

By Sat or Sun morning 2/24 or 2/25

PJ

RM NOT AN

PRELIMINARY DRAFT - NOT READY FOR INTRODUCTION

Regen

eliminating certificates of authority for public accountants

1 AN ACT to renumber and amend 442.001, 442.02 (7), 442.02 (8), 442.02 (9) and  
 2 442.02 (10); to amend 180.1903 (1), 442.01 (3), 442.02 (1m) (intro.), 442.02  
 3 (5m), 442.02 (6), 442.03 (1), 442.03 (3), 442.04 (5), 442.07 (2), 442.07 (3), 442.10  
 4 (2), 442.11 (2), 442.11 (3), 442.11 (4), 442.11 (8), 442.11 (13) and 442.12 (3); to  
 5 repeal and recreate 442.08; and to create 180.1903 (1m), 442.001 (1),  
 6 442.001 (2), 442.001 (4), 442.001 (5), 442.02 (1m) (dm), 442.025, 442.083 and  
 7 442.087 of the statutes; relating to: licensure of certified public accountants  
 8 and accounting firms, attest and compilation services, peer review of  
 9 accounting firms, and granting rule-making authority.

INSERT A

**Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau**

This is a preliminary draft. An analysis will be prepared for a subsequent version of this draft.

For further information see the local fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

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

INSERT 2-1 ✓

1 SECTION 1. 180.1903 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

2 180.1903 (1) ~~One~~ Except as provided in sub. (1m), one or more natural persons  
3 licensed, certified, or registered pursuant to any provisions of the statutes, if all have  
4 the same license, certificate, or registration or if all are health care professionals,  
5 may organize and own shares in a service corporation. A service corporation may  
6 own, operate, and maintain an establishment and otherwise serve the convenience  
7 of its shareholders in carrying on the particular profession, calling, or trade for which  
8 the licensure, certification, or registration of its organizers is required.

9 SECTION 2. 180.1903 (1m) of the statutes is created to read:

10 180.1903 (1m) A service corporation for carrying on the profession of public  
11 accounting may be organized under sub. (1) if <sup>more than</sup> ~~50% or more~~ of the shareholders are  
12 ~~licensed~~ <sup>more</sup> certified public accountants under ch. 442.

13 SECTION 3. 442.001 of the statutes is renumbered 442.001 (intro.) and amended  
14 to read:

15 **442.001 Definition Definitions.** (intro.) In this chapter, "examining:

16 (3) "Examining board" means the accounting examining board.

17 SECTION 4. 442.001 (1) of the statutes is created to read:

18 442.001 (1) "Attest service" means any of the following:

19 (a) An audit or any other engagement that is performed or intended to be  
20 performed in accordance with the statements on auditing standards issued by the  
21 American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

22 (b) A review of a financial statement that is performed or intended to be  
23 performed in accordance with the statements on standards for accounting and  
24 review services issued by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

*✓* that is performed or intended to be performed

1

(c) An examination of prospective financial information in accordance with the statements on standards for attestation engagements issued by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

2

3

4

SECTION 5. 442.001 (2) of the statutes is created to read:

5

442.001 (2) "Compilation service" means a service that satisfies each of the following:

6

7

(a) The service is performed or intended to be performed in accordance with the statements on standards for accounting and review services issued by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

8

9

10

(b) The service consists of presenting, in the form of financial statements, information that is the representation of the management of the business that has requested the service.

11

12

13

(c) The service is provided without expressing any assurance on the financial statements specified in par. (b).

14

15

SECTION 6. 442.001 (4) of the statutes is created to read:

*limited liability partnership*

16

442.001 (4) "Firm" means a proprietorship, partnership, corporation, or limited liability company.

17

~~\*\*\*NOTE: Does the above definition include every type of accounting firm?~~

*✓* service corporation

18

SECTION 7. 442.001 (5) of the statutes is created to read:

19

442.001 (5) "Member of a firm" means a director, manager, member, officer, owner, shareholder, principal, or partner of a firm.

20

~~\*\*\*NOTE: Does the above definition include every type of member of a firm?~~

21

SECTION 8. 442.01 (3) of the statutes is amended to read:

22

442.01 (3) The examining board shall record its proceedings.

~~\*\*\*NOTE: Corrects a reference to the examining board.~~

INSERT 3-20 ✓

INSERT 4-1 ✓

1 SECTION 9. 442.02 (1m) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

2 442.02 (1m) (intro.) A person shall be considered to be in practice as a public  
3 accountant ~~not certified public accountant~~, within the meaning and intent of this  
4 chapter, if any of the following conditions is met:

INSERT 4-5 ✓  
\*\*\*NOTE: The above change clarifies that, unless an exception applies, a person may not do anything specified in s. 442.02 (1m) (a) to (f) stats., unless he or she is certified as a certified public accountant or holds a certificate of authority as a public accountant.

5 SECTION 10. 442.02 (1m) (dm) of the statutes is created to read:

6 442.02 (1m) (dm) The person provides or offers to provide an attest or  
7 compilation service.

8 SECTION 11. 442.02 (5m) of the statutes is amended to read:

9 442.02 (5m) Subsection (1m) (f) does not prohibit any officer, employee,  
10 partner, or principal of any organization from affixing his or her signature to any  
11 statement or report in reference to the affairs of that organization with any wording  
12 designating the position, title, or office that he or she holds in that organization and  
13 ~~does not prohibit any act of a public official or public employee in the performance~~  
14 ~~of his or her duties.~~

\*\*\*NOTE: The exception for public officials and employees is moved to new s. 442.025 (5).

15 SECTION 12. 442.02 (6) of the statutes is amended to read:

16 442.02 (6) Every member of a partnership and every officer and director of a  
17 corporation firm who, ~~in the capacity of partner, officer or director~~ as a member of the  
18 firm, does any of the things enumerated in sub. (1m) (a) to (f), shall be considered to  
19 be in practice as a certified public accountant. ✓

20 SECTION 13. 442.02 (7) of the statutes is renumbered 442.025 (1) ~~and 442.025~~

21 (1) (intro.) ~~as renumbered~~ and amended to read:

1 442.025 (1) (intro.) ~~Nothing contained in this chapter shall prevent the~~  
 2 employment ~~of~~ <sup>S</sup> ~~person~~ <sup>≡</sup> ~~employed~~ by a certified public accountant ~~or by a public~~  
 3 ~~accountant~~ <sup>Strike</sup> or by a firm <sup>✓</sup> or corporation ~~furnishing public accounting services as~~  
 4 ~~principal~~ <sup>Strike</sup> of persons to serve as accountants in various capacities, as needed, if all  
 5 of the following conditions are met:

INSERT  
5-5

6 SECTION 14. 442.02 (8) of the statutes is renumbered 442.025 (2) and amended  
 7 to read:

8 442.025 (2) ~~Nothing contained in this chapter shall apply to a~~ <sup>Δ</sup> practicing  
 9 attorney, who, in connection with his or her professional work renders any  
 10 accounting service.

11 SECTION 15. 442.02 (9) of the statutes is renumbered 442.025 (3), ~~and 442.025~~  
 12 ~~(3)~~ <sup>and</sup> (intro.) as renumbered <sup>is</sup> amended to read:

13 442.025 (3) (intro.) ~~Nothing contained in this chapter shall apply to any~~  
 14 ~~persons who may be~~ <sup>A</sup> ~~person~~ employed by more than one person, partnership or  
 15 corporation, ~~and~~ <sup>for</sup> the purpose of keeping books, making trial balances, or  
 16 statements, and preparing ~~audits or~~ <sup>Strike</sup> reports, if all of the following requirements are  
 17 met: <sup>INSERT 5-17</sup> ✓

18 SECTION 16. 442.02 (10) of the statutes is renumbered 442.025 (4) and amended  
 19 to read:

20 442.025 (4) ~~Nothing contained in this chapter shall apply to~~ <sup>The</sup> holders of  
 21 state-granted certified public accountant certificates from other states who may be  
 22 temporarily in this state on professional business incident to their regular practice  
 23 in the states of their domicile, but with neither residence nor office in this state.

24 SECTION 17. 442.025 of the statutes is created to read:

INSERT 6-7 ✓

public

1 **442.025 Applicability.** This chapter does not require a certificate or license  
2 under this chapter for any of the following:

3 (5) A public official or employee <sup>public</sup> who does anything specified in s. 442.02 (1m)

4 ~~when~~ in performing his or her duties as an official or employee

5 (6) A person who performs services involving the use of accounting skills,  
6 including management advisory services, the preparation of tax returns, and the  
7 preparation of financial statements without issuing reports on the statements.

8 **SECTION 18.** 442.03 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

9 442.03 (1) No person may lawfully practice in this state as a certified public  
10 accountant either in the person's own name, ~~or as an employee~~ <sup>strike</sup> or under an assumed  
11 name, or as an officer, member or employee of a firm, or as an officer or employee of  
12 a corporation a member of a firm, unless the person has been granted by the  
13 examining board a certificate as a certified public accountant, and unless the person,  
14 firm or corporation ~~of firm~~ <sup>and</sup> ~~jointly and severally~~ <sup>have</sup> ~~has~~ <sup>strike comma</sup> complied with all of the  
15 provisions of this chapter, including licensure.

INSERT 15-16 ✓

16 **SECTION 19.** 442.03 (3) of the statutes is ~~amended to read~~ <sup>repealed</sup>.

17 442.03 (3) No corporation or other entity and no officer, partner, stockholder  
18 or employee thereof firm or member of a firm may lawfully practice in this state as  
19 a public accountant or a certified public accountant either in the entity's firm's or  
20 person's member's name, or as an employee or under an assumed name, unless the  
21 natural person member has been granted by ~~this~~ the examining board a certificate  
22 of authority as a public accountant and unless the person or entity member or firm,  
23 jointly and severally, has complied with all the provisions of this chapter, including  
24 licensure.

25 **SECTION 20.** 442.04 (5) of the statutes is amended to read:

INSERT 6-24 ✓

1           442.04 (5) The examining board may not grant a certificate as a certified public  
 2 accountant to any person other than a person who is 18 years of age or older, does not  
 3 have an arrest or conviction record, subject to ss. 111.321, 111.322, and 111.335, and,  
 4 except as provided in s. 442.05, has successfully passed a written examination in  
 5 such subjects affecting accountancy as the examining board considers necessary. ~~If~~  
 6 ~~the person applying for the certificate passes the examination during the period~~  
 7 ~~beginning on May 17, 1996, and ending on December 31, 2000, the examining board~~  
 8 ~~may not grant the certificate unless the applicant has at least 3 years of public~~  
 9 ~~accounting experience or its equivalent, the sufficiency of the experience or the~~  
 10 ~~equivalency to be judged by the examining board. If the person applying for the~~  
 11 ~~certificate passes the examination after December 31, 2000, the~~ <sup>The</sup> examining board  
 12 may not grant the certificate unless the applicant has at least 2 years one year of  
 13 public accounting experience or its equivalent, the sufficiency of the experience or  
 14 the equivalency to be judged by the examining board. The examining board shall  
 15 ensure that evaluation procedures and examinations are nondiscriminatory, relate  
 16 directly to accountancy, and are designed to measure only the ability to perform  
 17 competently as an accountant. The examining board may use the examination  
 18 service provided by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

57.110

INSECT  
7-19

19 <sup>Fix component</sup> SECTION 21. 442.07 (2) of the statutes is ~~amended to read~~ *repealed.*

20           442.07 (2) No person may practice in this state as a certified public accountant  
 21 or a public accountant, either in the person's name, under an assumed name, or as  
 22 a member of a partnership firm, except as provided in s. 442.02 (10) 442.025 (4),  
 23 unless the person has been granted a certificate by the examining board and secured  
 24 a license for the current licensure period. No person may practice in this state as a  
 25 public accountant, as an officer or director of a corporation engaged in the practice

1 of public accounting, unless the corporation has secured a license for the current  
2 licensure period.

\*\*\*\*NOTE: I didn't change the second sentence of the above provision because I think that it refers to a grandfathered corporation.

