Dakota Soda

From: Paul Locher <Paul.Locher@smithgroup.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 29, 2025 7:45 AM
To: Dakota Soda
Subject: HB 4913 & HB 4914

Hello Clerk Dakota Soda,

I'm an Architect in Michigan and I'm writing to you about my opposition to HB 4913 & HB 4914. I have listed several key points that I oppose in these bills below. But let me ask you a simple question. Would you go to a doctor for surgery if they didn't have a license? No? So why would you lower the standards for a building design professional who can affect far more people than any single doctor? The licensing process for Architect and Engineers is designed to weed out the people who are not qualified to have a license to practice in their chosen profession. These bills give people who should not be in charge of a company a free pass to affect decision that affect the public's health, safety, and welfare.

Points on HB 4913:

1. The concern of AIA Michigan is that this bill does not align with the original intent of simplifying the licensure process without compromising the integrity of the profession.
2. Reducing the red tape in licensure was not meant to lower the standards or requirements in a manner that could diminish the value of the architecture profession.
3. By emphasizing degree requirements without providing clarity or maintaining a balance with practical experience, the bill risks prioritizing accessibility over professional rigor.
4. AIA Michigan opposes the measure because it focuses on making licensure easier, rather than less administratively burdensome.
5. The profession of architecture is charged with protecting the public's health, safety, and welfare. Lowering requirements, without ensuring that competency and quality are maintained, could jeopardize this responsibility.
6. The bill's approach to reducing barriers—by emphasizing a vague equivalency of a professional degree—fails to address the real obstacles, such as administrative inefficiencies or inconsistencies in licensure processes.
7. The red tape report emphasized the need for collaboration with LARA, NCARB, and other stakeholders to explore solutions that streamline processes without sacrificing the education, experience, and examination requirements necessary to uphold the profession's standards.
8. Existing frameworks, such as NCARB's licensing models, balance education, experience, and competency assessments and should be considered as alternatives to the changes proposed in HB 4913.
9. The bottom line is that the task assigned to LARA was cutting the red tape in licensure processes. They should focus on reducing administrative hurdles, making licensure less arduous, but not necessarily easier in a way that sacrifices the value of the profession.

Points on HB 4914:

1. Removing the requirement for at least two-thirds of a firm's principals to be licensed professionals in architecture, engineering, or land surveying could undermine the integrity and quality of these professions.
    a. Licensing ensures that leadership possesses the expertise, experience, and ethical standards essential for public safety, infrastructure reliability, and environmental sustainability.
2. This amendment could allow unqualified individuals to influence critical projects, potentially resulting in substandard work or safety risks.
    a. Reducing the threshold for licensed professionals may dilute accountability and weaken public trust in these professions.

   b. The reform appears to prioritize business interests over public welfare, risking long-term consequences for infrastructure and professional standards.
3. The bill's expedited implementation timeline provides insufficient time to address potential unforeseen consequences or adequately prepare stakeholders for such a significant change.
4. Reducing the education requirement undermines the public interest.
   a. Architects are tasked with ensuring the health, safety, and welfare of the public, and lowering licensure standards is counterproductive.
   b. Bill 4913 replaces education with an apprenticeship model but fails to provide sufficient detail, which is unsatisfactory.
5. AIA Michigan opposes this bill and emphasizes the importance of maintaining robust licensure requirements.
   a. The organization has been collaborating with NCARB on alternate paths to licensure and is willing to support further research and discussions.
   b. AIA Michigan requests an opportunity to engage with legislators, LARA, and the Board of Architects to explore more comprehensive and effective models for architectural licensure.
   c. Existing models from NCARB, NAAB, and several states could serve as better alternatives to the proposed changes.

I'm available at your convenience to further discuss this matter further. My contact info is listed below.

Thanks you,

PAUL LOCHER
(Pronunciation Locker)

AIA, LEED AP
Associate | Architect

T 313.442.8152
500 Griswold Street, Suite 1700
Detroit, MI 48226

SMITHGROUP

Dakota Soda

From: Davies, Brian <BDavies@hrcengr.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 29, 2025 8:16 AM
To: Dakota Soda
Subject: Oppose HB 4913 & 4914

Good Morning Dakota,

As a licensed civil engineer at Hubbell, Roth & Clark, Inc., I wanted to express my opposition to HB 4913 and HB 4914 and I am deeply concerned that these bills weaken professional standards and endanger public welfare, which is part of a civil engineer's oath of ethics.

