4596--A

2013-2014 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

April 12, 2013

Introduced by Sens. LAVALLE, STAVISKY -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Higher Education -- recommitted to the Committee on Higher Education in accordance with Senate Rule 6, sec. 8 -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

amend the education law, the business corporation law, the partnership law and the limited liability company law, in relation to certified public accountants

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEM-BLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Subdivision 2 of section 7408 of the education law, amended by chapter 651 of the laws of 2008, is amended to read as follows:

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2. A. No firm shall use the words "certified public accountant" "certified public accountants" or the letters "CPA" or "CPAs" in connection with its name unless the sole proprietor of such firm or each partner of a partnership or limited liability partnership, member of a limited liability company or shareholder of a professional service corporation engaged within the United States in the practice of accountancy is in good standing as a certified public accountant of one or more of the states of the United States. NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OF LAW, AN APPLICANT FOR INITIAL ISSUANCE OR RENEWAL OF A PROVISIONS FIRM PERMIT TO PRACTICE UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL BE REQUIRED TO SHOW (1) THAT A SIMPLE MAJORITY OF THE OWNERSHIP OF THE FIRM, IN TERMS OF FINAN-INTERESTS, INCLUDING OWNERSHIP-BASED COMPENSATION, AND VOTING RIGHTS HELD BY THE FIRM'S OWNERS, BELONGS TO LICENSED INDIVIDUALS PRACTICE PUBLIC ACCOUNTANCY IN SOME STATE, AND (2) THAT ALL PARTNERS OF A PARTNERSHIP OR LIMITED LIABILITY PARTNERSHIP, OR MEMBERS OF A LIABILITY COMPANY, OR SHAREHOLDERS OF A PROFESSIONAL SERVICE CORPORATION PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS IS IN THIS STATE, AND WHO ARE ENGAGED IN THE PRACTICE OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTANCY IN THIS STATE,

EXPLANATION--Matter in ITALICS (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [] is old law to be omitted.

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LICENSE ISSUED UNDER SECTION SEVENTY-FOUR HUNDRED FOUR OF THIS ARTICLE OR ARE PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS LICENSED UNDER SECTION SEVENTY-FOUR 3 THIS ARTICLE. ALTHOUGH FIRMS MAY INCLUDE NON-LICENSEE OWNERS, THE FIRM AND ITS OWNERS MUST COMPLY WITH RULES PROMULGATED BY THE BOARD. THE FOREGOING, A FIRM REGISTERED UNDER THIS SECTION MAY 5 NOTWITHSTANDING 6 NOT HAVE NON-LICENSEE OWNERS IF THE FIRM'S NAME INCLUDES THE 7 "CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT," OR "CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS," OR THE 8 ABBREVIATIONS "CPA" OR "CPAS."

- EACH NON-LICENSEE OWNER OF A FIRM THAT IS REGISTERED UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL BE (1) A NATURAL PERSON WHO ACTIVELY PARTICIPATES THE FIRM OR ITS AFFILIATED ENTITIES, OR (2) AN ENTITY, BUSINESS OF INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, A PARTNERSHIP OR PROFESSIONAL CORPO-RATION, PROVIDED EACH BENEFICIAL OWNER OF AN EQUITY INTEREST IN SUCH ENTITY IS A NATURAL PERSON WHO ACTIVELY PARTICIPATES INTHEBUSINESS CONDUCTED BY THE FIRM OR ITS AFFILIATED ENTITIES. FOR PURPOSES OF THIS SUBDIVISION, "ACTIVELY PARTICIPATE" MEANS TO PROVIDE SERVICES TO CLIENTS OR TO OTHERWISE INDIVIDUALLY TAKE PART IN THE DAY-TO-DAY BUSINESS MANAGEMENT OF THE FIRM.
- S 2. Section 1503 of the business corporation law is amended by adding a new paragraph (h) to read as follows:
- (H) ANY FIRM ESTABLISHED FOR THE BUSINESS PURPOSE OF LAWFULLY ENGAGING IN THE PRACTICE OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTANCY THAT IS REGISTERED UNDER SECTION SEVENTY-FOUR HUNDRED EIGHT OF THE EDUCATION LAW MAY BE INCORPORATED AS A PROFESSIONAL SERVICE CORPORATION UNDER THIS ARTICLE. SUCH A FIRM SHALL HAVE ATTACHED TO ITS CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION A CERTIFICATE OR CERTIFICATES DEMONSTRATING THE FIRM'S COMPLIANCE WITH PARAGRAPH A OF SUBDIVISION TWO OF SECTION SEVENTY-FOUR HUNDRED EIGHT OF THE EDUCATION LAW, IN LIEU OF THE CERTIFICATE OR CERTIFICATES REQUIRED BY SUBPARAGRAPH (II) OF PARAGRAPH (B) OF THIS SECTION.
- S 3. Paragraph (d) of section 1525 of the business corporation law, as added by chapter 505 of the laws of 1983, is amended to read as follows:
- (d) "Foreign professional service corporation" means a professional service corporation, whether or not denominated as such, organized under the laws of a jurisdiction other than this state, all of the shareholders, directors and officers of which are authorized and licensed to practice the profession for which such corporation is licensed to do business; except that all shareholders, directors and officers of a foreign professional service corporation which provides health services in this state shall be licensed in this state. ANY FIRM ESTABLISHED FOR THE BUSINESS PURPOSE OF LAWFULLY ENGAGING IN THE PRACTICE OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTANCY THAT IS LICENSED UNDER SECTION SEVENTY-FOUR HUNDRED EIGHT OF THE EDUCATION LAW MAY BE INCORPORATED AS A FOREIGN PROFESSIONAL SERVICE CORPORATION UNDER THIS ARTICLE.
- S 4. The fourteenth undesignated paragraph of section 2 of the partnership law, as added by chapter 576 of the laws of 1994, is amended to read as follows:

"Professional partnership" means (1) a partnership without limited partners each of whose partners is a professional authorized by law to render a professional service within this state, (2) a partnership without limited partners each of whose partners is a professional, at least one of whom is authorized by law to render a professional service within this state or (3) a partnership without limited partners authorized by, or holding a license, certificate, registration or permit issued by the licensing authority pursuant to the education law to render a professional service within this state; except that all partners of a professional partnership that provides medical services in this state must be

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licensed pursuant to article 131 of the education law to practice mediin this state and all partners of a professional partnership that 3 provides dental services in this state must be licensed pursuant article 133 of the education law to practice dentistry in this state; [and further] except that all partners of a professional partnership that provides professional engineering, land surveying, architectural 5 6 7 and/or landscape architectural services in this state must be licensed 8 pursuant to article 145, article 147 and/or article 148 of the education to practice one or more of such professions in this state; AND 9 10 FURTHER EXCEPT THAT ALL PARTNERS OF A PROFESSIONAL PARTNERSHIP PROVIDES PUBLIC ACCOUNTANCY SERVICES, WHOSE PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS 11 IS IN THIS STATE AND WHO PROVIDE PUBLIC ACCOUNTANCY SERVICES, 12 13 LICENSED PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 149 OF THE EDUCATION LAW TO PRACTICE PUBLIC 14 ACCOUNTANCY IN THIS STATE.

- S 5. Subdivision (q) of section 121-1500 of the partnership law, as amended by chapter 554 of the laws of 2013, is amended to read as follows:
- 18 Each partner of a registered limited liability partnership formed 19 to provide medical services in this state must be licensed pursuant to 20 article 131 of the education law to practice medicine in this state and 21 each partner of a registered limited liability partnership formed to 22 provide dental services in this state must be licensed pursuant to arti-23 cle 133 of the education law to practice dentistry in this state. Each partner of a registered limited liability partnership formed to provide 24 25 veterinary services in this state must be licensed pursuant to article 26 135 of the education law to practice veterinary medicine in this PARTNER OF A REGISTERED LIMITED LIABILITY PARTNERSHIP FORMED TO 27 28 PROVIDE PUBLIC ACCOUNTANCY SERVICES, WHOSE PRINCIPAL PLACE 29 THIS STATE AND WHO PROVIDES PUBLIC ACCOUNTANCY SERVICES, MUST BE LICENSED PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 149 OF THE EDUCATION LAW TO PRACTICE PUBLIC 30 ACCOUNTANCY IN THIS STATE. Each partner of a registered limited liabil-31 32 ity partnership formed to provide professional engineering, land survey-33 ing, architectural and/or landscape architectural services in this state must be licensed pursuant to article 145, article 147 and/or article 148 34 35 of the education law to practice one or more of such professions in this state. Each partner of a registered limited liability partnership formed 36 37 to provide licensed clinical social work services in this state must be licensed pursuant to article 154 of the education law to practice clin-38 39 ical social work in this state. Each partner of a registered limited 40 liability partnership formed to provide creative arts therapy in this state must be licensed pursuant to article 163 of the education 41 law to practice creative arts therapy in this state. Each partner of 42 43 registered limited liability partnership formed to provide marriage and 44 family therapy services in this state must be licensed pursuant to arti-45 cle 163 of the education law to practice marriage and family therapy in this state. Each partner of a registered limited liability partnership 46 47 formed to provide mental health counseling services in this state must 48 licensed pursuant to article 163 of the education law to practice 49 mental health counseling in this state. Each partner of a registered 50 limited liability partnership formed to provide psychoanalysis services 51 in this state must be licensed pursuant to article 163 of the education to practice psychoanalysis in this state. Each partner of a regis-52 53 tered limited liability partnership formed to provide applied behavior 54 analysis service in this state must be licensed or certified pursuant to 55 article 167 of the education law to practice applied behavior analysis 56 in this state.