3 SECTION 22. 442.07 (3) of the statutes is amended to read:

4 442.07 (3) Any partnership, ~~which~~ <sup>the firm</sup> firm that is entitled to practice as certified  
5 public accountants in this state or any other state, and every resident member and  
6 resident manager of ~~which~~ <sup>the firm</sup> who is a certified public accountant of this state, after  
7 registering the partnership firm name with the examining board, may use the  
8 designation "certified public accountants" in connection with the partnership firm  
9 name. ~~Any partnership, every member and resident manager of which is a certified public accountant of this state or any other state or who holds~~  
10 ~~a certificate of authority under this chapter, after registering the partnership name with the examining board, may use the designation "public accountants" in~~  
11 ~~connection with the partnership name. An assumed name, in use prior to~~  
12 ~~September 21, 1935, may be used the same as a partnership name, provided the~~  
13 ~~individual persons practicing as principals under that name hold~~  
14 ~~certificates granted by the examining board and register the name with the~~  
15 ~~examining board.~~  
16  
17

18 SECTION 23. 442.08 of the statutes is repealed <sup>department</sup> and recreated to read:

19 442.08 Licensure. (1) The ~~examining board~~ <sup>department</sup> shall issue a license to a person  
20 who holds an unrevoked certificate as a certified public accountant ~~of~~ <sup>certificate of</sup>  
21 ~~authority issued under this chapter~~, submits an application for the license on a form  
22 provided by the department, and pays the fee specified in s. 440.05 (1).



*department*

1 (2) The ~~examining board~~ shall issue a license to a firm that submits an  
2 application for the license on a form provided by the department, pays the fee  
3 specified in s. 440.05 (1), and does each of the following:

4 (a) Identifies each office of the firm that is located in this state.

5 (b) If any person who holds an ownership interest in the firm is not licensed  
6 under sub. (1), designates a person licensed under sub. (1) as the person responsible  
7 for the firm's compliance with this chapter.

\*\*\*\*NOTE: The instructions require designation of a licensee who is "responsible for proper registration of the firm." Chapter 442, stats., does not require "registration." Therefore, I substituted the above language regarding responsibility for the firm's compliance with the chapter. Is this okay?

*department*

8 (c) Demonstrates, to the satisfaction of the ~~examining board~~, each of the  
9 following:

10 1. That all attest and compilation services provided by the firm in this state are  
11 under the charge of a person licensed under sub. (1).

✓  
INSERT  
9-14

12 2. That <sup>more than</sup> 50% ~~or more~~ of the ownership interest of the firm is held by persons who  
13 hold certificates or licenses to practice as a certified public accountant issued under  
14 the laws of any state or foreign country.

15 (3) The examining board shall promulgate rules that define "ownership  
16 interest" for purposes of sub. (2) and for determining the percentage of a person's  
17 ownership interest in a firm. In promulgating the rules, the examining board shall  
18 consider the financial interests and voting rights of all members of a firm.

\*\*\*\*NOTE: I'm not sure what constitutes an "ownership interest" or how to calculate a person's percentage of ownership interest. Therefore, the above language requires the examining board to promulgate rules that address these issues.

19 SECTION 24. 442.083 of the statutes is created to read:

*department*

20 442.083 **Renewal.** The renewal dates and renewal fees for licenses issued  
21 under this chapter are specified under s. 440.08 (2) (a). The ~~examining board~~ may

1 not renew a license issued to a firm unless, at the time of renewal, the firm satisfies  
2 the requirements under s. 442.08 (2) ~~and~~ and demonstrates, to the satisfaction  
3 of the ~~examining board~~, that the firm has complied with the requirements under s.  
4 442.087. *department*

5 SECTION 25. 442.087 of the statutes is created to read: *evaluate*

6 442.087 Peer review. (1) DEFINITION. In this section, "peer review" means  
7 ~~requirements and procedures~~ for a person licensed under this chapter to ~~verify~~  
8 professional competency of the members of a firm who are responsible for attest or  
9 compilation services provided by the firm or who sign or authorize another individual  
10 to sign accounting reports or financial statements on behalf of the firm.

11 (2) RENEWAL OF FIRM LICENSES. The ~~examining board~~ *department* may not renew the license  
12 of a firm unless the firm ~~does~~ *one of the following:* *at least once every*  
13 *3 years*

14 (3) ~~Undergoes~~ *INSEAT*  
*10-14* *that is*

15 (b) Undergoes peer review that is conducted by a person approved by the  
16 examining board under rules promulgated under sub. (3) (b) and that, to the  
17 satisfaction of the examining board, is substantially equivalent to the peer review  
18 specified in the rules promulgated under sub. (3) (a).

19 (3) RULES. (a) The examining board shall promulgate rules that require a firm  
20 licensed under this chapter to undergo, no more than once every 3 years, peer review  
21 conducted by a person licensed under this chapter who is not affiliated with the firm  
22 or members of the firm.

23 (b) The examining board shall promulgate rules for the examining board to  
24 approve a person to conduct all peer reviews under sub. (2) (b). (The rules shall also  
25 require ~~the~~ person approved by the examining board to periodically report to the

*each*

*to*  
*conduct*  
*peer reviews*

*INSERT 10-24* ✓

1 examining board on the effectiveness of the peer reviews conducted by the person and  
2 to provide the examining board with a listing of all firms that have undergone peer  
3 review conducted by the person.

\*\*\*\*NOTE: The instructions refer to an "oversight body". The above language uses the broader term, "person".

*approved by the examining board to*

4 (4) CONFIDENTIALITY. A person ~~that~~ <sup>approved by the examining board to</sup> conducts ~~the~~ peer review ~~under this section~~  
5 may not disclose to any person, including the examining board, any information  
6 obtained or document produced during the course of or as a result of ~~the~~ <sup>a</sup> review <sup>3</sup>  
7 unless the firm undergoing <sup>the</sup> review consents to the disclosure.

\*\*\*\*NOTE: The above language is my reworking of the instruction stating that "peer review processes [must] be operated and documents maintained in a manner designed to preserve confidentiality and that neither the [examining board] nor any third party (other than the oversight body) shall have access to documents furnished or generated in the course of the review." I am reluctant to use the term "preserve confidentiality" because it begs the question of whether something is confidential in the first place. Also, should the examining board be allowed to have access to peer review information or documents? Under the language I drafted, the person conducting the review can't provide information or documents to the examining board, unless the firm being reviewed consents. However, the language does not address whether the examining board can get the information or documents from the firm itself. Do you want the draft to be revised to address this issue?

INSEAT 11-8 ✓

8 SECTION 26. 442.10 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

9 442.10 (2) Notwithstanding sub. (1), no person licensed under this chapter, and  
10 no firm of which the person is a partner or shareholder member ✓, may express an  
11 opinion as an independent certified public accountant on financial statements of any  
12 enterprise unless the person and the firm are independent of the enterprise. The  
13 requirement for independence under this subsection also extends to the spouse of  
14 such a person and to other relatives having a financial or business relationship with  
15 the enterprise which, in the opinion of the examining board, may impair  
16 independence.

17 SECTION 27. 442.11 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

INSEAT 11-16 ✓

*with a name*

1 442.11 (2) While practicing under an assumed name, or as a member of a  
2 partnership ~~firm~~, other than a partnership ~~firm~~ that is registered under s. 442.07 ~~as~~  
3 ~~composed of certified public accountants, or as an officer of a corporation,~~ announces,  
4 either in writing or by printing, that the assumed name, partnership or corporation  
5 or firm is practicing as a certified public accountant.

*strike*

*(3)*

*Fix component*

6 SECTION 28. 442.11 (3) of the statutes is ~~amended to read~~ *repealed.*

7 442.11 (3) As a member of a partnership firm, announces, either in writing or  
8 by printing, that the partnership firm is practicing as "public accountants" unless the  
9 partnership firm is registered as such under s. 442.07.

*Fix component*

10 SECTION 29. 442.11 (4) of the statutes is ~~amended to read~~ *repealed.*

11 442.11 (4) As an officer of a corporation, ~~permits the corporation a member of~~  
12 ~~a firm, permits the firm to practice as a public accountant unless it is registered with~~  
13 ~~the examining board, and holds an unrevoked certificate of authority from the~~  
14 ~~examining board.~~

15 SECTION 30. 442.11 (8) of the statutes is amended to read:

16 442.11 (8) As an individual, ~~member of a partnership or officer or director of~~  
17 ~~a corporation or member of a firm, practices or permits the partnership or~~  
18 ~~corporation firm to practice as a certified public accountant or as a public accountant~~  
19 unless a license has been secured for the current licensure period.

*INSERT 12-20*

*strike*

20 SECTION 31. 442.11 (13) of the statutes is amended to read:

21 442.11 (13) As an individual, ~~a member of a partnership or an officer of a~~  
22 ~~corporation or member of a firm, permits to be announced by printed or written~~  
23 ~~statement that any report, certificate, exhibit, schedule, or statement has been~~  
24 ~~prepared by or under supervision of a certified public accountant or by or under~~  
25 ~~supervision of a public accountant when the person who prepared the report,~~

*INSERT 12-14*

INSERT 13-3 ✓

1 certificate, exhibit, schedule, or statement was not a certified public accountant or  
2 ~~public accountant.~~ ← Struck

3 SECTION 32. 442.12 (3) of the statutes is amended to read:

4 442.12 (3) In the case of a ~~corporation or a partnership~~ firm, revoke, limit, or  
5 suspend the license of the ~~partnership or corporation~~ firm, or reprimand it, if it is  
6 found that any ~~officer, director or member~~ of the firm has been guilty of such act or  
7 omission as would be cause for revoking, limiting, or suspending a certificate or  
8 license to the person as an individual or for reprimanding the person.

9 (END)

INSERT 13-8

2001-2002 DRAFTING INSERT  
FROM THE  
LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU

LRB-0256/P2ins  
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**INSERT A:**

✓  
For further information see the *state* fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

**INSERT 2-1:**

SECTION 1. 39.75 (7) (d) ✓ of the statutes is amended to read:

39.75 (7) (d) The commission shall keep accurate accounts of all receipts and disbursements. The receipts and disbursements of the commission shall be subject to the audit and accounting procedures established by its bylaws. However, all receipts and disbursements of funds handled by the commission shall be audited yearly by a qualified certified public accountant licensed under ch. 442, and the report of the audit shall be included in and become part of the annual reports of the commission.

History: 1981 c. 390; 1987 a. 186; 1991 a. 316; 1993 a. 184. ✓

SECTION 2. 39.80 (5) (c) ✓ of the statutes is amended to read:

39.80 (5) (c) The commission shall keep accurate accounts of all receipts and disbursements. The receipts and disbursements of the commission shall be subject to the audit and accounting procedures established under its bylaws. However, all receipts and disbursements of funds handled by the commission shall be audited yearly by a certified ✓ ~~or licensed~~ public accountant licensed under ch. 442 and the report of the audit shall be included in and become part of the annual report of the commission.

History: 1993 a. 358.

SECTION 3. 45.353 (3) ✓ of the statutes is amended to read:

45.353 (3) Application by any such state veterans organization shall be filed annually with the department for the 12-month period commencing on April 1 and ending on March 31 of the year in which it is filed. An application shall contain a



1 statement of salaries and travel expenses paid to employees engaged in veterans  
2 claims service maintained at the regional office by such state veterans organization  
3 covering the period for which application for a grant is made, which statement has  
4 been certified as correct by an a certified public accountant ~~certified~~ <sup>✓</sup> licensed under  
5 ch. 442 and sworn to as correct by the adjutant or principal officer of the state  
6 veterans organization. The application shall also contain the state organization's  
7 financial statement for its last completed fiscal year and such evidence of claims  
8 service activity as the department requires. Sufficient evidence shall be submitted  
9 with an initial application to establish that the state veterans organization, or its  
10 national organization, or both, has maintained a full-time service office at the  
11 regional office without interruption throughout 5 years out of the 10-year period  
12 immediately preceding such application. Subsequent applications must be  
13 accompanied by an affidavit by the adjutant or principal officer of such state veterans  
14 organization stating that a full-time service office was maintained at the regional  
15 office by such state veterans organization, or by such state organization and its  
16 national organization, for the entire 12-month period for which application for a  
17 grant is made.

18 History: 1971 c. 42; 1977 c. 29; 1983 a. 189; 1985 a. 332 s. <sup>✓</sup>51 (3); 1989 a. 31, 56; 1997 a. 27.

**SECTION 4.** 64.12 (4) of the statutes is amended to read:

19 64.12 (4) At the end of each fiscal year the council shall cause a full and  
20 complete examination of all the books and accounts of the city to be made by  
21 competent certified public accountants <sup>✓</sup> licensed under ch. 442 who shall report in full  
22 to the council. The summaries of such audits shall be presented and furnished to all  
23 newspapers and libraries of the city and to such other persons as shall apply therefor.