While House Bill 4913 retains experience and examination requirements, replacing standardized, accredited education with subjective equivalents would **erode the consistency and rigor that protect public safety.** ABET programs ensure engineers possess the technical expertise, ethical grounding, and safety training necessary to design and maintain critical infrastructure—bridges, roads, water systems, and energy facilities that Michigan families rely on daily. Introducing alternatives opens the door to **uneven preparation and lower competency**, increasing the risk of costly design errors and system failures.

Michigan's current requirements align with the **National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES) Model Law**, used by most states to uphold licensure standards and reciprocity. Departing from this model would **isolate Michigan**, making it harder for engineers to work across state lines and signaling that Michigan accepts lower thresholds for professional qualification.

In short, HB 4913 **substitutes accessibility for accountability.** Weakening educational requirements may seem minor on paper, but in practice it compromises the public trust and the safety of Michigan's infrastructure.

House Bill 4914 **eliminates the requirement that at least two-thirds of a firm's principals be licensed professionals** to practice engineering. Michigan does **not license firms** or issue **Certificates of Authorization (COAs)**—unlike 42 other states—so the **two-thirds rule is our only firm-level safeguard.** Removing it without replacement would allow **non-licensed control of professional firms**, shifting decisions toward profit rather than ethics and safety—potentially leading to **structural failures or other hazards**.

Together, these bills would lower Michigan's standards **below national norms**, complicate **interstate reciprocity**, and expose the public to **unqualified design practices**. The **ABA's 2024 50-State Survey** confirms Michigan's rule aligns with 20–25 states requiring majority licensed ownership, while roughly 40 require firm-level licensing. **HB 4914 would leave no safeguards in place**.

Fiscal analyses note indeterminate impacts such as possible fee revenue, but ignore long-term costs from **safety incidents, litigation, and public mistrust**.

As a practicing professional in Michigan, I urge the House Rules Committee to **vote no on HB 4913 and vote no on HB 4914**. These bills put Michiganders at risk and are not in the interest of our great state! If

you have any questions or wish to discuss further, I would be happy to advise you and your committee members on why these bills are a bad idea.

Sincerely,

Brian Davies | Associate
HUBBELL, ROTH & CLARK, INC
555 Hulet Drive, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302
O: 248-454-6506 | M: 248-982-4678



Dakota Soda

From: Dean Tidwell <deantaia@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 29, 2025 1:10 PM
To: Dakota Soda; aiami@aiami.ccsend.com; Rep. Rylee Linting (District 27)
Subject: HBs 4913 & 4914 opposition

Hi Committee Clerk, Dakota Soda & et.al.

As a practicing Michigan Architect, in the Grosse Ile, Riverview, Trenton, Wyandotte area of Michigan and which is home to some fantastic historic homes of various architectural styles, I submit opposition to both HB 4913 & 4914.
In Summary:

Good Samaritan (Architect), Scope of Practice: Architect (Occupational Licensing Reform) Occupations: architects, professional engineers, and surveyors; licensing requirements for architects; modify to allow apprenticeships This measure requires an individual seeking to be licensed as an architect to provide evidence of completion of a first professional degree or further degree in architecture satisfactory to the Board of Architects or the equivalent of a first professional degree. This measure will take effect immediately if passed by 2/3 of both chambers or 90 days after adjournment if not passed by 2/3 of both chambers.
Sponsors:

Karl Bohnak (District 109); Douglas Wozniak (District 59); David Martin (District 68)

Bill Schuette (District 95); Ken Borton (District 105); Gregory Alexander (District 9)

Committee - Economic Competitiveness/Republican Members:

Rep. Mike Hoadley (Republican) District-99 Chair
Rep. Karl Bohnak (Republican) District-109 Majority Vice Chair
Rep. Kristian Grant (Democrat) District-82 Minority Vice Chair
Rep. Pat Outman (Republican) District-91
Rep. Mike Harris (Republican) District-52
Rep. Brian BeGole (Republican) District-71
Rep. Jay DeBoyer (Republican) District-63
Rep. Alicia St. Germaine (Republican) District-62
Rep. Julie Brixie (Democrat) District-73
Rep. Joe Tate (Democrat) District-9
Rep. Betsy Coffia (Democrat) District-103

and
Opposition to HB 4913

The concern of AIA Michigan is that this bill does not align with the original intent of simplifying the

licensure process without compromising the integrity of the profession.