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S 6. Subdivision (q) of section 121-1502 of the partnership law, amended by chapter 554 of the laws of 2013, is amended to read as follows:

- (q) Each partner of a foreign limited liability partnership which provides medical services in this state must be licensed pursuant to article 131 of the education law to practice medicine in the state and 5 7 each partner of a foreign limited liability partnership which provides dental services in the state must be licensed pursuant to article 133 of the education law to practice dentistry in this state. Each partner of a 9 10 foreign limited liability partnership which provides veterinary service 11 in the state shall be licensed pursuant to article 135 of the education law to practice veterinary medicine in this state. Each partner of a 12 foreign limited liability partnership which provides professional engi-13 14 neering, land surveying, architectural and/or landscape architectural 15 services in this state must be licensed pursuant to article 145, article 16 147 and/or article 148 of the education law to practice one or more of such professions. EACH PARTNER OF A REGISTERED FOREIGN LIMITED LIABIL-17 ITY PARTNERSHIP FORMED TO PROVIDE PUBLIC ACCOUNTANCY SERVICES, WHOSE 18 19 PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS IS IN THIS STATE AND WHO PROVIDES PUBLIC ACCOUNTANCY SERVICES, MUST BE LICENSED PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 20 149 OF EDUCATION LAW TO PRACTICE PUBLIC ACCOUNTANCY IN THIS STATE. Each partner 21 of a foreign limited liability partnership which provides licensed clinsocial work services in this state must be licensed pursuant to 23 24 article 154 of the education law to practice licensed clinical social 25 work in this state. Each partner of a foreign limited liability partner-26 ship which provides creative arts therapy services in this state must be 27 licensed pursuant to article 163 of the education law to practice crea-28 tive arts therapy in this state. Each partner of a foreign 29 liability partnership which provides marriage and family therapy 30 services in this state must be licensed pursuant to article 163 of the education law to practice marriage and family therapy in this state. 31 32 Each partner of a foreign limited liability partnership which provides 33 mental health counseling services in this state must be licensed pursu-34 ant to article 163 of the education law to practice mental health coun-35 seling in this state. Each partner of a foreign limited liability partnership which provides psychoanalysis services in this state must be 36 37 licensed pursuant to article 163 of the education law to practice psychoanalysis in this state. Each partner of a foreign limited liability partnership which provides applied behavior analysis services in 38 39 40 this state must be licensed or certified pursuant to article 167 of the education law to practice applied behavior analysis in this state. 41 S 7. Subdivision (h) of section 121-101 of the partnership law, as
 - added by chapter 950 of the laws of 1990, is amended to read as follows: (h) "Limited partnership" and "domestic limited partnership" mean, unless the context otherwise requires, a partnership (i) formed by two or more persons pursuant to this article or which complies with subdivi-

sion (a) of section 121-1202 of this article and (ii) having one or more general partners and one or more limited partners. ANY FIRM ESTABLISHED FOR THE BUSINESS PURPOSE OF LAWFULLY ENGAGING IN THE PRACTICE OF ACCOUNTANCY THAT IS LICENSED UNDER SECTION SEVENTY-FOUR HUNDRED EIGHT OF ARTICLE 149 OF THE EDUCATION LAW MAY BE FORMED AS A LIMITED PARTNERSHIP

UNDER THIS ARTICLE.