24 **SECTION 5.** 64.34 (2) <sup>✓</sup> of the statutes is amended to read:



1           64.34 (2) At the end of each year the council shall cause a full and complete  
2 examination of all of the books and accounts of the city to be made by competent  
3 certified public accountants licensed under ch. 442, who shall report in full thereon  
4 to the council. Copies of such reports shall be furnished by the council to all  
5 newspapers of the city and to all persons who shall apply therefor.

6           **SECTION 6.** 66.0609 (3) of the statutes is amended to read:

7           66.0609 (3) The ordinance under sub. (1) shall require that the governing body  
8 of the city or village obtain an annual detailed audit of its financial transactions and  
9 accounts by a certified public accountant licensed under ch. 442 and designated by  
10 the governing body.

11 History: 1971 c. 108 ss. 5, 6; 1971 c. 125 s. 523; 1977 c. 285 s. 12; 1979 c. 323; 1985 a. 29; 1991 a. 316; 1999 a. 150 s. 113; Stats. 1999 s. 66.0609.

11           **SECTION 7.** 100.03 (1) (bm) of the statutes is amended to read:

12           100.03 (1) (bm) "Audited financial statement" means a financial statement  
13 that, in the accompanying opinion of an independent certified public accountant or  
14 ~~a public accountant holding a certificate of authority~~ licensed under ch. 442, fairly  
15 and in all material respects represents the financial position of the contractor, the  
16 results of the contractor's operations and the contractor's cash flows in conformity  
17 with generally accepted accounting principles.

18 History: 1985 a. 226; 1987 a. 399; 1989 a. 31, 359; 1991 a. 39, 269; 1993 a. 112; 1995 a. 27, 224, 460.

18           **SECTION 8.** 100.03 (1) (ym) 2. of the statutes is amended to read:

19           100.03 (1) (ym) 2. Reviewed according to generally accepted accounting  
20 principles by an independent certified public accountant ~~or a public accountant~~  
21 ~~holding a certificate of authority~~ licensed under ch. 442.

22 History: 1985 a. 226; 1987 a. 399; 1989 a. 31, 359; 1991 a. 39, 269; 1993 a. 112; 1995 a. 27, 224, 460.

22           **SECTION 9.** 100.06 (1g) (c) of the statutes is amended to read:

23           100.06 (1g) (c) The department shall require the applicant to file a financial  
24 statement of his or her business operations and financial condition that meets the





1 requirements of par. (d). The licensee, during the term of his or her license, may be  
 2 required to file such statements periodically. All such statements shall be  
 3 confidential and shall not be open for public inspection, except that the department  
 4 shall provide the name and address of an individual, the name and address of the  
 5 individual's employer and financial information related to the individual contained  
 6 in such statements if requested under s. 49.22 (2m) by the department of workforce  
 7 development or a county child support agency under s. 59.53 (5). The department  
 8 may require such statements to be certified by a <sup>plain</sup> ~~certified~~ public accountant licensed  
 9 under ch. 442. Such statements and audits, when made by the department, shall be  
 10 paid for at cost.

History: 1979 c. 110 s. 60 (12); 1987 a. 273, 399; 1989 a. 336; 1991 a. 32, 39, 231; 1997 a. 191.

11 **SECTION 10.** 115.817 (5) (b) 1. of the statutes is amended to read:

12 115.817 (5) (b) 1. At the close of each fiscal year, the board shall employ a  
 13 licensed certified public accountant licensed under ch. 442 to audit its accounts and  
 14 certify the audit. The cost of the audit shall be paid from board funds.

History: 1997 a. 164; 1999 a. 150 s. 672.

15 **SECTION 11.** 120.14 (3) of the statutes is amended to read:

16 120.14 (3) The annual meeting may authorize and direct an audit of the school  
 17 district accounts by a licensed certified public accountant licensed under ch. 442.

History: 1971 c. 108 ss. 5, 6; 1971 c. 125 s. 523; 1975 c. 224; 1977 c. 29, 983 a. 27; 1983 a. 189 s. 329 (17m); 1985 a. 29; 1993 a. 16; 1995 a. 27 s. 9145 (1); 1997 a. 27.

18 **SECTION 12.** 120.18 (1) (gm) of the statutes is amended to read:

19 120.18 (1) (gm) Payroll and related benefit costs for all school district  
 20 employees in the previous school year. Costs for represented employees shall be  
 21 based upon the costs of any collective bargaining agreements covering such  
 22 employees for the previous school year. If, as of the time specified by the department  
 23 for filing the report, the school district has not entered into a collective bargaining  
 24 agreement for any portion of the previous school year with the recognized or certified



1 representative of any of its employees and the school district and the representative  
 2 have been required to submit final offers under s. 111.70 (4) (cm) 6., increased costs  
 3 limited to the lower of the school district's offer or the representative's offer shall be  
 4 reflected in the report. The school district shall amend the annual report to reflect  
 5 any change in such costs as a result of any award or settlement under s. 111.70 (4)  
 6 (cm) 6. between the date of filing the report and October 1. Any such amendment  
 7 shall be concurred in by the ~~licensed~~ <sup>✓</sup> certified public accountant licensed under ch.  
 8 442 certifying the school district audit.

9 History: 1975 c. 189, 224; 1989 a. 31; 1993 a. 16; 1995 a. 27 s. ~~9145~~ <sup>✓</sup> (1); 1997 a. 27, 87.

9 SECTION 13. 127.01 (1r) of the statutes is amended to read:

10 127.01 (1r) "Audited financial statement" means a financial statement on  
 11 which an independent certified public accountant, ~~or an independent public~~  
 12 ~~accountant holding a certificate of authority~~ <sup>✓</sup> licensed under ch. 442, has expressed  
 13 an opinion according to generally accepted accounting principles and has conducted  
 14 an audit according to generally accepted auditing standards.

15 History: 1979 c. 335; 1983 a. 284; 1985 a. 29 ss. 1811 to 1818, 1827, 1829, ~~1831~~ <sup>✓</sup>, 1833; 1989 a. 282; 1991 a. 39; 1993 a. 112; 1995 a. 42; 1997 a. 324.

15 SECTION 14. 127.01 (25m) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

16 127.01 (25m) (b) The financial statement is reviewed according to generally  
 17 accepted accounting principles by an independent certified public accountant ~~or an~~  
 18 ~~independent public accountant who holds a certificate of authority~~ <sup>✓</sup> licensed under ch.  
 19 442.

20 History: 1979 c. 335; 1983 a. 284; 1985 a. 29 ss. 1811 to 1818, 1827, ~~1829m~~ <sup>✓</sup>, 1831, 1833; 1989 a. 282; 1991 a. 39; 1993 a. 112; 1995 a. 42; 1997 a. 324.

20 SECTION 15. 127.06 (1) (e) of the statutes is amended to read:

21 127.06 (1) (e) The department may extend the filing deadline under par. (a) 2.  
 22 by up to 30 days in response to a written request from a warehouse keeper or an  
 23 independent certified public accountant, ~~or an independent public accountant~~  
 24 ~~holding a certificate of authority~~ <sup>✓</sup> licensed under ch. 442, that is auditing or reviewing



1 the financial statement for a warehouse keeper if the department receives the  
2 request on or before the 5th day of the 4th month beginning after the close of the  
3 warehouse keeper's fiscal year and if the request states the reason for the extension.

History: 1979 c. 335; 1981 c. 335 s. 26; 1985 a. 29; 1991 a. 39, 269; 1995 a. 42; 1997 a. 324.

4 SECTION 16. 127.06 (1m) (e) of the statutes is amended to read:

5 127.06 (1m) (e) The department may extend the filing deadline under par. (b)  
6 2. by up to 30 days in response to a written request from a grain dealer or an  
7 independent certified public accountant, ~~or an independent public accountant who~~  
8 ~~holds a certificate of authority licensed~~ under ch. 442, that is auditing or reviewing  
9 the financial statement for a grain dealer, if the department receives the written  
10 request on or before the 5th day of the 4th month beginning after the close of the grain  
11 dealer's fiscal year and if the request states the reason for the extension.

History: 1979 c. 335; 1981 c. 335 s. 26; 1985 a. 29; 1991 a. 39, 269; 1995 a. 42; 1997 a. 324.

12 SECTION 17. 148.19 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

13 148.19 (2) Legal counsel, certified public accountants licensed under ch. 442,  
14 or other persons as to matters the director or officer believes in good faith are within  
15 the person's professional or expert competence.

History: 1987 a. 13.

16 SECTION 18. 180.0701 (4) (c) of the statutes is amended to read:

17 180.0701 (4) (c) Ratification of the selection of independent certified public  
18 accountants licensed under ch. 442.

History: 1989 a. 303; 1995 a. 271.

19 SECTION 19. 180.0826 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

20 180.0826 (2) Legal counsel, certified public accountants licensed under ch. 442,  
21 or other persons as to matters that the director or officer believes in good faith are  
22 within the person's professional or expert competence.

History: 1989 a. 303.

23

INSERT 2-13:

(end ins 2-1)  
↓

INS 2-13

1 SECTION 20. 181.0850 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

2 181.0850 (2) PROFESSIONALS AND EXPERTS. Legal counsel, certified public  
3 accountants licensed under ch. 442, or other persons as to matters the director or  
4 officer believes in good faith are within the person's professional or expert  
5 competence.

History: 1997 a. 79.

6 SECTION 21. 181.1620 (2) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

7 181.1620 (2) (intro.) ~~ACCOUNTANT'S~~ CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT OR  
8 OFFICER'S STATEMENT. If annual financial statements are reported upon by a certified  
9 public accountant licensed under ch. 442, the certified public accountant's report  
10 must accompany them. If not, the statements must be accompanied by a statement  
11 of the president or the person responsible for the corporation's financial accounting  
12 records that includes all of the following:

History: 1997 a. 79.

13 SECTION 22. 185.363 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

14 185.363 (2) Legal counsel, certified public accountants licensed under ch. 442,  
15 or other persons as to matters the director or officer believes in good faith are within  
16 the person's professional or expert competence.

History: 1987 a. 13.

17 SECTION 23. 186.094 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

18 186.094 (2) Legal counsel, certified public accountants licensed under ch. 442,  
19 or other persons as to matters the director or officer believes in good faith are within  
20 the person's professional or expert competence.

History: 1987 a. 13.

21 SECTION 24. 186.15 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

22 186.15 (1) ANNUAL AUDIT. Except as provided in sub. (2), the board of directors  
23 shall hire a licensed certified public accountant licensed under ch. 442 or other



1 qualified person to conduct a comprehensive annual audit of the records, accounts  
2 and affairs of the credit union.

History: 1971 c. 193; 1993 a. 482; 1995 a. 151.

3 **SECTION 25.** 187.31 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

4 187.31 (2) Legal counsel, certified public accountants licensed under ch. 442,  
5 or other professional persons or experts employed by the incorporated Roman  
6 Catholic church, as to matters the director or officer believes in good faith are within  
7 the person's professional or expert competence.

History: 1989 a. 306.

8 **SECTION 26.** 187.41 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

9 187.41 (2) Legal counsel, certified public accountants licensed under ch. 442,  
10 or other professional persons or experts employed by the religious organization, as  
11 to matters the director or officer believes in good faith are within the person's  
12 professional or expert competence.

History: 1995 a. 260.

13 **SECTION 27.** 198.167 of the statutes is amended to read:

14 **198.167 Certified public accountant; annual report.** The directors of the  
15 district shall employ annually the commission or a certified public accountant  
16 licensed under ch. 442 approved by said commission who shall be qualified to, and  
17 who shall with all due diligence, examine and report upon the system of accounts  
18 kept by the district, all the contracts of whatsoever kind made and entered into by  
19 the board of directors within the year immediately preceding, and the properties and  
20 investments of the district. Said The certified public accountant shall in the report  
21 make such recommendations and suggestions as to the certified public accountant  
22 shall seem proper and required for the good of the district, and the efficient and  
23 economical or advantageous management and operation of the public utility or  
24 utilities of the district; and the certified public accountant shall in the report make




1 such recommendations and suggestions as to the system of accounts kept, or in the  
2 certified public ✓ accountant's judgment to be kept, by the district, in connection with  
3 each public utility, the classification of the public utilities of the district and the  
4 establishment of a system of accounts for each class, the manner in which such  
5 accounts shall be kept, the form of accounts, records, and memoranda kept or to be  
6 kept, including accounts, records, and memoranda of receipts and expenditures of  
7 money, and depreciation and sinking fund accounts, as in the ✓ certified public  
8 accountant's judgment may be proper and necessary, and shall not conflict with the  
9 requirements of the commission.