Reducing the red tape in licensure was not meant to lower the standards or requirements in a manner that could diminish the value of the architecture profession.

By emphasizing degree requirements without providing clarity or maintaining a balance with practical experience, the bill risks prioritizing accessibility over professional rigor.

AIA Michigan opposes the measure because it focuses on making licensure easier, rather than less administratively burdensome.

The profession of architecture is charged with protecting the public's health, safety, and welfare. Lowering requirements, without ensuring that competency and quality are maintained, could jeopardize this responsibility.

The bill's approach to reducing barriers—by emphasizing a vague equivalency of a professional degree—fails to address the real obstacles, such as administrative inefficiencies or inconsistencies in licensure processes.

The red tape report emphasized the need for collaboration with LARA, NCARB, and other stakeholders to explore solutions that streamline processes without sacrificing the education, experience, and examination requirements necessary to uphold the profession's standards.

Existing frameworks, such as NCARB's licensing models, balance education, experience, and competency assessments and should be considered as alternatives to the changes proposed in HB 4913.

The bottom line is that the task assigned to LARA was cutting the red tape in licensure processes. They should focus on reducing administrative hurdles, making licensure less arduous, but not necessarily easier in a way that sacrifices the value of the profession.

Michigan HB 4914

Good Samaritan (Architect), Scope of Practice: Architect (Occupational Licensing Reform)

Summary: This measure amends existing law to remove a requirement that at least two-thirds of a firm's principals be licensees in architecture, engineering, or professional land surveying, to engage in the practice of any of the aforementioned professions. This measure takes effect immediately if passed by 2/3 of both chambers or 90 days after adjournment if not passed by 2/3 of both chambers.

Compromising my architecture practice with HB 4913 & 4914 is a big deal,
Licensure is a big deal for my practice,
Dean Tidwell AIA NCARB

Dakota Soda

From: Paul A. Haselhuhn <phaselhuhn@wtaarch.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 28, 2025 8:20 AM
To: Dakota Soda
Subject: Opposition of House Bill 4913 & 4914

Dear Committee Clerk Dakota Soda and Honorable Members of the Michigan Legislature,

My name is **Paul Haselhuhn**, and architect and business owner, and I am writing to formally express my **strong opposition** to **House Bills 4913 and 4914**, currently under consideration by the House Economic Competitiveness Committee.

These bills, while framed as occupational licensing reform, pose significant risks to the integrity of the architecture profession and the public's health, safety, and welfare.

Opposition to HB 4913

HB 4913 proposes to modify licensure requirements for architects by allowing undefined "apprenticeships" as an alternative to a professional degree. This approach:

- **Lacks clarity** and fails to define the structure, oversight, or standards of such apprenticeships.
- **Undermines professional rigor**, replacing established educational pathways with vague equivalencies.
- **Jeopardizes public safety**, as architects are entrusted with designing safe, sustainable environments.
- **Contradicts the intent** of LARA's "Cutting Red Tape" initiative, which aimed to reduce administrative burdens—not lower professional standards.

Opposition to HB 4914

HB 4914 seeks to eliminate the requirement that **at least two-thirds of a firm's principals be licensed professionals** in architecture, engineering, or surveying. This change:

- **Dilutes professional accountability**, allowing unlicensed individuals to influence critical decisions.
- **Threatens public trust** and safety in infrastructure and design.
- **Prioritizes business interests** over professional ethics and public welfare.
- **Accelerates implementation** without sufficient stakeholder engagement or impact analysis.

As a concerned constituent, I urge you to:

- **Submit my name in opposition** to HB 4913 and HB 4914.
- **Preserve the current licensure and ownership standards** that protect Michigan residents and uphold the integrity of the architecture profession.
- **Engage with professional organizations** such as AIA Michigan and NCARB to explore thoughtful, well-defined reforms that maintain high standards while improving administrative efficiency.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I respectfully request that these bills be reconsidered or significantly revised in collaboration with industry experts and regulatory bodies.

