



**National Society of
Professional Engineers®**

September 29, 2014

The Honorable Julie Harhart
Chair, Pennsylvania House of Representatives Committee on Professional Licensure
313 Main Capitol Building
PO Box 202183
Harrisburg, PA 17120-2183

Dear Representative Harhart,

On behalf of the more than 32,000 members of the National Society of Professional Engineers (NSPE) and as one of more than 1,800 members of the Pennsylvania Society of Professional Engineers (PSPE), I respectfully submit the following comments regarding the current industrial exemption in Pennsylvania and the language in Pennsylvania House Bill No. 1447.

It is the policy of the National Society of Professional Engineers that all engineers who are in responsible charge of the practice of engineering, as defined in the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES) Model Law and Rules, in a manner that potentially impacts the public health, safety and welfare, should be required by all state statutes to be licensed professional engineers. NSPE recommends the phasing out of existing industrial exemptions in state licensing laws.

As you know, Pennsylvania House Bill 1447, introduced by Representative Marc Gergely in May of 2013 and referred to the Committee on Professional Licensure, is scheduled to be the subject of a public hearing on October 8th. This hearing presents an opportunity to address the need to amend P.L. 913, No. 367 to remove exemptions from licensure and regulation that allow unlicensed individuals to engage in the practice of engineering that could impact the public health, safety and welfare. All licensed professional engineers must meet rigorous education, examination and experience standards. In addition, all licensed professional engineers in Pennsylvania are subject to disciplinary action by the state engineering licensure board and must complete mandatory continuing education requirements in order to maintain their professional engineering license.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide this comment. Should you have any questions, comments or concerns regarding this issue please feel free to contact John Wanner, Executive Director at the Pennsylvania Society of Professional Engineers at john@wannerassoc.com or Arielle Eiser, the NSPE Manager of Government Relations at aeiser@nspe.org.

Sincerely,

Harve D. Hnatiuk, P.E., F.NSPE
President
National Society of Professional Engineers

cc: Eric W. Tappert, P.E., President, Pennsylvania Society of Professional Engineers
John Wanner, CAE, Executive Director, Pennsylvania Society of Professional Engineers