History: 1991 a. 316.

10 **SECTION 28.** 214.76 (2) and (4) ✓ of the statutes is amended to read:

11 214.76 (2) The certified public ✓ accountant shall deliver the audit report to a  
12 committee composed of 3 or more members of the board of directors, none of whom  
13 may be an officer, employee or agent of the savings bank. The committee shall  
14 present the nature, extent and conclusions of the report at the next meeting of the  
15 board of directors. A written summary of the committee's presentation, together  
16 with a copy of the audit report and a list of all criticisms made by the ✓ certified public  
17 accountant conducting the audit and any response of any member of the board of  
18 directors or any officer of the savings bank, shall be personally served or sent by  
19 certified mail to all members of the board of directors.

20 (4) The audit report filed with the division shall be certified by the ✓ certified  
21 public accountant conducting the audit. If a savings bank fails to cause an audit to  
22 be made, the division shall order an audit to be made by an independent certified  
23 public accountant at the savings bank's expense. Instead of the audit required under  
24 sub. (1), the division may accept an audit or portion of an audit made exclusively for



1 a deposit insurance corporation or for a financial regulator of another state if the  
2 home office of the savings bank is located in that state.

3 History: 1991 a. 221, 315; 1995 a. 27, 325.

3 SECTION 29. 215.523 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

4 215.523 (2) Legal counsel, certified public accountants licensed under ch. 442,  
5 or other persons as to matters the director or officer believes in good faith are within  
6 the person's professional or expert competence.

7 History: 1987 a. 13.

7 SECTION 30. 217.08 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

8 217.08 (2) ANNUAL LICENSE FEE; ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS OF LOCATIONS. Each  
9 licensee shall file with the division on or before December 1 of each year a statement  
10 listing the locations of the offices of the licensee and the names and locations of the  
11 agents authorized by the licensee. Every licensee shall also on or before December  
12 1 of each year file a financial statement of its assets and liabilities as of a date not  
13 earlier than the preceding August 31 or, if the licensee is audited annually by an  
14 independent certified public accountant licensed under ch. 442 at the end of each  
15 fiscal year, the licensee may submit financial statements certified by said the  
16 certified public accountant for the licensee's latest fiscal year. Such statement shall  
17 be accompanied by the annual licensee fee for the calendar year beginning the  
18 following January 1 in an amount determined under s. 217.05. The amount of the  
19 surety bond or deposit of securities required by s. 217.06 shall be adjusted to reflect  
20 the number of such locations. Licensees which do not pay the maximum license fee  
21 under s. 217.05 and which do not maintain a bond or deposit of securities in the  
22 maximum sum of \$300,000 as provided in s. 217.06 shall also file a supplemental  
23 statement setting forth any changes in the list of offices and agents with the division  
24 on or before April 1, July 1 and October 1 of each year, and the principal sum of the



1 corporate surety bond or deposit of securities required by s. 217.06 shall be adjusted  
2 to reflect any increase or decrease in the number of such locations. Any additional  
3 license fees which may become due under s. 217.05 shall be paid to the division.

History: 1995 a. 27.

4 **SECTION 31.** 221.0616 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

5 221.0616 (2) EXPERTS. Legal counsel, certified public accountants licensed  
6 under ch. 442, or other persons as to matters that the director or officer believes in  
7 good faith are within the person's professional or expert competence.

History: 1995 a. 336.

8 **SECTION 32.** 440.05 (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

9 **440.05 Standard fees.** (intro.) The following standard fees apply to all initial  
10 credentials, except as provided in ss. 440.42, 440.43, 440.44, 440.51, 442.06, 444.03,  
11 444.05, 444.11, 447.04 (2) (c) 2., 449.17, 449.18 and 459.46:

History: 1977 c. 29, 418; 1979 c. 34; 1979 c. 175 s. 53; 1979 c. 221 s. 2202 (45); 1983 s. 27; 1985 a. 29; 1987 a. 264, 265, 329, 399, 403; 1989 a. 31, 229, 307, 316, 336, 340, 341, 359; 1991 a. 39, 269, 278, 315; 1993 a. 16; 1995 a. 27; 1997 a. 27, 96; 1999 a. 32.

12 **SECTION 33.** 440.08 (2) (a) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

13 440.08 (2) (a) (intro.) Except as provided in par. (b) and in ss. 440.51, 442.04,  
14 442.06, 444.03, 444.05, 444.11, 448.065, 447.04 (2) (c) 2., 449.17, 449.18 and 459.46,  
15 the renewal dates and renewal fees for credentials are as follows:

History: 1991 a. 39 ss. 3305, 3313; 1991 a. 78, 160, 167, 269, 278, 315; 1993 a. 3, 16, 102, 105, 107, 443, 463, 465; 1993 a. 490 ss. 228 to 230, 274, 275; 1995 a. 27, 233, 321, 322, 461; 1997 a. 27, 73, 81, 96, 156, 191, 237, 261, 300; 1999 a. 9, 32.

16 **SECTION 34.** 440.08 (2) (a) 2. of the statutes is repealed. (end ins 2-13)

**INSERT 3-20:**

18 **SECTION 35.** 442.01 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

19 442.01 (2) No standard or rule relating to professional conduct or unethical  
20 practice may be adopted until the examining board has held a public hearing with  
21 reference thereto, subject to the rules promulgated under s. 440.03 (1). No rule or  
22 standard shall become effective until 60 days after its adoption by the examining  
23 board. Any person who has appeared at the public hearing and filed written protest



1 against any proposed standard or rule may, upon the adoption of such standard or  
2 rule, obtain a review thereof under ch. 227. Thereafter every person practicing as  
3 a <sup>plain</sup> certified public accountant in the state shall be governed and controlled by the rules  
4 and standards prescribed by the examining board.

History: 1977 c. 418; 1981 c. 356; 1983 a. 27; 1991 a. 39; 1999 a. 85.

**INSERT 4-1:**

5  
6 **SECTION 36.** 442.02 (title) <sup>✓</sup> of the statutes is amended to read:

7 **442.02 (title) ~~Public~~ Certified public <sup>✓</sup> accountant, definition.**

History: 1979 c. 162 ss. 7, 38 (7), (9); 1999 a. 85.

**INSERT 4-5:**

8  
9 **SECTION 37.** 442.02 (1m) (a) <sup>✓</sup> of the statutes is amended to read:

10 **442.02 (1m) (a)** The person holds himself or herself out to the public in any  
11 manner as one skilled in the knowledge, science, and practice of accounting, and as  
12 qualified and ready to render professional service therein as a <sup>✓</sup> certified public  
13 accountant for compensation.

History: 1979 c. 162 ss. 7, 38 (7), (9); 1999 a. 85.

14 **SECTION 38.** 442.02 (1m) (b) <sup>✓</sup> of the statutes is amended to read:

15 **442.02 (1m) (b)** The person maintains an office for the transaction of business  
16 as a certified <sup>✓</sup> public accountant or, except as an employee of a <sup>✓</sup> certified public  
17 accountant, practices accounting, as distinguished from bookkeeping, for more than  
18 one employer.

History: 1979 c. 162 ss. 7, 38 (7), (9); 1999 a. 85.

**INSERT 5-5:**

19  
20 (a) The employees serving as accountants work under the control and  
21 supervision of certified public accountants, ~~or accountants with certificates of~~  
22 ~~authority granted under s. 442.06.~~ <sup>✓</sup>



INS 5-5

1 (b) ~~These~~ The employees serving as accountants shall <sup>✓</sup>do not issue any  
2 statements or reports over their own names except office reports to their employer  
3 that are customary.

4 (c) The employees serving as accountants are not in any manner held out to the  
5 public as certified <sup>✓</sup>public accountants as described in this chapter.

6 **INSERT 5-17:**

7 (a) The ~~audits or~~ <sup>✓</sup>reports described in this subsection are not used or issued by  
8 the employers as having been prepared by a certified public accountant.

9 (b) The persons employed as described in this subsection do not do any of the  
10 things enumerated in ~~sub. s. 442.02~~ <sup>✓</sup>(1m) (f) without complying with ~~sub. s. 442.02~~  
11 (5m).<sup>✓</sup>

12 **INSERT 6-7:**

13 (7) A person who prepares financial statements and issues information thereon  
14 that does not purport to be in compliance with the statement on standards for  
15 accounting and review services issued by the <sup>✓</sup>American Institute of Certified Public  
16 Accountants.

17 **INSERT 6-16:**

18 **SECTION 39.** 442.03 (2) <sup>X</sup> of the statutes is repealed.

19 **INSERT 6-24:**

20 **SECTION 40.** 442.04 (3) <sup>X</sup> of the statutes is repealed.

21 **SECTION 41.** 442.04 (4) (b) <sup>X</sup> of the statutes is repealed.

22 **SECTION 42.** 442.04 (4) (bm) <sup>✓</sup> of the statutes is amended to read:

23 442.04 (4) (bm) ~~After December 31, 2000,~~ a A person may not take the  
24 examination leading to the certificate to practice as a certified public accountant  
25 unless the person has completed at least 150 semester hours of education with an



1 accounting concentration at an institution, and has received a bachelor's or higher  
2 degree with an accounting concentration from an institution, except as provided in  
3 par. (c).

4 History: 1975 c. 224; 1977 c. 219, 418; 1979 c. 337; 1981 c. 356, 380, 391; 1995 a. 333.

SECTION 43. 442.04 (4) (c) of the statutes is amended to read:

5 442.04 (4) (c) If an applicant has a bachelor's or higher degree from an  
6 institution but does not have a resident major in accounting required in par. (b) or  
7 an accounting concentration required in par. (bm), the examining board may review  
8 such other educational experience from an institution as the applicant presents and,  
9 if the examining board determines that such other experience provides the  
10 reasonable equivalence of a resident major in accounting required in par. (b) or an  
11 accounting concentration required in par. (bm), the examining board shall approve  
12 the applicant for examination.

13 History: 1975 c. 224; 1977 c. 219, 418; 1979 c. 337; 1981 c. 356, 380, 391; 1995 a. 333.

INSERT 7-19:

14 SECTION 44. 442.06 of the statutes is repealed.

15 SECTION 45. 442.07 (title) of the statutes is amended to read:

16 442.07 (title) Requirements for practice as certified public accountant  
17 or public accountant.

18 History: 1977 c. 29; 1981 c. 356; 1991 a. 316.

SECTION 46. 442.07 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

19 442.07 (1) Any person who has been issued a certificate of the person's  
20 qualifications to practice as a certified public accountant, shall be styled and known  
21 as a "certified public accountant" and no other person shall assume to use such title  
22 or the abbreviation "C.P.A." or any other word, words, letters, or figures to indicate  
23 that the person using the same is a certified public accountant. The terms "chartered  
24 accountant" and "certified accountant" and the abbreviation "C.A." are specifically



1 prohibited to such other persons as being prima facie misleading to the public. Any  
 2 ~~person who has been issued a certificate of authority, as herein provided, shall be~~  
 3 ~~styled and known as a "public accountant" and no other person, other than a certified~~  
 4 ~~public accountant, shall assume to use such designation or any other word, words,~~  
 5 ~~letters or figures to indicate that such person is entitled to practice as a public~~  
 6 ~~accountant.~~

History: 1977 c. 29; 1981 c. 356; 1991 a. 316.

**INSERT 9-14:**

8 3. That each person who holds an ownership interest in the firm, ✓ and who does  
 9 not hold a certificate or license to practice as a certified public accountant, is an  
 10 individual who actively participates in the firm or an affiliated entity.

**INSERT 10-14:**

12 ~~20~~ and that is conducted by a person approved by the examining board ✓ under the rules

**INSERT 10-24:**

14 ~~22~~ The examining board shall promulgate rules that describe the peer review required  
 15 to renew a firm's license under sub. (2) ✓. The rules shall include requirements for the  
 16 examining board to approve one or more persons to conduct the peer reviews.