Paul Andrew Haselhuhn, AIA, LEED AP BD+C
President
100 S Jefferson, Ste 601

WTA ARCHITECTS

Dakota Soda

From: James Stevens <james.stevens@ohm-advisors.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 29, 2025 8:51 AM
To: Dakota Soda
Cc: Rep. Mike Hoadley (District 99)
Subject: HB 4913 and 4914

Dakota,

Please forward my comments to the committee concerning the above.

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.

JAMES STEVENS, PE
VICE PRESIDENT OF ENGINEERING

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Dakota Soda

From: Ferencz, Kelly <Kelly.Ferencz@wsp.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 29, 2025 8:46 AM
To: Dakota Soda
Cc: Rep. Ann Bollin (District 49)
Subject: HB 4913 & 4914 Opposition

As a licensed engineer WSP, with over 27 years of experience, I oppose HB 4913 & 4914 because they weaken educational rigor and firm oversight, jeopardizing Michigan's infrastructure and public safety.

These bills could compromise engineering quality in my personal district of Brighton, MI, risking safety in critical projects like bridge/interchange reconstruction, roadway rehabilitation, water and sewer upgrades and all other civil infrastructure projects.

Thank you,
Kelly

Kelly K. Ferencz, PE, CM
Vice President
Regional Aviation Principal - Midwest

M: 517.404.2054
Email: Kelly.Ferencz@wsp.com

Lansing Office – 6100 W. St. Joseph Hwy, Suite 400, Lansing, Mi 48917
Detroit Office – 500 Griswold St, Suite 2600, Guardian Bld, Detroit, MI 48826

WSP Aviation



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Dakota Soda

From: Lauren Roller <lroller@hed.co>
Sent: Wednesday, October 29, 2025 8:43 AM
To: Dakota Soda
Subject: Opposition to HB 4913 & 4914

Good Morning,

As a licensed engineer with HED, I oppose HB 4913 and 4914. These bills weaken educational rigor and firm oversight, jeopardizing Michigan's infrastructure and public safety.

Thank You,

Lauren Roller PE
She/Her/Hers
Associate Principal
Structural Engineering

D 248.233.0085 **HED.CO**
lroller@hed.co

HED

123 West Fifth St
Royal Oak, MI 48067

Dakota Soda

From: Mike Williams <mwilliams@gowightman.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 29, 2025 8:43 AM
To: Dakota Soda
Subject: HB 4913 & HB 4914

As a consumer of our state's infrastructure and Finance Director at Wightman & Associates, Inc. a Michigan based Civil Engineering, Architecture, and Land Surveying firm, I oppose HB 4913 & HB 4914 on public-safety grounds.

Respectfully,

Michael Williams

OFFICE 269.487.9669 MOBILE 269.217.1325
433 E RANSOM STREET, KALAMAZOO, MI 49007
GOWIGHTMAN.COM

WIGHTMAN
it's all about people

Dakota Soda

From: Doug Skylis <DSkylis@rowepsc.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 29, 2025 8:33 AM
To: Rep. Kathy Schmaltz (District 46); Dakota Soda
Subject: SB 4913 &4914

Kathy and Dakota,
I am writing to ask you to oppose both of these house bills #4913 and 4914. While both may seam reasonable and harmless to the general public, as an engineer I can tell you they are NOT HARMLESS.
For 4913 there isn't any way to equate an apprenticeship program to a college degree. I am fully supportive of apprenticeships and trades people, but do not think their program equates to the one I took.
Regarding 4914, if a firm is offering professional services by one or more licensed professional, their ownership makeup should reflect their commitment to the profession.
Sincerely,

Douglas P. Skylis, PE (1990-2025) | Sr. Project Manager

ROWE Professional Services Company

ENR Top 500 Design Firm

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www.rowepsc.com

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Dakota Soda

From: Schumaker, Jeff <jschumaker@fishbeck.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 29, 2025 8:26 AM
To: Dakota Soda
Subject: HB 4913 and 4914

Dear Dakota,

I'm writing to you today to encourage opposition to House Bill 4913 and 4914. House bill 4913 weakens educational requirements for obtaining a professional engineering license and weakens professional standards in engineering. Passing this bill would make it difficult for engineers licensed in Michigan to obtain licensure in other states through reciprocity. Michigan engineers would be viewed as a lower class.

