

**NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT NEW RULES TO THE STATE
LICENSING BOARD FOR RESIDENTIAL AND GENERAL
CONTRACTORS, CHAPTER 553-12 LICENSE RENEWAL AND
CONTINUING EDUCATION, RULE 553-12-.02 CONTINUING
EDUCATION-RESIDENTIAL
AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING.**

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND PARTIES:

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the authority set forth below, the State Licensing Board for Residential and General Contractors, (hereinafter "Board") proposes to adopt a rule for the State Licensing Board for Residential and General Contractors, Rule 553-12-.02 *Continuing Education-Residential*(hereinafter "proposed new rule").

This notice, together with an exact copy of the proposed new rule and a synopsis of the proposed new rule, is being distributed to all persons who have requested, in writing, that they be placed on a distribution list. A copy of this notice, an exact copy of the proposed new rule, and a synopsis of the proposed new rule may be reviewed during normal business hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, except official State holidays, at the Office of the Secretary of State, Professional Licensing Boards Division, 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia 31217. These documents will also be available for review on the Board's web page at www.sos.ga.gov/plb/contractors. Copies may also be requested by contacting the Board's office at 478-207-2440.

A public hearing is scheduled to begin at 9:00 a.m. on December 2, 2009 at the Professional Licensing Boards Division, 237 Coliseum Dr., Macon, GA 31217 to provide the public an opportunity to comment upon and provide input into the proposed new rule. At the public hearing anyone may present data, make a statement, comment or offer a viewpoint or argument whether orally or in writing. Lengthy statements or statements of a considerable technical or economic nature, as well as previously recorded messages, must be submitted for the official record. Oral statements should be concise and will be limited to 5 minutes per person. Additional comments should be presented in writing. Written comments are welcome. To ensure their consideration, written comments must be received on or before November 25, 2009. Written comments should be addressed to Randall D. Vaughn, Division Director, Secretary of State, Professional Licensing Boards Division, State Licensing Board for Residential and General Contractors, 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia 31217. FAX: 478-314-5805.

The proposed new rule will be considered for adoption by the Board at its meeting scheduled to begin at 9:05 a.m. on December 2, 2009, at the Professional Licensing Boards Division, 237 Coliseum Dr., Macon, GA 31217. According to the Department of Law, State of Georgia, the State Licensing Board for Residential and General Contractors has the authority to add this new rule pursuant to authority contained in O.C.G.A §§ 43-41-5, 43-41-6, and 43-41-16.

At its meeting on September 21, 2009, the Board voted that the formulation and adoption of this new rule does not impose excessive regulatory cost on any licensee and any cost to comply with the proposed rule cannot be reduced by a less expensive alternative that fully accomplishes the objectives of O.C.G.A §§ 43-41-5, 43-41-6, and 43-41-16.

Also, at its meeting on September 21, 2009 the Board voted that it is not legal or feasible to meet the objectives of O.C.G.A §§ 43-41-5, 43-41-6, and 43-41-16 to adopt or implement differing actions for businesses as listed at O.C.G.A. §50-13-4(a)(3)(A), (B), (C) and (D). The formulation and adoption of

this rule will impact every licensee in the same manner and each licensee is independently licensed, owned and operated and dominant in the field of residential and general contracting.

For further information, contact the Board office at 478-207-2440.

This notice is given in compliance with O.C.G.A. §50-13-4.

This 22nd day of October, 2009.

Randall D. Vaughn
Division Director
Professional Licensing Boards

**SYNOPSIS OF THE PROPOSED RULE OF
THE STATE LICENSING BOARD FOR RESIDENTIAL AND GENERAL
CONTRACTORS
RULE 553-12-.02 CONTINUING EDUCATION-RESIDENTIAL**

Purpose: To establish continuing education requirements for the residential division.

Main Features: Number of continuing education required for residential basic and residential-light commercial contractors.

NOTE: Struck through text is proposed to be deleted. Underlined text is proposed to be added.

553- 12-.02 Continuing Education-Residential.

(1) Residential contractors by virtue of their training, education and/or experience have been licensed by the State Licensing Board for Residential and General Contractors and therefore are eligible to provide the public with needed professional services. In furnishing these services the licensed residential contractor occupies a unique position of public trust. It is essential in maintaining this trust that each licensed residential contractor continuously strive to increase his or her technical skills and knowledge.

(2) Pursuant to the provision of O. C. G. A Section 43-41-6(k), the Board prescribes the following regulations establishing requirements of continuing professional education to be met from time to time by licensed residential contractors in order to demonstrate that they are continuing their professional education as a condition to continued licensure beginning with the 2012 renewal cycle.

(a) Upon renewal of an existing license and as a condition to the renewal thereof, residential contractors licensed in the state of Georgia shall maintain and furnish to the Board, upon request or random audit, official documentation of having completed a minimum of three (3) hours of continuing education during each biennium for a Residential Basic license and a minimum of six (6) hours of continuing education during each biennium for a Residential Light Commercial license. Official documentation of course attendance must be maintained by a licensed residential contractor for at least two (2) years following the end of the biennium during which the course is taken.

(b) Compliance with all continuing education requirements is a condition for license renewal. Failure to complete all hours of mandatory continuing education shall serve as grounds to deny the renewal of a license and may also result in disciplinary action being taken against a licensee.

Authority: O.C.G.A §§ 43-41-5, 43-41-6, and 43-41-16.