**INSERT 11-8:**

18 **SECTION 47.** 442.10 (1) ✓ of the statutes is amended to read:  
 19 442.10 (1) Whenever any person, as a certified public accountant ✓ or public  
 20 accountant, signs or certifies any report, schedule, or statement relative to the affairs  
 21 of any corporation, association, or partnership in which the person is financially  
 22 interested or by which the person is regularly engaged as an officer or employee, the  
 23 signature or certification shall be accompanied by a specific statement setting forth  
 24 the fact that the person is financially interested in or is an officer or regular employee



1 of the corporation, association, or partnership. If the person is both financially  
2 interested and an officer or regular employee, the statement shall cover both  
3 financial interest and employment. In the case of a <sup>plan</sup> corporation holding a certificate  
4 of authority firm signing or certifying as above described in this subsection, the  
5 interest of any of its stockholders members shall be disclosed.

History: 1977 c. 264; 1993 a. 490.

**INSERT 11-16:**

7 **SECTION 48.** 442.11 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

8 442.11 (1) Uses any term other than certified public accountant or the  
9 abbreviation C. P. A. to indicate that he or she is a certified public accountant with  
10 a specially granted title.

History: 1977 c. 29, 418; 1979 c. 162 s. 38 (4), (7), (9); 1981 c. 356; 1999 a. 85.

**INSERT 12-14:**

12 **SECTION 49.** 442.11 (6) of the statutes is repealed.

13 **SECTION 50.** 442.11 (7) of the statutes is amended to read:

14 442.11 (7) Practices as a certified public accountant ~~or as a public accountant~~  
15 after his or her certificate has been revoked.

History: 1977 c. 29, 418; 1979 c. 162 s. 38 (4), (7), (9); 1981 c. 356; 1999 a. 85.

**INSERT 12-20:**

17 **SECTION 51.** 442.11 (9) of the statutes is amended to read:

18 442.11 (9) Sells, buys, gives, or obtains an alleged certificate as a certified  
19 public accountant, ~~a certificate of authority~~ or a license in any manner other than  
20 that provided for by this chapter.

History: 1977 c. 29, 418; 1979 c. 162 s. 38 (4), (7), (9); 1981 c. 356; 1999 a. 85.

21 **SECTION 52.** 442.11 (10) of the statutes is amended to read:



1            442.11 (10) Attempts to practice as a certified public accountant<sup>✓</sup> ~~er as a public~~  
2      ~~accountant~~ under the guise of a certificate not granted by the examining board or  
3      under cover of a certificate obtained illegally or fraudulently.

4      History: 1977 c. 29, 418; 1979 c. 162 s. 38 (4), (7), (9); 1981 c. 356; 1999 a. 85.

4            **SECTION 53.** 442.11 (12) of the statutes is amended to read:

5            442.11 (12) Attempts by any subterfuge to evade the provisions of this chapter  
6      while practicing as a certified<sup>✓</sup> public accountant.

7      History: 1977 c. 29, 418; 1979 c. 162 s. 38 (4), (7), (9); 1981 c. 356; 1999 a. 85.

7            **INSERT 13-3:**

8            **SECTION 54.** 442.12 (intro.)<sup>✓</sup> of the statutes is amended to read:

9            **442.12 Disciplinary action.** (intro.) Subject to the rules promulgated under  
10     s. 440.03 (1), the examining board may do any of the following<sup>✓</sup>:

11     History: 1977 c. 187, 418; 1981 c. 356; 1997 a. 191, 237.

11            **INSERT 13-8:**

12            **SECTION 55.** 442.13<sup>✓</sup> of the statutes is amended to read:

13            **442.13 Ownership of accountant's working papers.** All statements,  
14     records, schedules, working papers, and memoranda made by a certified public  
15     accountant ~~or public accountant~~<sup>✓</sup> incident to or in the course of professional service  
16     to clients by ~~such a certified public~~ certified public accountant, except reports submitted by a  
17     certified public accountant ~~or public accountant~~ to a client, shall be and remain the  
18     property of ~~such~~ the certified public<sup>✓</sup> accountant, in the absence of an express  
19     agreement between ~~such~~ the certified public accountant and the client to the  
20     contrary. No such statement, record, schedule, working paper, or memorandum shall  
21     be sold, transferred, or bequeathed, without the consent of the client or the client's  
22     personal representative or assignee, to anyone other than ~~one or more surviving~~



1 ~~partners or new or successor partners of such~~ any member of the firm of the <sup>✓</sup>  
2 public accountant.

History: 1991 a. 316.

3 <sup>✓</sup>  
**SECTION 56.** 442.14 of the statutes is repealed.

4 **SECTION 57.** 447.34 (2) <sup>✓</sup> of the statutes is amended to read:

5 447.34 (2) Legal counsel, certified public accountants <sup>✓</sup> licensed under ch. 442,  
6 or other persons as to matters the director or officer believes in good faith are within  
7 the person's professional or expert competence.

History: 1987 a. 13.

8 **SECTION 58.** 560.16 (6) (a) 3. <sup>✓</sup> of the statutes is amended to read:

9 560.16 (6) (a) 3. A verified statement of the financial condition and business  
10 operation of the existing business for the previous 3 years, certified by an  
11 independent certified public accountant <sup>✓</sup> licensed under ch. 442.

History: 1985 a. 29; 1989 a. 31; 1991 a. 39; 1993 a. 16; 1997 a. 27. <sup>✓</sup>

12 **SECTION 59.** 893.66 (title) <sup>✓</sup> of the statutes is amended to read:

13 **893.66 (title) Accountants** <sup>✓</sup> **Certified public accountants; limitations of**  
14 **actions.**

History: 1993 a. 310.

15 **SECTION 60.** 893.66 (1) <sup>✓</sup> of the statutes is amended to read:

16 893.66 (1) Except as provided in subs. (1m) to (4), an action to recover damages,  
17 based on tort, contract or other legal theory, against any certified public accountant  
18 licensed ~~or certified~~ under ch. 442 for an act or omission in the performance of  
19 professional accounting services shall be commenced within 6 years from the date  
20 of the act or omission or be barred.

History: 1993 a. 310.



State of Wisconsin  
2001 - 2002 LEGISLATURE

LRB-0256/P2

MDK:jld:jf

D-NOTE

1

PRELIMINARY DRAFT - NOT READY FOR INTRODUCTION

TODAY  
2-27 PM

RM  
NOT  
RUN

~~Tomorrow  
2-27 PM  
if possible~~

Regen

1 AN ACT to repeal 440.08 (2) (a) 2., 442.03 (2), 442.03 (3), 442.04 (3), 442.04 (4) (b),  
2 442.06, 442.07 (2), 442.11 (3), 442.11 (4), 442.11 (6) and 442.14; to renumber  
3 and amend 442.001, 442.02 (7), 442.02 (8), 442.02 (9) and 442.02 (10); to  
4 amend 39.75 (7) (d), 39.80 (5) (c), 45.353 (3), 64.12 (4), 64.34 (2), 66.0609 (3),  
5 100.03 (1) (bm), 100.03 (1) (ym) 2., 100.06 (1g) (c), 115.817 (5) (b) 1., 120.14 (3),  
6 120.18 (1) (gm), 127.01 (1r), 127.01 (25m) (b), 127.06 (1) (e), 127.06 (1m) (e),  
7 148.19 (2), 180.0701 (4) (c), 180.0826 (2), 180.1903 (1), 181.0850 (2), 181.1620  
8 (2) (intro.), 185.363 (2), 186.094 (2), 186.15 (1), 187.31 (2), 187.41 (2), 198.167,  
9 214.76 (2) and (4), 215.523 (2), 217.08 (2), 221.0616 (2), 440.05 (intro.), 440.08  
10 (2) (a) (intro.), 442.01 (2), 442.01 (3), 442.02 (title), 442.02 (1m) (intro.), 442.02  
11 (1m) (a), 442.02 (1m) (b), 442.02 (5m), 442.02 (6), 442.03 (1), 442.04 (4) (bm),  
12 442.04 (4) (c), 442.04 (5), 442.07 (title), 442.07 (1), 442.07 (3), 442.10 (1), 442.10  
13 (2), 442.11 (1), 442.11 (2), 442.11 (7), 442.11 (8), 442.11 (9), 442.11 (10), 442.11  
14 (12), 442.11 (13), 442.12 (intro.), 442.12 (3), 442.13, 447.34 (2), 560.16 (6) (a) 3.,  
15 893.66 (title) and 893.66 (1); to repeal and recreate 442.08; and to create



INSERT 2A

1 180.1903 (1m), 442.001 (1), 442.001 (2), 442.001 (4), 442.001 (5), 442.02 (1m)  
2 (dm), 442.025, 442.083 and 442.087 of the statutes; **relating to:** licensure of  
3 certified public accountants and accounting firms, attest and compilation  
4 services, peer review of accounting firms, eliminating certificates of authority  
5 for public accountants, and granting rule-making authority.

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*Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau*

~~This is a preliminary draft. An analysis will be prepared for a subsequent version of this draft.~~

For further information see the *state* fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

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

6 **SECTION 1.** 39.75 (7) (d) of the statutes is amended to read:

7 39.75 (7) (d) The commission shall keep accurate accounts of all receipts and  
8 disbursements. The receipts and disbursements of the commission shall be subject  
9 to the audit and accounting procedures established by its bylaws. However, all  
10 receipts and disbursements of funds handled by the commission shall be audited  
11 yearly by a qualified certified public accountant licensed under ch. 442, and the  
12 report of the audit shall be included in and become part of the annual reports of the  
13 commission.

14 **SECTION 2.** 39.80 (5) (c) of the statutes is amended to read:

15 39.80 (5) (c) The commission shall keep accurate accounts of all receipts and  
16 disbursements. The receipts and disbursements of the commission shall be subject  
17 to the audit and accounting procedures established under its bylaws. However, all  
18 receipts and disbursements of funds handled by the commission shall be audited

1 yearly by a certified ~~or licensed~~ public accountant licensed under ch. 442 and the  
2 report of the audit shall be included in and become part of the annual report of the  
3 commission.

4 **SECTION 3.** 45.353 (3) of the statutes is amended to read:

5 45.353 (3) Application by any such state veterans organization shall be filed  
6 annually with the department for the 12-month period commencing on April 1 and  
7 ending on March 31 of the year in which it is filed. An application shall contain a  
8 statement of salaries and travel expenses paid to employees engaged in veterans  
9 claims service maintained at the regional office by such state veterans organization  
10 covering the period for which application for a grant is made, which statement has  
11 been certified as correct by ~~an a certified public accountant certified~~ licensed under  
12 ch. 442 and sworn to as correct by the adjutant or principal officer of the state  
13 veterans organization. The application shall also contain the state organization's  
14 financial statement for its last completed fiscal year and such evidence of claims  
15 service activity as the department requires. Sufficient evidence shall be submitted  
16 with an initial application to establish that the state veterans organization, or its  
17 national organization, or both, has maintained a full-time service office at the  
18 regional office without interruption throughout 5 years out of the 10-year period  
19 immediately preceding such application. Subsequent applications must be  
20 accompanied by an affidavit by the adjutant or principal officer of such state veterans  
21 organization stating that a full-time service office was maintained at the regional  
22 office by such state veterans organization, or by such state organization and its  
23 national organization, for the entire 12-month period for which application for a  
24 grant is made.

25 **SECTION 4.** 64.12 (4) of the statutes is amended to read:

1           64.12 (4) At the end of each fiscal year the council shall cause a full and  
2 complete examination of all the books and accounts of the city to be made by  
3 competent certified public accountants licensed under ch. 442 who shall report in full  
4 to the council. The summaries of such audits shall be presented and furnished to all  
5 newspapers and libraries of the city and to such other persons as shall apply therefor.

6           **SECTION 5.** 64.34 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

7           64.34 (2) At the end of each year the council shall cause a full and complete  
8 examination of all of the books and accounts of the city to be made by competent  
9 certified public accountants licensed under ch. 442, who shall report in full thereon  
10 to the council. Copies of such reports shall be furnished by the council to all  
11 newspapers of the city and to all persons who shall apply therefor.

12           **SECTION 6.** 66.0609 (3) of the statutes is amended to read:

13           66.0609 (3) The ordinance under sub. (1) shall require that the governing body  
14 of the city or village obtain an annual detailed audit of its financial transactions and  
15 accounts by a certified public accountant licensed under ch. 442 and designated by  
16 the governing body.