Further, House Bill 4914 could lead to firms with a leadership structure, non-licensed control, mis-aligned with the ethical practice required for engineering, thus jeopardizing Michigan's infrastructure and public safety.

Thanks for your consideration.

Jeff Schumaker, PE | Chief Vision Officer
Fishbeck | w: 616.464.3841 | c: 616.446.6992 | Fishbeck.com
1515 Arboretum Dr. SE Grand Rapids MI 49546

Dakota Soda

From: Tracie Williams <Tracie.Williams@ohm-advisors.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 29, 2025 7:53 AM
To: Dakota Soda
Subject: HB 4913 4914

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

TRACIE WILLIAMS, PE, LEED AP
DIRECTOR OF MEP ENGINEERING

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Dakota Soda

From: Everitt, Brent J. <brent.everitt@spicergroup.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 29, 2025 7:13 AM
To: Dakota Soda
Subject: Opposition to HB 4913 & HB 4914

Dear Dokota,

I am writing as a licensed professional surveyor with Spicer Group Inc. to express my strong opposition to House Bills 4913 and 4914. These proposed changes undermine the educational rigor and professional oversight that are essential to safeguarding Michigan's infrastructure and public safety.

Surveying is a cornerstone of transportation, utility, and land development projects across our state. Reducing qualification standards and oversight will:

- **Jeopardize Public Safety:** Accurate surveying prevents costly errors and structural failures in roads, bridges, and drainage systems.
- **Compromise Infrastructure Integrity:** MDOT and municipal projects rely on precise data and professional accountability to meet design and safety standards.
- **Erode Professional Accountability:** Oversight ensures ethical practice and technical competence, protecting taxpayers and communities from risk.

Michigan's infrastructure demands highly skilled professionals who adhere to rigorous standards. Weakening these requirements will not serve the public interest—it will increase liability, costs, and safety hazards.

I urge you to reject HB 4913 and HB 4914 and preserve the high standards that protect our state's citizens and investments.

Thank you for your consideration. Please feel free to contact me if you would like to discuss this matter further.

Sincerely,

Brent J. Everitt, P.S. | Design Survey Practice Lead
SPICER GROUP, INC.
Cell: 989-873-0420
www.spicergroup.com
Stronger. Safer. Smarter. ***Spicer.***

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Dakota Soda

From: Chip Clark <chip.dbclark@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 28, 2025 11:34 PM
To: Dakota Soda
Subject: Opposition to House Bills 4913 & 4914 – Architectural Licensing Standards

Dear Committee Clerk, Dakota Soda,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to House Bills 4913 and 4914 as currently drafted.

These measures were introduced following LARA's "Cutting Red Tape" report, which was intended to streamline licensing processes—not lower professional standards or weaken public protections. Unfortunately, both bills move in that direction.

HB 4913 weakens the educational and competency baseline for architects by introducing an undefined "apprenticeship equivalency" in place of a professional degree. The bill provides no clarity on program standards, oversight, curriculum, accountability, or assessment of competency. This is not regulatory streamlining—it is deregulation of core safety requirements. The architecture profession is entrusted with protecting the public's health, safety, and welfare. Lowering the threshold for technical and ethical competency places that responsibility at risk.

HB 4914 removes the current requirement that at least two-thirds of ownership in an architectural, engineering, or surveying firm must be licensed professionals. This threshold helps ensure that critical decisions are made by those bound by licensure, ethics, and liability—not by unqualified business interests. Eliminating this safeguard undermines accountability and increases the likelihood that financial pressures could outweigh public safety considerations.

The original purpose of LARA's directive was to reduce administrative hurdles in licensure—not to reduce qualifications, competency, or professional oversight. Existing frameworks through NCARB, NAAB, and the Michigan Board of

Dakota Soda

From: Zachary Carr <zcarr@fkengineering.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 28, 2025 10:05 PM
To: Dakota Soda
Subject: Opposing HB 4913 & 4914 on public-safety grounds!

