A bill to be entitled

An act relating to Structural Engineering Recognition Program for Professional Engineers; creating s. 471.055, F.S.; establishing the Structural Engineering Recognition Program for Professional Engineers; requiring the Board of Professional Engineers to recognize a licensed professional engineer who has successfully passed a specified examination; providing requirements for application and recognition; prohibiting a fee for such application or for recognition; authorizing a professional engineer recognized by the program to identify such recognition in her or his professional practice and marketing and advertising materials; providing that recognition by the program is not required to practice structural engineering; requiring rulemaking; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Section 471.055, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

471.055 Structural Engineering Recognition Program for Professional Engineers.—

(1) The board shall establish the Structural Engineering

Recognition Program for Professional Engineers to recognize professional engineers who specialize in structural engineering and have gone above and beyond the required minimum professional engineer licensing standards. The board shall establish minimum requirements to receive recognition through the program. The board must recognize any licensed professional engineer who has successfully passed the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying Structural Engineering 16-hour PE Structural examination or any other examination approved by the board. In addition, the board may recognize any licensed professional engineer who specializes in structural engineering based on alternative criteria determined by the board.

(2) Upon application to the board, a professional engineer who has the minimum program requirements shall be recognized as a professional engineer who has gone above and beyond in the field of structural engineering. The board may not collect a fee for such application or for recognition by the program.

(3) A professional engineer who is recognized by the program may identify such recognition in her or his professional practice, including in marketing and advertising materials.

(4) Recognition by the program is not required for a professional engineer to practice structural engineering.

(5) The board shall adopt rules to implement this section.

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2022.