17           **SECTION 7.** 100.03 (1) (bm) of the statutes is amended to read:

18           100.03 (1) (bm) “Audited financial statement” means a financial statement  
19 that, in the accompanying opinion of an independent certified public accountant ~~or~~  
20 ~~a public accountant holding a certificate of authority~~ licensed under ch. 442, fairly  
21 and in all material respects represents the financial position of the contractor, the  
22 results of the contractor’s operations and the contractor’s cash flows in conformity  
23 with generally accepted accounting principles.

24           **SECTION 8.** 100.03 (1) (ym) 2. of the statutes is amended to read:

1           100.03 (1) (ym) 2. Reviewed according to generally accepted accounting  
2 principles by an independent certified public accountant ~~or a public accountant~~  
3 ~~holding a certificate of authority~~ licensed under ch. 442.

4           **SECTION 9.** 100.06 (1g) (c) of the statutes is amended to read:

5           100.06 (1g) (c) The department shall require the applicant to file a financial  
6 statement of his or her business operations and financial condition that meets the  
7 requirements of par. (d). The licensee, during the term of his or her license, may be  
8 required to file such statements periodically. All such statements shall be  
9 confidential and shall not be open for public inspection, except that the department  
10 shall provide the name and address of an individual, the name and address of the  
11 individual's employer and financial information related to the individual contained  
12 in such statements if requested under s. 49.22 (2m) by the department of workforce  
13 development or a county child support agency under s. 59.53 (5). The department  
14 may require such statements to be certified by a certified public accountant licensed  
15 under ch. 442. Such statements and audits, when made by the department, shall be  
16 paid for at cost.

17           **SECTION 10.** 115.817 (5) (b) 1. of the statutes is amended to read:

18           115.817 (5) (b) 1. At the close of each fiscal year, the board shall employ a  
19 licensed certified public accountant licensed under ch. 442 to audit its accounts and  
20 certify the audit. The cost of the audit shall be paid from board funds.

21           **SECTION 11.** 120.14 (3) of the statutes is amended to read:

22           120.14 (3) The annual meeting may authorize and direct an audit of the school  
23 district accounts by a licensed certified public accountant licensed under ch. 442.

24           **SECTION 12.** 120.18 (1) (gm) of the statutes is amended to read:

1           120.18 (1) (gm) Payroll and related benefit costs for all school district  
2 employees in the previous school year. Costs for represented employees shall be  
3 based upon the costs of any collective bargaining agreements covering such  
4 employees for the previous school year. If, as of the time specified by the department  
5 for filing the report, the school district has not entered into a collective bargaining  
6 agreement for any portion of the previous school year with the recognized or certified  
7 representative of any of its employees and the school district and the representative  
8 have been required to submit final offers under s. 111.70 (4) (cm) 6., increased costs  
9 limited to the lower of the school district's offer or the representative's offer shall be  
10 reflected in the report. The school district shall amend the annual report to reflect  
11 any change in such costs as a result of any award or settlement under s. 111.70 (4)  
12 (cm) 6. between the date of filing the report and October 1. Any such amendment  
13 shall be concurred in by the ~~licensed~~ certified public accountant licensed under ch.  
14 442 certifying the school district audit.

15           **SECTION 13.** 127.01 (1r) of the statutes is amended to read:

16           127.01 (1r) "Audited financial statement" means a financial statement on  
17 which an independent certified public accountant, ~~or an independent public~~  
18 ~~accountant holding a certificate of authority~~ licensed under ch. 442, has expressed  
19 an opinion according to generally accepted accounting principles and has conducted  
20 an audit according to generally accepted auditing standards.

21           **SECTION 14.** 127.01 (25m) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

22           127.01 (25m) (b) The financial statement is reviewed according to generally  
23 accepted accounting principles by an independent certified public accountant ~~or an~~  
24 ~~independent public accountant who holds a certificate of authority~~ licensed under ch.  
25 442.

1           **SECTION 15.** 127.06 (1) (e) of the statutes is amended to read:

2           127.06 (1) (e) The department may extend the filing deadline under par. (a) 2.  
3 by up to 30 days in response to a written request from a warehouse keeper or an  
4 independent certified public accountant, ~~or an independent public accountant~~  
5 ~~holding a certificate of authority~~ licensed under ch. 442, that is auditing or reviewing  
6 the financial statement for a warehouse keeper if the department receives the  
7 request on or before the 5th day of the 4th month beginning after the close of the  
8 warehouse keeper's fiscal year and if the request states the reason for the extension.

9           **SECTION 16.** 127.06 (1m) (e) of the statutes is amended to read:

10          127.06 (1m) (e) The department may extend the filing deadline under par. (b)  
11 2. by up to 30 days in response to a written request from a grain dealer or an  
12 independent certified public accountant, ~~or an independent public accountant who~~  
13 ~~holds a certificate of authority~~ licensed under ch. 442, that is auditing or reviewing  
14 the financial statement for a grain dealer, if the department receives the written  
15 request on or before the 5th day of the 4th month beginning after the close of the grain  
16 dealer's fiscal year and if the request states the reason for the extension.

17          **SECTION 17.** 148.19 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

18          148.19 (2) Legal counsel, certified public accountants licensed under ch. 442,  
19 or other persons as to matters the director or officer believes in good faith are within  
20 the person's professional or expert competence.

21          **SECTION 18.** 180.0701 (4) (c) of the statutes is amended to read:

22          180.0701 (4) (c) Ratification of the selection of independent certified public  
23 accountants licensed under ch. 442.

24          **SECTION 19.** 180.0826 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

1           180.0826 (2) Legal counsel, certified public accountants licensed under ch. 442,  
2 or other persons as to matters that the director or officer believes in good faith are  
3 within the person's professional or expert competence.

4           **SECTION 20.** 180.1903 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

5           180.1903 (1) ~~One~~ Except as provided in sub. (1m), one or more natural persons  
6 licensed, certified, or registered pursuant to any provisions of the statutes, if all have  
7 the same license, certificate, or registration or if all are health care professionals,  
8 may organize and own shares in a service corporation. A service corporation may  
9 own, operate, and maintain an establishment and otherwise serve the convenience  
10 of its shareholders in carrying on the particular profession, calling, or trade for which  
11 the licensure, certification, or registration of its organizers is required.

12           **SECTION 21.** 180.1903 (1m) of the statutes is created to read:

13           180.1903 (1m) A service corporation for carrying on the profession of public  
14 accounting may be organized under sub. (1) if more than 50% of the shareholders are  
15 certified public accountants licensed under ch. 442.

16           **SECTION 22.** 181.0850 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

17           181.0850 (2) PROFESSIONALS AND EXPERTS. Legal counsel, certified public  
18 accountants licensed under ch. 442, or other persons as to matters the director or  
19 officer believes in good faith are within the person's professional or expert  
20 competence.

21           **SECTION 23.** 181.1620 (2) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

22           181.1620 (2) (intro.) ~~ACCOUNTANTS~~ CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS REPORT OR  
23 OFFICER'S STATEMENT. If annual financial statements are reported upon by a certified  
24 public accountant licensed under ch. 442, the certified public accountant's report  
25 must accompany them. If not, the statements must be accompanied by a statement

1 of the president or the person responsible for the corporation's financial accounting  
2 records that includes all of the following:

3 **SECTION 24.** 185.363 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

4 185.363 (2) Legal counsel, certified public accountants licensed under ch. 442,  
5 or other persons as to matters the director or officer believes in good faith are within  
6 the person's professional or expert competence.

7 **SECTION 25.** 186.094 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

8 186.094 (2) Legal counsel, certified public accountants licensed under ch. 442,  
9 or other persons as to matters the director or officer believes in good faith are within  
10 the person's professional or expert competence.

11 **SECTION 26.** 186.15 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

12 186.15 (1) ANNUAL AUDIT. Except as provided in sub. (2), the board of directors  
13 shall hire a ~~licensed~~ certified public accountant licensed under ch. 442 or other  
14 qualified person to conduct a comprehensive annual audit of the records, accounts  
15 and affairs of the credit union.

16 **SECTION 27.** 187.31 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

17 187.31 (2) Legal counsel, certified public accountants licensed under ch. 442,  
18 or other professional persons or experts employed by the incorporated Roman  
19 Catholic church, as to matters the director or officer believes in good faith are within  
20 the person's professional or expert competence.

21 **SECTION 28.** 187.41 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

22 187.41 (2) Legal counsel, certified public accountants licensed under ch. 442,  
23 or other professional persons or experts employed by the religious organization, as  
24 to matters the director or officer believes in good faith are within the person's  
25 professional or expert competence.



1           **SECTION 29.** 198.167 of the statutes is amended to read:

2           **198.167 Certified public accountant; annual report.** The directors of the  
3 district shall employ annually the commission or a certified public accountant  
4 licensed under ch. 442 approved by said commission who shall be qualified to, and  
5 who shall with all due diligence, examine and report upon the system of accounts  
6 kept by the district, all the contracts of whatsoever kind made and entered into by  
7 the board of directors within the year immediately preceding, and the properties and  
8 investments of the district. ~~Said~~ The certified public accountant shall in the report  
9 make such recommendations and suggestions as to the certified public accountant  
10 shall seem proper and required for the good of the district, and the efficient and  
11 economical or advantageous management and operation of the public utility or  
12 utilities of the district; and the certified public accountant shall in the report make  
13 such recommendations and suggestions as to the system of accounts kept, or in the  
14 certified public accountant's judgment to be kept, by the district, in connection with  
15 each public utility, the classification of the public utilities of the district and the  
16 establishment of a system of accounts for each class, the manner in which such  
17 accounts shall be kept, the form of accounts, records, and memoranda kept or to be  
18 kept, including accounts, records, and memoranda of receipts and expenditures of  
19 money, and depreciation and sinking fund accounts, as in the certified public  
20 accountant's judgment may be proper and necessary, and shall not conflict with the  
21 requirements of the commission.

22           **SECTION 30.** 214.76 (2) and (4) of the statutes are amended to read:

23           **214.76 (2)** The certified public accountant shall deliver the audit report to a  
24 committee composed of 3 or more members of the board of directors, none of whom  
25 may be an officer, employee or agent of the savings bank. The committee shall

1 present the nature, extent and conclusions of the report at the next meeting of the  
2 board of directors. A written summary of the committee's presentation, together  
3 with a copy of the audit report and a list of all criticisms made by the certified public  
4 accountant conducting the audit and any response of any member of the board of  
5 directors or any officer of the savings bank, shall be personally served or sent by  
6 certified mail to all members of the board of directors.

7 (4) The audit report filed with the division shall be certified by the certified  
8 public accountant conducting the audit. If a savings bank fails to cause an audit to  
9 be made, the division shall order an audit to be made by an independent certified  
10 public accountant at the savings bank's expense. Instead of the audit required under  
11 sub. (1), the division may accept an audit or portion of an audit made exclusively for  
12 a deposit insurance corporation or for a financial regulator of another state if the  
13 home office of the savings bank is located in that state.

14 **SECTION 31.** 215.523 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

15 215.523 (2) Legal counsel, certified public accountants licensed under ch. 442,  
16 or other persons as to matters the director or officer believes in good faith are within  
17 the person's professional or expert competence.

18 **SECTION 32.** 217.08 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

19 217.08 (2) ANNUAL LICENSE FEE; ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS OF LOCATIONS. Each  
20 licensee shall file with the division on or before December 1 of each year a statement  
21 listing the locations of the offices of the licensee and the names and locations of the  
22 agents authorized by the licensee. Every licensee shall also on or before December  
23 1 of each year file a financial statement of its assets and liabilities as of a date not  
24 earlier than the preceding August 31 or, if the licensee is audited annually by an  
25 independent certified public accountant licensed under ch. 442 at the end of each

1 fiscal year, the licensee may submit financial statements certified by said the  
2 certified public accountant for the licensee's latest fiscal year. Such statement shall  
3 be accompanied by the annual licensee fee for the calendar year beginning the  
4 following January 1 in an amount determined under s. 217.05. The amount of the  
5 surety bond or deposit of securities required by s. 217.06 shall be adjusted to reflect  
6 the number of such locations. Licensees which do not pay the maximum license fee  
7 under s. 217.05 and which do not maintain a bond or deposit of securities in the  
8 maximum sum of \$300,000 as provided in s. 217.06 shall also file a supplemental  
9 statement setting forth any changes in the list of offices and agents with the division  
10 on or before April 1, July 1 and October 1 of each year, and the principal sum of the  
11 corporate surety bond or deposit of securities required by s. 217.06 shall be adjusted  
12 to reflect any increase or decrease in the number of such locations. Any additional  
13 license fees which may become due under s. 217.05 shall be paid to the division.