Dear Committee Clerk,

As a State of MIchigan licensed Professional Engineerengineer with FK Engineering in Madison Heights, I oppose HB 4913 & 4914 because they both weaken educational rigor and engineering firm oversight, jeopardizing Michigan's infrastructure and public safety.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

--

Zachary Carr, P.E.
Vice President
FK Engineering Associates
30425 Stephenson Hwy.
Madison Heights, MI 48071
Office: 248-817-2946
Cell: 313-304-6737
zcarr@fkengineering.com

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Dakota Soda

From: Tim Juidici <tim.juidici@ohm-advisors.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 28, 2025 6:20 PM
To: Dakota Soda
Subject: Opposition to HB 4913 & 4914 to Protect Public Safety and Professional Standards

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

Tim Juidici, PE
OHM Advisors
2365 Pontiac Rd, Suite 201
Auburn Hills, MI 48326

TIM JUIDICI, PE
PRINCIPAL

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Dakota Soda

From: Tanweer Shah <tanweer.shah@geotranconsultants.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 28, 2025 5:23 PM
To: Dakota Soda
Subject: House Bills 4913 and 4914

Dear Committee Clerk Dakota Soda,

As a licensed engineer with GeoTran Consultants, I oppose HB 4913 and 4914 because they weaken education rigor and firm oversight, jeopardizing Michigan's infrastructure and public safety. These bills could compromise engineering quality in our state, risking safety in critical projects like bridges, highways, streets, roads and water systems, etc.

Thank you for your prompt attention to these bills.

Tanweer Shah, PE

GeoTran Consultants, LLC
Phone: 810.229.6805; Fax: 810.229.6561; Cell: 810.623.4226
www.geotranconsultants.com

MDOT-certified DBE

Dakota Soda

From: MC Moritz <MC.Moritz@ohm-advisors.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 28, 2025 5:22 PM
To: Dakota Soda
Subject: I oppose HB 4913 & 4914

Hello Clerk Soda,

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

Together, these bills would lower Michigan's standards below national norms, complicate interstate reciprocity, and expose the public to unqualified design practices.

Thank you for your work in our government.

Regards,

MC Moritz

MC MORITZ, EIT
CLIENT REPRESENTATIVE

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Dakota Soda

From: Pat Wingate <pat.wingate@ohm-advisors.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 28, 2025 5:01 PM
To: Dakota Soda
Subject: HB 4913 and HB 4914

Ms. Soda,

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

House Bill 4913 would amend the Occupational Code to allow the state board to accept undefined "equivalents" to an ABET-accredited baccalaureate degree in engineering for Professional Engineer (PE) licensure. While this may increase accessibility, it impacts accountability. This would weaken education requirements and, in practice, it compromises the public trust and the safety of Michigan's infrastructure.

HB 4914 – This bill eliminates the requirement that at least two-thirds of a firm's principals be licensed professionals to practice engineering. Michigan does not license firms or issue Certificates of Authorization (COAs)—unlike 42 other states—so the two-thirds rule is our only firm-level safeguard. Removing it without replacement would allow non-licensed control of professional firms, shifting decisions toward profit rather than ethics and safety—potentially leading to failures or other hazards.

Together, these bills would lower Michigan's standards below national norms, complicate interstate reciprocity, and expose the public to unqualified design practices.

Respectfully,
Patrick Wingate
3875 Sheldon Dr
Petoskey MI 49770

PAT WINGATE, PE
VICE PRESIDENT OF ENGINEERING

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Dakota Soda

From: Donn, Stephen M. <stephen.donn@spicergroup.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 29, 2025 10:02 AM
To: Dakota Soda
Subject: Opposition to HB 4913 & HB 4914

Dear Dokota,

I am writing as a licensed professional surveyor with Spicer Group Inc. to express my strong opposition to House Bills ***4913*** and ***4914***. These proposed changes undermine the educational rigor and professional oversight that are essential to safeguarding Michigan's infrastructure and public safety.

