



March 5, 2012

Senator Doyle, Representative Taborsak and distinguished members of the General Law Committee, my name is Scott Erricson, P.E. and I am Principal Owner at e2 engineers in New London, Connecticut. e2 engineers is a private consulting structural engineering firm specializing in a broad range of building structures. I write you today to signal my strong support for Raised Special Bill No. 269, ***“AN ACT CONCERNING STRUCTURAL ENGINEERS AND REQUIRING CONTINUING EDUCATION FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS AND LAND SURVEYORS.”***

The purpose of the Bill is to “Establish a structural engineer endorsement to the professional engineer license issue pursuant to Chapter 391 of the general statutes...and establish an application process for such license endorsement...” I strongly urge our legislators to pass into law an act that recognizes the special responsibilities a practicing structural engineer undertakes with his/her craft and feel a professional certification which distinguishes said engineer’s talents as unique is a necessity to protect the public from engineers with lacking credentials and/or experience from providing these services.

Currently an engineer, maintaining a professional engineer’s license and in good standing with the State of Connecticut, can “stamp” any set of documents that require such certification; this is unacceptable and unsafe. For example, this loophole allows an electrical engineer to design and/or seal a set of documents that are unrelated to the electrical engineering sciences. The current examination process by which engineers are certified allows the candidate to be tested in his/her field of expertise, and practice engineering in any field.

It is my belief that an engineer should be certified to ONLY practice engineering in the field for which they were educated and certified. It would mean separate licensure for professional structural engineers that distinguishes their talents from those with other backgrounds. Furthermore, I would contend that ANY “structure” that requires a professional engineer’s seal should only be certified by a licensed professional structural engineer. Lastly, I would recommend as part of this bill that all structural engineers forfeit their professional engineer’s licensure in lieu of being granted a professional structural engineer’s certification.

Very truly yours,  
R. Scott Erricson, P.E.  
e2 engineers