

PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS OF OREGON A chapter of the National Society of Professional Engineers



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2014-2015

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February 24, 2015

RE: Professional Engineers of Oregon's concern about amendments to SB297 (LC707)

Dear Chair Senator Lee Beyer;

We, the Professional Engineers of Oregon the Oregon chapter of the National Society of Professional Engineers would like to thank you for meeting with us on February 17, 2015 and express our concern over some proposed amendments to SB297.

As industry experts that live in Oregon and serve our Oregon citizens we are most knowledgeable about the safety of Oregon citizens and the health and welfare of the public as related to engineering endeavors. We believe two amendments REDUCE THE SAFETY of Oregon citizens and we oppose their adoption.

OPPOSITION of AMENDMENT #1 dated 2/10/2015 - This amendment proposes to significantly reduce the amount of experience a foreign engineer is required to have, up to and including a college education to practice engineering in Oregon. We are opposed to the amendment, and believe the experience requirement as written by OSBEELS (Oregon Board of Examiners for Engineering and Land Surveying) of 25 years is appropriate. We understand the amendment is being proposed by a foreign group, and not the engineers in Oregon. OSBEELS Originally opened SB297, but did not propose this amendment.

OPPOSITION of AMENDMENT #2 dated 2/10/2015 - This amendment proposed to force the licensing board to accept a foreign applicant to Oregon if some minimum requirements have been met. We are opposed to this amendment, and believe OSBEELS should be given the discretion of reviewing each applicant and determining if they are truly qualified to practice engineering to protect our citizens. We do not support making licensure for engineers easier for non-Oregon residents and foreign residents than it is for your constituents.

SUPPORT of AMENDMENT #3 dated 2/23/2015 & SB297 as submitted by OSBEELS The Professional Engineers of Oregon support amendment #3 that clarifies photogrammetric mapping and testing requirements to practice. We are also in support of SB297 as written by OSBEELS and not as amended by foreign interests.

Please support the safety and welfare of our citizens by opposing SB297 Amendments 1&2 and keep the bill as currently written by OSBEELS. Please contact me for any additional concerns, and we thank you for your service.

Sincerely,

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