the documents.

Public Act 098-0289

SB1826 Enrolled

LRB098 07550 MGM 37621 b

(Source: P.A. 93-467, eff. 1-1-04.)