14 **SECTION 33.** 221.0616 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

15 221.0616 (2) EXPERTS. Legal counsel, certified public accountants licensed  
16 under ch. 442, or other persons as to matters that the director or officer believes in  
17 good faith are within the person's professional or expert competence.

18 **SECTION 34.** 440.05 (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

19 **440.05 Standard fees.** (intro.) The following standard fees apply to all initial  
20 credentials, except as provided in ss. 440.42, 440.43, 440.44, 440.51, 442.06, 444.03,  
21 444.05, 444.11, 447.04 (2) (c) 2., 449.17, 449.18 and 459.46:

22 **SECTION 35.** 440.08 (2) (a) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

23 440.08 (2) (a) (intro.) Except as provided in par. (b) and in ss. 440.51, 442.04,  
24 ~~442.06~~, 444.03, 444.05, 444.11, 448.065, 447.04 (2) (c) 2., 449.17, 449.18 and 459.46,  
25 the renewal dates and renewal fees for credentials are as follows:

1           **SECTION 36.** 440.08 (2) (a) 2. of the statutes is repealed.

2           **SECTION 37.** 442.001 of the statutes is renumbered 442.001 (intro.) and  
3 amended to read:

4           **442.001 ~~Definition~~ Definitions.** (intro.) In this chapter, “~~examining:~~

5           **(3) “Examining board”** means the accounting examining board.

6           **SECTION 38.** 442.001 (1) of the statutes is created to read:

7           442.001 (1) “Attest service” means any of the following:

8           (a) An audit or any other engagement that is performed or intended to be  
9 performed in accordance with the statements on auditing standards issued by the  
10 American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

11           (b) A review of a financial statement that is performed or intended to be  
12 performed in accordance with the statements on standards for accounting and  
13 review services issued by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

14           (c) An examination of prospective financial information that is performed or  
15 intended to be performed in accordance with the statements on standards for  
16 attestation engagements issued by the American Institute of Certified Public  
17 Accountants.

18           **SECTION 39.** 442.001 (2) of the statutes is created to read:

19           442.001 (2) “Compilation service” means a service that satisfies each of the  
20 following:

21           (a) The service is performed or intended to be performed in accordance with the  
22 statements on standards for accounting and review services issued by the American  
23 Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

1 (b) The service consists of presenting, in the form of financial statements,  
2 information that is the representation of the management of the business that has  
3 requested the service.

4 (c) The service is provided without expressing any assurance on the financial  
5 statements specified in par. (b).

6 **SECTION 40.** 442.001 (4) of the statutes is created to read:

7 442.001 (4) “Firm” means a proprietorship, partnership, limited liability  
8 partnership, corporation, service corporation, or limited liability company.

9 **SECTION 41.** 442.001 (5) of the statutes is created to read:

10 442.001 (5) “Member of a firm” means a director, manager, member, officer,  
11 owner, shareholder, principal, or partner of a firm.

12 **SECTION 42.** 442.01 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

13 442.01 (2) No standard or rule relating to professional conduct or unethical  
14 practice may be adopted until the examining board has held a public hearing with  
15 reference thereto, subject to the rules promulgated under s. 440.03 (1). No rule or  
16 standard shall become effective until 60 days after its adoption by the examining  
17 board. Any person who has appeared at the public hearing and filed written protest  
18 against any proposed standard or rule may, upon the adoption of such standard or  
19 rule, obtain a review thereof under ch. 227. Thereafter every person practicing as  
20 a certified public accountant in the state shall be governed and controlled by the rules  
21 and standards prescribed by the examining board.

22 **SECTION 43.** 442.01 (3) of the statutes is amended to read:

23 442.01 (3) The examining board shall record its proceedings.

24 **SECTION 44.** 442.02 (title) of the statutes is amended to read:

25 442.02 (title) **Public Certified public accountant, definition.**

1           **SECTION 45.** 442.02 (1m) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

2           442.02 (1m) (intro.) A person shall be considered to be in practice as a certified  
3 public accountant, within the meaning and intent of this chapter, if any of the  
4 following conditions is met:

5           **SECTION 46.** 442.02 (1m) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

6           442.02 (1m) (a) The person holds himself or herself out to the public in any  
7 manner as one skilled in the knowledge, science, and practice of accounting, and as  
8 qualified and ready to render professional service therein as a certified public  
9 accountant for compensation.

10          **SECTION 47.** 442.02 (1m) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

11          442.02 (1m) (b) The person maintains an office for the transaction of business  
12 as a certified public accountant or, except as an employee of a certified public  
13 accountant, practices accounting, as distinguished from bookkeeping, for more than  
14 one employer.

15          **SECTION 48.** 442.02 (1m) (dm) of the statutes is created to read:

16          442.02 (1m) (dm) The person provides or offers to provide an attest or  
17 compilation service.

18          **SECTION 49.** 442.02 (5m) of the statutes is amended to read:

19          442.02 (5m) Subsection (1m) (f) does not prohibit any officer, employee,  
20 partner, or principal of any organization from affixing his or her signature to any  
21 statement or report in reference to the affairs of that organization with any wording  
22 designating the position, title, or office that he or she holds in that organization and  
23 ~~does not prohibit any act of a public official or public employee in the performance~~  
24 ~~of his or her duties.~~

25          **SECTION 50.** 442.02 (6) of the statutes is amended to read:

*licensed under this chapter*

1 442.02 (6) Every member of a partnership and every officer and director of a  
2 corporation firm who, ~~in the capacity of partner, officer or director~~ as a member of the  
3 firm, does any of the things enumerated in sub. (1m) (a) to (f), shall be considered to  
4 be in practice as a certified public accountant.

5 SECTION 51. 442.02 (7) of the statutes is renumbered 442.025 (1) and amended  
6 to read:

7 442.025 (1) (intro.) ~~Nothing contained in this chapter shall prevent the~~  
8 ~~employment~~ Persons employed by a certified public accountant, ~~or by a public~~  
9 ~~accountant, or by a firm or corporation furnishing public accounting services as~~  
10 principal, of persons to serve as accountants in various capacities, as needed, if all  
11 of the following conditions are met:

12 (a) The employees serving as accountants work under the control and  
13 supervision of certified public accountants, ~~or accountants with certificates of~~  
14 ~~authority granted under s. 442.06.~~

15 (b) ~~These~~ The employees serving as accountants shall do not issue any  
16 statements or reports over their own names except office reports to their employer  
17 that are customary.

18 (c) The employees serving as accountants are not in any manner held out to the  
19 public as certified public accountants as described in this chapter.

20 SECTION 52. 442.02 (8) of the statutes is renumbered 442.025 (2) and amended  
21 to read:

22 442.025 (2) ~~Nothing contained in this chapter shall apply to a~~ A practicing  
23 attorney, who, in connection with his or her professional work renders any  
24 accounting service.

1           **SECTION 53.** 442.02 (9) of the statutes is renumbered 442.025 (3) and amended  
2 to read:

3           442.025 (3) (intro.) ~~Nothing contained in this chapter shall apply to any~~  
4 ~~persons who may be~~ A person employed by more than one person, ~~partnership or~~  
5 ~~corporation,~~ for the purpose of keeping books, making trial balances, or statements,  
6 and preparing ~~audits or~~ reports, if all of the following requirements are met:

7           (a) The ~~audits or~~ reports described in this subsection are not used or issued by  
8 the employers as having been prepared by a certified public accountant.

9           (b) The persons employed as described in this subsection do not do any of the  
10 things enumerated in sub. s. 442.02 (1m) (f) without complying with sub. s. 442.02  
11 (5m).

12           **SECTION 54.** 442.02 (10) of the statutes is renumbered 442.025 (4) and amended  
13 to read:

14           442.025 (4) ~~Nothing contained in this chapter shall apply to~~ The holders of  
15 state-granted certified public accountant certificates from other states who may be  
16 temporarily in this state on professional business incident to their regular practice  
17 in the states of their domicile, but with neither residence nor office in this state.

18           **SECTION 55.** 442.025 of the statutes is created to read:

19           **442.025 Applicability.** This chapter does not require a certificate or license  
20 under this chapter for any of the following:

21           (5) A public official or public employee in performing his or her duties.

22           (6) A person who performs services involving the use of accounting skills,  
23 including management advisory services, the preparation of tax returns, and the  
24 preparation of financial statements without issuing reports on the statements.



1 (7) A person who prepares financial statements and issues information thereon  
2 that does not purport to be in compliance with the statement on standards for  
3 accounting and review services issued by the American Institute of Certified Public  
4 Accountants.

*renumbered 442.03 and*

5 *Fix component* SECTION 56. 442.03 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

6 442.03 ~~442.03~~ *Licenses required.* ← (B) No person may lawfully practice in this state as a certified public  
7 accountant either in the person's own name, ~~or as an employee,~~ or under an assumed  
8 name, ~~or as an officer, member or employee of a firm, or as an officer or employee of~~  
9 ~~a corporation~~ a member of a firm, unless the person has been granted by the  
10 examining board a certificate as a certified public accountant, and unless the person,  
11 ~~firm or corporation, jointly and severally, has~~ and firm have complied with all of the  
12 provisions of this chapter, including licensure.

13 SECTION 57. 442.03 (2) of the statutes is repealed.

14 SECTION 58. 442.03 (3) of the statutes is repealed.

15 SECTION 59. 442.04 (3) of the statutes is repealed.

16 SECTION 60. 442.04 (4) (b) of the statutes is repealed.

17 SECTION 61. 442.04 (4) (bm) of the statutes is amended to read:

18 442.04 (4) (bm) ~~After December 31, 2000,~~ a A person may not take the  
19 examination leading to the certificate to practice as a certified public accountant  
20 unless the person has completed at least 150 semester hours of education with an  
21 accounting concentration at an institution, and has received a bachelor's or higher  
22 degree with an accounting concentration from an institution, except as provided in  
23 par. (c).

24 SECTION 62. 442.04 (4) (c) of the statutes is amended to read:

1           442.04 (4) (c) If an applicant has a bachelor's or higher degree from an  
2 institution but does not have ~~a resident major in accounting required in par. (b) or~~  
3 an accounting concentration required in par. (bm), the examining board may review  
4 such other educational experience from an institution as the applicant presents and,  
5 if the examining board determines that such other experience provides the  
6 reasonable equivalence of ~~a resident major in accounting required in par. (b) or an~~  
7 accounting concentration required in par. (bm), the examining board shall approve  
8 the applicant for examination.

9           **SECTION 63.** 442.04 (5) of the statutes is amended to read:

10           442.04 (5) The examining board may not grant a certificate as a certified public  
11 accountant to any person other than a person who is 18 years of age or older, does not  
12 have an arrest or conviction record, subject to ss. 111.321, 111.322, and 111.335, and,  
13 except as provided in s. 442.05, has successfully passed a written examination in  
14 such subjects affecting accountancy as the examining board considers necessary. If  
15 ~~the person applying for the certificate passes the examination during the period~~  
16 ~~beginning on May 17, 1996, and ending on December 31, 2000, the examining board~~  
17 ~~may not grant the certificate unless the applicant has at least 3 years of public~~  
18 ~~accounting experience or its equivalent, the sufficiency of the experience or the~~  
19 ~~equivalency to be judged by the examining board. If the person applying for the~~  
20 ~~certificate passes the examination after December 31, 2000, the~~ The examining  
21 board may not grant the certificate unless the applicant has at least 2 years one year  
22 of public accounting experience or its equivalent, the sufficiency of the experience or  
23 the equivalency to be judged by the examining board. The examining board shall  
24 ensure that evaluation procedures and examinations are nondiscriminatory, relate  
25 directly to accountancy, and are designed to measure only the ability to perform

1 competently as an accountant. The examining board may use the examination  
2 service provided by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

3 **SECTION 64.** 442.06 of the statutes is repealed.

