To whom it may concern,

As a licensed engineer, I oppose HB 4913 & 4914 because they weaken educational rigor and firm oversight, jeopardizing Michigan's infrastructure and public safety.

As a previous member of the State Board of Professional Engineers, I reviewed licensure applications as it relates to the current educational requirements. The current law allows for the board to review degrees that are not accredited for the equivalency (ie. degrees from other other countries). The proposed language could open up applications for engineering degrees that did not meet the requirements to become accredited. The State Board should not be in the business of accrediting degrees. If the committee would like to provide more clarity in the language, I would suggest the following, "…or the equivalent of a baccalaureate degree from an AEC accredited program".

HB 4914 would promote leaders/owners of design firms that have not been through the education and training that is required to achieve licensure. Having the majority of decision makers of these firms without the education and training that includes the foundational principle of putting public health and safety above all else jeopardizes Michigan.

The public, health, and safety of the public is paramount. The current standards in our State have served as well and they should not be relaxed.

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