



# **Connecticut Society of Professional Engineers**

*A state society of the National Society of Professional Engineers*

## TESTIMONY BEFORE THE GENERAL LAW COMMITTEE REGARDING SB923

March 5, 2013

I am Paul Taormina, PE, Past President and National Director of the Connecticut Society of Professional Engineers. We have approximately 250 licensed Professional Engineers in all disciplines and practice areas in our Society.

On behalf of our members, I would ask this committee to favorably report Senate Bill 923, AN ACT CONCERNING STRUCTURAL ENGINEERS AND REQUIRING CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS AND LAND SURVEYORS with substitute language.

Continuing professional education is required to ensure that Professional Engineers maintain competency in their technical field but also reinforce their ethical standards and professional practice skills.

Approximately 40 states now require continuing professional education for renewal of their licensed Professional Engineers. A recent survey of CSPE members and non-members showed that two-thirds of Connecticut licensed Professional Engineers are already meeting the continuing education requirements of other states in which they are licensed.

Since many engineers are licensed in multiple states, uniformity of continuing professional education requirements is imperative to simplify the licensure renewal process. We have recommend that the legislation require Professional Engineers certify on their renewal applications that they have complied with the education requirement. Our recommended language limiting audits to no more than one percent of renewals will not require additional staffing. We will recommend that the Department adopt regulations based on the model "Continuing Professional Competency Guidelines" published by the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES). The guidelines are simple for Professional Engineers to comply with.

Thank you for your time.

Paul K. Taormina , PE  
Connecticut Society of Professional Engineers