S 8. Subdivision (b) of section 1207 of the limited liability company law, as amended by chapter 554 of the laws of 2013, is amended to read as follows:

(b) With respect to a professional service limited liability company 2 formed to provide medical services as such services are defined in arti-3 131 of the education law, each member of such limited liability company must be licensed pursuant to article 131 of the education law to 5 practice medicine in this state. With respect to a professional service limited liability company formed to provide dental services as 6 7 services are defined in article 133 of the education law, each member of 8 such limited liability company must be licensed pursuant to article 133 of the education law to practice dentistry in this state. With respect 9 10 a professional service limited liability company formed to provide veterinary services as such services are defined in article 135 of the 11 education law, each member of such limited liability company must be 12 licensed pursuant to article 135 of the education law to practice veter-13 14 inary medicine in this state. With respect to a professional 15 limited liability company formed to provide professional engineering, land surveying, architectural and/or landscape architectural services as 16 such services are defined in article 145, article 147 and article 148 of 17 18 the education law, each member of such limited liability company must be 19 licensed pursuant to article 145, article 147 and/or article 148 of the 20 education law to practice one or more of such professions in this state. 21 WITH RESPECT TO A PROFESSIONAL SERVICE LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY FORMED 22 TO PROVIDE PUBLIC ACCOUNTANCY SERVICES AS SUCH SERVICES ARE 23 ARTICLE 149 OF THE EDUCATION LAW EACH MEMBER OF SUCH LIMITED LIABILITY 24 COMPANY WHOSE PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS IS IN THIS STATE 25 PROVIDES PUBLIC ACCOUNTANCY SERVICES, MUST BE LICENSED PURSUANT TO ARTI-THE EDUCATION LAW TO PRACTICE PUBLIC ACCOUNTANCY IN THIS 26 27 STATE. With respect to a professional service limited liability company 28 formed to provide licensed clinical social work services 29 services are defined in article 154 of the education law, each member of 30 such limited liability company shall be licensed pursuant to article 154 of the education law to practice licensed clinical social work in this 31 32 state. With respect to a professional service limited liability company 33 formed to provide creative arts therapy services as such services defined in article 163 of the education law, each member of such limited 34 liability company must be licensed pursuant to article 163 of the educa-35 36 law to practice creative arts therapy in this state. With respect 37 to a professional service limited liability company formed to provide 38 marriage and family therapy services as such services are defined in article 163 of the education law, each member of such limited liability 39 40 company must be licensed pursuant to article 163 of the education law to practice marriage and family therapy in this state. With respect to a 41 professional service limited liability company formed to provide mental 42 43 health counseling services as such services are defined in article 163 44 of the education law, each member of such limited liability company must 45 be licensed pursuant to article 163 of the education law to practice mental health counseling in this state. With respect to a professional 46 47 service limited liability company formed to provide psychoanalysis services as such services are defined in article 163 of the education 48 law, each member of such limited liability company must be 49 50 pursuant to article 163 of the education law to practice psychoanalysis 51 in this state. With respect to a professional service limited liability company formed to provide applied behavior analysis services as such services are defined in article 167 of the education law, each member of 52 53 54 such limited liability company must be licensed or certified pursuant to article 167 of the education law to practice applied behavior analysis 56 in this state.

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S 9. Subdivisions (a) and (f) of section 1301 of the limited liability company law, subdivision (a) as amended by chapter 554 of the laws of 2013 and subdivision (f) as amended by chapter 170 of the laws of 1996, are amended to read as follows:

(a) "Foreign professional service limited liability company" means a professional service limited liability company, whether or not denomi-7 nated as such, organized under the laws of a jurisdiction other than this state, (i) each of whose members and managers, if any, is a professional authorized by law to render a professional service within this 9 10 state and who is or has been engaged in the practice of such profession in such professional service limited liability company or a predecessor 11 entity, or will engage in the practice of such profession in the profes-12 sional service limited liability company within thirty days of the date 13 14 such professional becomes a member, or each of whose members and managers, if any, is a professional at least one of such members is author-15 16 ized by law to render a professional service within this state and who or has been engaged in the practice of such profession in such 17 professional service limited liability company or a predecessor entity, 18 will engage in the practice of such profession in the professional 19 20 service limited liability company within thirty days of the date such 21 professional becomes a member, or (ii) authorized by, or holding a 22 license, certificate, registration or permit issued by the licensing authority pursuant to, the education law to render a professional 23 service within this state; except that all members and managers, if any, 24 25 foreign professional service limited liability company that provides health services in this state shall be licensed in this state. 26 With respect to a foreign professional service limited liability company 27 which provides veterinary services as such services are defined in arti-28 29 cle 135 of the education law, each member of such foreign professional 30 service limited liability company shall be licensed pursuant to article 135 of the education law to practice veterinary medicine. With respect 31 32 a foreign professional service limited liability company which 33 provides medical services as such services are defined in article 131 of 34 the education law, each member of such foreign professional service limited liability company must be licensed pursuant to article 131 of 35 36 the education law to practice medicine in this state. With respect to a 37 foreign professional service limited liability company which provides dental services as such services are defined in article 133 of the education law, each member of such foreign professional service limited 38 39 40 liability company must be licensed pursuant to article 133 of the educa-41 tion law to practice dentistry in this state. With respect to a foreign professional service limited liability company which provides profes-42 43 sional engineering, land surveying, architectural and/or landscape architectural services as such services are defined in article 145, 44 45 article 147 and article 148 of the education law, each member of such foreign professional service limited liability company must be licensed 46 pursuant to article 145, article 147 and/or article 148 of the education 47 to practice one or more of such professions in this state. 48 49 RESPECT TO A FOREIGN PROFESSIONAL SERVICE LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY 50 WHICH PROVIDES PUBLIC ACCOUNTANCY SERVICES AS SUCH SERVICES ARE DEFINED IN ARTICLE 149 OF THE EDUCATION LAW, EACH MEMBER OF SUCH FOREIGN PROFES-51 52 SIONAL SERVICE LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY WHOSE PRINCIPAL PLACE OF 53 STATE AND WHO PROVIDES PUBLIC ACCOUNTANCY SERVICES, NESS IN THIS SHALL BE LICENSED PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 149 OF THE EDUCATION LAW TO PRAC-54 TICE PUBLIC ACCOUNTANCY IN THIS STATE. With respect to a foreign professional service limited liability company which provides licensed clin-56

