

Would you consider having a doctor perform a critical surgery on you who was not licensed?

Would you hire an unlicensed attorney to defend your family?

Likewise, it would be unwise to depend on unlicensed engineers to design our critical infrastructure.

Why this is Important:



The Issue:

Proposed legislative actions that would redefine the practice of engineering

The Impact:

Direct negative impact on the engineering industry to perform the practice of engineering

Conclusion:

Legislators should support the continuation and strengthening of professional engineering licensure.

Professional engineering licensure is a critical component in ensuring public safety and protecting the welfare of residents and visitors to the District of Columbia. It is a process by which engineers are recognized by the government as having met certain education and experience requirements and having passed a rigorous exam demonstrating their knowledge and competency in their field.

Licensure ensures that engineers have the necessary skills and knowledge to design and oversee the construction of safe and effective infrastructure, such as buildings, bridges, transportation systems and critical water and wastewater treatment systems. It also allows engineers to take legal responsibility for their work, which is essential for protecting the public from potential harm.

Additionally, licensure helps to protect the public from unqualified individuals posing as engineers. Engineers who are licensed are subject to strict standards of conduct and can face disciplinary action if they engage in unethical or unprofessional behavior. This provides a level of accountability that is not present in unregulated fields.

Licensure also serves as a means of ensuring that engineers stay current with the latest developments and advancements in their field. Engineers must continuously update their knowledge and skills in order to maintain their license, which helps to ensure that they are providing the most up-to-date and effective services to the public.

Lastly, licensure also promotes a sense of professional pride and responsibility among engineers. It demonstrates to the public that engineers are committed to their profession, and that they take their work seriously. This helps to build trust and confidence in the engineering profession and encourages others to pursue careers in engineering.

In conclusion, professional engineering licensure is a critical component in ensuring public safety and protecting the welfare of society. **Therefore, legislators should support the continuation and strengthening of professional engineering licensure.**