4 **SECTION 65.** 442.07 (title) of the statutes is amended to read:

5 **442.07 (title) Requirements for practice as certified public accountant**  
6 **or public accountant.**

7 **SECTION 66.** 442.07 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

8 442.07 (1) Any person who has been issued a certificate of the person's  
9 qualifications to practice as a certified public accountant, shall be styled and known  
10 as a "certified public accountant" and no other person shall assume to use such title  
11 or the abbreviation "C.P.A." or any other word, words, letters, or figures to indicate  
12 that the person using the same is a certified public accountant. The terms "chartered  
13 accountant" and "certified accountant" and the abbreviation "C.A." are specifically  
14 prohibited to such other persons as being prima facie misleading to the public. Any  
15 ~~person who has been issued a certificate of authority, as herein provided, shall be~~  
16 ~~styled and known as a "public accountant" and no other person, other than a certified~~  
17 ~~public accountant, shall assume to use such designation or any other word, words,~~  
18 ~~letters or figures to indicate that such person is entitled to practice as a public~~  
19 ~~accountant.~~

20 **SECTION 67.** 442.07 (2) of the statutes is repealed.

21 **SECTION 68.** 442.07 (3) of the statutes is amended to read:

22 442.07 (3) Any ~~partnership, which~~ firm that is entitled to practice as certified  
23 public accountants in this state or any other state, and every resident member ~~and~~  
24 ~~resident manager of which~~ the firm who is a certified public accountant of this state,  
25 after registering the ~~partnership~~ firm name with the examining board, may use the

1 designation "certified public accountants" in connection with the partnership firm  
 2 name. ~~Any partnership, every member and resident manager of which is a certified~~  
 3 ~~public accountant of this state or any other state or holds a certificate of authority~~  
 4 ~~under this chapter, after registering the partnership name with the examining~~  
 5 ~~board, may use the designation "public accountants" in connection with the~~  
 6 ~~partnership name. An assumed name, in use prior to September 21, 1935, may be~~  
 7 ~~used the same as a partnership name, provided the individual persons practicing as~~  
 8 ~~principals under that name hold certificates granted by the examining board and~~  
 9 ~~register the name with the examining board.~~

10 SECTION 69. 442.08 of the statutes is repealed and recreated to read:

11 442.08 Licensure. (1) The department shall issue a license to ~~a person~~ <sup>an individual</sup> who  
 12 holds an unrevoked certificate as a certified public accountant, submits an  
 13 application for the license on a form provided by the department, and pays the fee  
 14 specified in s. 440.05 (1).

15 (2) The department shall issue a license to a firm that submits an application  
 16 for the license on a form provided by the department, pays the fee specified in s.  
 17 440.05 (1), and does each of the following:

18 (a) Identifies each office of the firm that is located in this state.

19 (b) If any person who holds an ownership interest in the firm is not licensed  
 20 under sub. (1), designates ~~a person~~ <sup>an individual</sup> licensed under sub. (1) as the ~~person~~ <sup>individual</sup> responsible  
 21 for the firm's compliance with this chapter.

22 (c) Demonstrates, to the satisfaction of the department, each of the following:

23 1. That all attest and compilation services provided by the firm in this state are  
 24 under the charge of ~~a person~~ <sup>an individual</sup> licensed under sub. (1).

*individuals* ✓

1           2. That more than 50% of the ownership interest of the firm is held by ~~persons~~  
2 who hold certificates or licenses to practice as a certified public accountant issued  
3 under the laws of any state or foreign country.

4           3. That each person who holds an ownership interest in the firm, and who does  
5 not hold a certificate or license to practice as a certified public accountant, is an  
6 individual who actively participates in the firm or an affiliated entity.

7           (3) The examining board shall promulgate rules that define “ownership  
8 interest” for purposes of sub. (2) and for determining the percentage of a person’s  
9 ownership interest in a firm. In promulgating the rules, the examining board shall  
10 consider the financial interests and voting rights of all members of a firm.

11           **SECTION 70.** 442.083 of the statutes is created to read:

12           **442.083 Renewal.** The renewal dates and renewal fees for licenses issued  
13 under this chapter are specified under s. 440.08 (2) (a). The department may not  
14 renew a license issued to a firm unless, at the time of renewal, the firm satisfies the  
15 requirements under s. 442.08 (2) and demonstrates, to the satisfaction of the  
16 department, that the firm has complied with the requirements under s. 442.087.

17           **SECTION 71.** 442.087 of the statutes is created to read:

18           **442.087 Peer review.** (1) **DEFINITION.** In this section, “peer review” means  
19 a process for a person licensed under this chapter to evaluate the professional  
20 competency of the members of a firm who are responsible for attest or compilation  
21 services provided by the firm or who sign or authorize another individual to sign  
22 accounting reports or financial statements on behalf of the firm.

23           (2) **RENEWAL OF FIRM LICENSES.** The department may not renew the license of  
24 a firm unless, at least once every 3 years, the firm undergoes the peer review that

1 is specified in the rules promulgated under sub. (3) and that is conducted by a person  
2 approved by the examining board under the rules.

3 (3) RULES. The examining board shall promulgate rules that describe the peer  
4 review required to renew a firm's license under sub. (2). The rules shall include  
5 requirements for the examining board to approve one or more persons to conduct the  
6 peer reviews. The rules shall also require each person approved by the examining  
7 board to conduct peer reviews to periodically report to the examining board on the  
8 effectiveness of the peer reviews conducted by the person and to provide the  
9 examining board with a listing of all firms that have undergone peer review  
10 conducted by the person. *or the department ✓*

11 (4) CONFIDENTIALITY. A person approved by the examining board to conduct  
12 peer reviews may not disclose to any person, including the examining board, any  
13 information obtained or document produced during the course of or as a result of a  
14 review unless the firm undergoing the review consents to the disclosure.

15 SECTION 72. 442.10 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

16 442.10 (1) Whenever any person, as a certified public accountant ~~or public~~  
17 ~~accountant~~, signs or certifies any report, schedule, or statement relative to the affairs  
18 of any corporation, association, or partnership in which the person is financially  
19 interested or by which the person is regularly engaged as an officer or employee, the  
20 signature or certification shall be accompanied by a specific statement setting forth  
21 the fact that the person is financially interested in or is an officer or regular employee  
22 of the corporation, association, or partnership. If the person is both financially  
23 interested and an officer or regular employee, the statement shall cover both  
24 financial interest and employment. In the case of a ~~corporation holding a certificate~~

1 of ~~authority~~ firm signing or certifying as ~~above~~ described in this subsection, the  
2 interest of any of its ~~stockholders~~ members shall be disclosed.

3 **SECTION 73.** 442.10 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

4 442.10 (2) Notwithstanding sub. (1), no person licensed under this chapter, and  
5 no firm of which the person is a ~~partner or shareholder~~ member, may express an  
6 opinion as an independent certified public accountant on financial statements of any  
7 enterprise unless the person and the firm are independent of the enterprise. The  
8 requirement for independence under this subsection also extends to the spouse of  
9 such a person and to other relatives having a financial or business relationship with  
10 the enterprise which, in the opinion of the examining board, may impair  
11 independence.

12 **SECTION 74.** 442.11 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

13 442.11 (1) Uses any term other than certified public accountant or the  
14 abbreviation C. P. A. to indicate that he or she is a certified public accountant with  
15 a specially granted title.

↳ plain

16 **SECTION 75.** 442.11 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

17 442.11 (2) While practicing under an assumed name, or as a member of a  
18 ~~partnership~~ firm, other than a ~~partnership~~ firm with a name that is registered under  
19 s. 442.07 ~~as composed of certified public accountants, or as an officer of a corporation,~~  
20 ~~(3)~~ announces, either in writing or by printing, that the assumed name, ~~partnership~~  
21 ~~or corporation~~ or firm is practicing as a certified public accountant.

← delete

22 **SECTION 76.** 442.11 (3) of the statutes is repealed.

23 **SECTION 77.** 442.11 (4) of the statutes is repealed.

24 **SECTION 78.** 442.11 (6) of the statutes is repealed.

25 **SECTION 79.** 442.11 (7) of the statutes is amended to read:

1           442.11 (7) Practices as a certified public accountant ~~or as a public accountant~~  
2 after his or her certificate has been revoked.

3           **SECTION 80.** 442.11 (8) of the statutes is amended to read:

4           442.11 (8) As an individual, ~~member of a partnership or officer or director of~~  
5 ~~a corporation~~ or member of a firm, practices or permits the partnership ~~or~~  
6 ~~corporation~~ firm to practice as a certified public accountant ~~or as a public accountant~~  
7 unless a license has been secured for the current licensure period.

8           **SECTION 81.** 442.11 (9) of the statutes is amended to read:

9           442.11 (9) Sells, buys, gives, or obtains an alleged certificate as a certified  
10 public accountant, ~~a certificate of authority~~ or a license in any manner other than  
11 that provided for by this chapter.

12           **SECTION 82.** 442.11 (10) of the statutes is amended to read:

13           442.11 (10) Attempts to practice as a certified public accountant ~~or as a public~~  
14 ~~accountant~~ under the guise of a certificate not granted by the examining board or  
15 under cover of a certificate obtained illegally or fraudulently.

16           **SECTION 83.** 442.11 (12) of the statutes is amended to read:

17           442.11 (12) Attempts by any subterfuge to evade the provisions of this chapter  
18 while practicing as a certified public accountant.

19           **SECTION 84.** 442.11 (13) of the statutes is amended to read:

20           442.11 (13) As an individual, ~~a member of a partnership or an officer of a~~  
21 ~~corporation~~ or member of a firm, permits to be announced by printed or written  
22 statement that any report, certificate, exhibit, schedule, or statement has been  
23 prepared by or under supervision of a certified public accountant ~~or by or under~~  
24 ~~supervision of a public accountant~~ when the person who prepared the report,



1 certificate, exhibit, schedule, or statement was not a certified public accountant or  
2 public accountant.

3 SECTION 85. 442.12 (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

4 442.12 **Disciplinary action.** (intro.) Subject to the rules promulgated under  
5 s. 440.03 (1), the examining board may do any of the following:

6 SECTION 86. 442.12 (3) of the statutes is amended to read:

7 442.12 (3) In the case of a ~~corporation or a partnership~~ firm, revoke, limit, or  
8 suspend the license of the ~~partnership or corporation~~ firm, or reprimand it, if it is  
9 found that any ~~officer, director or member~~ of the firm has been guilty of such act or  
10 omission as would be cause for revoking, limiting, or suspending a certificate or  
11 license to the person as an individual or for reprimanding the person.

12 SECTION 87. 442.13 of the statutes is amended to read:

13 442.13 **Ownership of accountant's working papers.** All statements,  
14 records, schedules, working papers, and memoranda made by a certified public  
15 accountant ~~or public accountant~~ incident to or in the course of professional service  
16 to clients by such a certified public accountant, except reports submitted by a  
17 certified public accountant ~~or public accountant~~ to a client, shall be and remain the  
18 property of such the certified public accountant, in the absence of an express  
19 agreement between such the certified public accountant and the client to the  
20 contrary. No such statement, record, schedule, working paper, or memorandum shall  
21 be sold, transferred, or bequeathed, without the consent of the client or the client's  
22 personal representative or assignee, to anyone other than one or more ~~surviving~~  
23 ~~partners or new or successor partners of such~~ any member of the firm of the certified  
24 public accountant.

25 SECTION 88. 442.14 of the statutes is repealed.

1 SECTION 89. 447.34 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

2 447.34 (2) Legal counsel, certified public accountants licensed under ch. 442,  
3 or other persons as to matters the director or officer believes in good faith are within  
4 the person's professional or expert competence.

5 SECTION 90. 560.16 (6) (a) 3. of the statutes is amended to read:

6 560.16 (6) (a) 3. A verified statement of the financial condition and business  
7 operation of the existing business for the previous 3 years, certified by an  
8 independent certified public accountant licensed under ch. 442.

9 SECTION 91. 893.66 (title) of the statutes is amended to read:

10 **893.66 (title) ~~Accountants~~ Certified public accountants; limitations of  
11 **actions.****

12 SECTION 92. 893.66 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

13 893.66 (1) Except as provided in subs. (1m) to (4), an action to recover damages,  
14 based on tort, contract or other legal theory, against any certified public accountant  
15 licensed ~~or certified~~ under ch. 442 for an act or omission in the performance of  
16 professional accounting services shall be commenced within 6 years from the date  
17 of the act or omission or be barred.

18 (END)