



2011 ASSEMBLY BILL 718

March 15, 2012 - Introduced by Representatives LITJENS, KOOYENGA and THIESFELDT. Referred to Committee on Homeland Security and State Affairs.

1 **AN ACT to amend** 442.04 (4) (a) of the statutes; **relating to:** degree requirements
2 for certified public accountants.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, a person may not take the examination required to become a certified public accountant in this state unless the person has received a bachelor's or higher degree with an accounting concentration or with experience reasonably equivalent to an accounting concentration from an institution that is a bachelor's degree-granting institution of higher education accredited by the Commission on Institutions of Higher Education (now known as the Higher Learning Commission) of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools or its regional equivalent.

This bill broadens the qualifying institutions to include any bachelor's degree-granting institution of higher education that is accredited by an accrediting agency that is recognized by the secretary of the U.S. Department of Education.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

3 **SECTION 1.** 442.04 (4) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:
4 442.04 (4) (a) In this subsection, "institution" means a bachelor's
5 degree-granting institution of higher education accredited by ~~the commission on~~

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SECTION 1

1 ~~institutions of higher education of the north central association of colleges and~~
2 ~~schools or its regional equivalent~~ an accrediting agency that is recognized by the
3 secretary of the federal department of education.

4 **SECTION 2. Initial applicability.**

5 (1) This act first applies to an application for a certificate as a certified public
6 accountant that is pending with the accounting examining board on the effective
7 date of this subsection.

8 (END)