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ical social work services as such services are defined in article 154 of the education law, each member of such foreign professional service limited liability company shall be licensed pursuant to article 154 of the education law to practice clinical social work in this state. With 5 respect to a foreign professional service limited liability company which provides creative arts therapy services as such services are defined in article 163 of the education law, each member of such foreign 7 8 professional service limited liability company must be licensed pursuant to article 163 of the education law to practice creative arts therapy in 9 10 this state. With respect to a foreign professional service limited 11 liability company which provides marriage and family therapy services as such services are defined in article 163 of the education law, each 12 member of such foreign professional service limited liability company 13 14 must be licensed pursuant to article 163 of the education law to prac-15 tice marriage and family therapy in this state. With respect to a foreign professional service limited liability company which provides 16 17 mental health counseling services as such services are defined in arti-18 163 of the education law, each member of such foreign professional 19 service limited liability company must be licensed pursuant to article 20 of the education law to practice mental health counseling in this 21 state. With respect to a foreign professional service limited liability 22 company which provides psychoanalysis services as such services are defined in article 163 of the education law, each member of such foreign 23 professional service limited liability company must be licensed pursuant 24 25 to article 163 of the education law to practice psychoanalysis in this 26 state. With respect to a foreign professional service limited liability company which provides applied behavior analysis services as such services are defined in article 167 of the education law, each member of 27 28 29 such foreign professional service limited liability company must be 30 licensed or certified pursuant to article 167 of the education law to practice applied behavior analysis in this state. 31 32

(f) "Professional partnership" means (1) a partnership without limited partners each of whose partners is a professional authorized by law to render a professional service within this state, (2) a partnership without limited partners each of whose partners is a professional, at least one of whom is authorized by law to render a professional service within this state or (3) a partnership without limited partners authorized by, or holding a license, certificate, registration or permit issued by the licensing authority pursuant to the education law to render a professional service within this state; except that all partners of a professional partnership that provides medical services in this state must be licensed pursuant to article 131 of the education law to practice medicine in this state and all partners of a professional partnership that provides dental services in this state must be licensed pursuant to article 133 of the education law to practice dentistry in this state; except that all partners of a professional partnership that provides veterinary services in this state must be licensed pursuant to article 135 of the education law to practice veterinary medicine in this state; and further except that all partners of a professional partnership that provides professional engineering, land surveying, architectural, and/or landscape architectural services in this state must be licensed pursuant to article 145, article 147 and/or article 148 of the education law to practice one or more of such professions. WITH RESPECT TO A PROFES-SIONAL PARTNERSHIP WHICH PROVIDES PUBLIC ACCOUNTANCY SERVICES SERVICES ARE DEFINED IN ARTICLE 149 OF THE EDUCATION LAW, EACH MEMBER OF SUCH PROFESSIONAL PARTNERSHIP WHOSE PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS IS IN

THIS STATE AND WHO PROVIDES PUBLIC ACCOUNTANCY SERVICES, SHALL BE LICENSED PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 149 OF THE EDUCATION LAW TO PRACTICE PUBLIC

- 3 ACCOUNTANCY.
- S 10. This act shall take effect immediately.