

Protecting Ohio's Professional Engineers

- OSPE has helped maintain the lowest PE registration fee in the nation by working closely with the State Board of Registration. Most states are 10-14 times higher than Ohio's \$40 biennial fee.
- OSPE hosts Ohio's only **legislative day** at the State Capitol for Ohio's professional engineers.
- Secured passage of the **Ohio Engineers Title Act**, which protects the title "engineer" from being used by non-engineers.
- OSPE pursues **Engineering Title Act violators!** OSPE initiated the first defense of the law in 1993.
- OSPE played a crucial role in enacting **House Bill 337**, which **strengthens Ohio's engineering laws** & increases penalties for violating Ohio's Engineering Practice Act.
- Stopped House Bill 345, HB 87, Senate Bill 138 & SB 156, all of which would have eroded the **practice of engineering**, allowing interior designers, home inspectors, landscape architects & industrial hygienists to "perform engineering services."
- Defeated the **consolidation of Ohio's licensing boards** into one "super board," which would have resulted in massive increases in PE license fees and plummeting service to PEs.
- Successfully amended House Bill 87 to **remove engineering conflicts** in the definitions of industrial hygienists and safety professionals in Ohio law.
- Prevented an **onerous continuing education** proposal, then led the effort to enact an easy-to-use continuing professional development law.
- Defeated a proposal to change the "**gross negligence**" standard in the Ohio Engineering Practice Act to "simple negligence," which would have led to lawsuits and jeopardized PE licenses.
- Stopped a proposal to license **geologists** and add them to the State Board of Registration.
- OSPE led efforts to **strengthen PE exam** requirements by eliminating "alternate" paths to licensure in House Bill 337, such as through a "related science" degree, reinforcing the value of your engineering degree.
- Fought to keep the engineering firm "**certificate of authorization**" requirement in Ohio's law.
- Defeated a proposal to **eliminate PEs** in responsible charge of engineering firms in House Bill 322.
- Fought to keep the law requiring engineering firms to be owned by a **majority of licensed design professionals**.
- Supported House Bill 741, protecting engineers & surveyors from **trivial trespass accusations**.
- Amended House Bill 383, exempting PE's from the Ohio **Private Investigator Laws** so PE's can investigate construction projects. Also saved PE's the \$250 PI exam fee.

- Helped Ohio enact a new, **responsible consumer protection law** that strikes a good balance between protecting consumers and not driving engineering employers out of Ohio.
- Supported **State Issue 1**, which is creating thousands of engineering research and construction jobs through a \$2 billion initiative.
- OSPE led the effort to get the State Board of Registration to **streamline its CoA-approval process**.
- OSPE has successfully supported bond initiatives to fund capital improvements.
- OSPE helped lead a powerful coalition that secured passage of comprehensive **tort reforms** including a 10 year statute of repose, restrictions on junk lawsuits and protections for retired PEs and industry from extreme liability claims.
- OSPE has successfully opposed several legislative efforts to extend Ohio sales tax to engineering services.
- OSPE helped secure a **victory in the Ohio Court of Appeals** by filing a *Friend of the Court* brief, protecting PEs who provide expert testimony.
- **Challenged "look-alike" seals** that illegally imitate PE seals being submitted to government agencies showing detailed site plans, grading plans, sediment control devices, changes to storm drainage structures and other engineering features.
- OSPE helped remove part of House Bill 26, which would have allowed "**low bidding**" in sanitary sewer districts.
- OSPE helped stopped legislation at the state and federal levels that would have hindered the **PE's authority to select piping materials** appropriate for the job.
- OSPE successfully supported House Bill 17, which provides **civil immunity protections for PE volunteers** during declared emergencies.
- OSPE successfully supported House Bill 236, which reinforces **ethical professional practice**.
- OSPE successfully **added a PE to the Ohio Amusement Ride Safety Council**.
- OSPE **supported Ohio's statute of repose** by filing a friend of the court brief to protect design professionals from facing unlimited liability.



- OSPE....**
- *Protecting the PE*
 - *Increasing the value of the PE license*
 - *Eliminating Low Bidding*
 - *Stopping Encroachment on Engineering*
 - *Eliminating Extra Exams & Fees for PEs*

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