Surveying is a cornerstone of transportation, utility, and land development projects across our state. Reducing qualification standards and oversight will:

- **Jeopardize Public Safety:** Accurate surveying prevents costly errors and structural failures in roads, bridges, and drainage systems.
- **Compromise Infrastructure Integrity:** MDOT and municipal projects rely on precise data and professional accountability to meet design and safety standards.
- **Erode Professional Accountability:** Oversight ensures ethical practice and technical competence, protecting taxpayers and communities from risk.

Michigan's infrastructure demands highly skilled professionals who adhere to rigorous standards. Weakening these requirements will not serve the public interest—it will increase liability, costs, and safety hazards.

In addition, House Bill ***4914*** poses to undermine & threaten Michigan owned / based small businesses which provide local economic competitiveness and opportunities for thousands of Michigan residents.

I urge you to reject HB ***4913*** and HB ***4914*** and preserve the high standards that protect our state's citizens and investments.

Thank you for your consideration. Please feel free to contact me if you would like to discuss this matter further.

Sincerely,

Stephen M. Donn, P.S. | Construction Survey Practice Lead
SPICER GROUP, INC.
Cell: 989-313-9837
Office: 989-718-3127
www.spicergroup.com
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Dakota Soda

From: Tarin Minkel <tarinminkel@dixonengineering.net>
Sent: Wednesday, October 29, 2025 10:12 AM
To: Dakota Soda
Subject: Opposition to HB 4913 and 4914

Hello,

As a licensed engineer in the State of Michigan, I strongly oppose HB 4913 and 4914. Opening up licensing to individuals without and education that meets some kind of standard is extremely dangerous for public safety. There are several unaccredited engineering programs across the state that do not provide the level of education needed to be a licensed professional engineer.

Allowing engineering firms to be ran by those other than a majority of engineers is a big mistake. Having an engineering focus at the forefront of all decision making is essential to protect public welfare.

Thank you!

Tarin Minkel, PE | Project Manager
Dixon Engineering, Inc. | www.dixonengineering.net
1104 Third Avenue,
Lake Odessa, MI 48849
Office: 616-374-3221
Cell: 989-613-0710
DIXON ENGINEERING, INC.

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Dakota Soda

From: Tim Hoeffner <thoeffner@quandelconsultants.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 29, 2025 10:20 AM
To: Dakota Soda
Subject: opposing HB 4913 & 4914

As a licensed professional engineer with Quande Consultants in Jackson MI, I oppose HB 4913 & 4914 because they weaken educational rigor and firm oversight, jeopardizing Michigan's infrastructure, and public safety."

QUANDEL
CONSULTANTS

Tim Hoeffner, P.E.
Senior Consultant

180 W. Michigan Ave, Suite 800
Jackson, MI 49201

517.655.3610

thoeffner@quandel.com
www.quandelconsultants.com

Dakota Soda

From: Wendling, Matt <matt.wendling@wsp.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 29, 2025 10:33 AM
To: Dakota Soda
Cc: Wendling, Matt
Subject: Opposition to HB 4913 & 4914

Good morning Ms. Soda,

I'm writing to voice my concerns over potential advancement of House Bills 4913 and 4914 to the House Rules Committee on Thursday. As a licensed engineer with WSP Michigan Inc., I oppose HB 4913 and 4914 because they weaken educational rigor and firm oversight, jeopardizing Michigan's infrastructure and public safety. Protecting the public through delivery of quality infrastructure projects by engineers and designers that meet the educational requirements should be such a low bar for our state and bills such as these truly do jeopardize this practice.

Feel free to reach out to me if you have any questions or would like to discuss further.

Thank you!
Matt

Matt Wendling, PE
Senior Vice President
Michigan Transportation Business Leader

T +1 517.327.7848
M +1 517.648.1248

WSP Michigan Inc.
Lansing Office – 6100 W. St. Joseph Hwy, Suite 400, Lansing, Mi 48917
Detroit Office – 500 Griswold St, Suite 2600, Guardian Bld, Detroit, MI 48826

wsp.com



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Dakota Soda

From: Andrew Stone <astone414@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 29, 2025 10:42 AM
To: Dakota Soda
Subject: HB4913 and HB4914

Hello Dakota,

As a resident of Michigan and a licensed architect practicing in the area, I would like to express my opposition to proposed House Bills 4913 and 4914 as they relate to architectural practice, ownership requirements, and licensing regulations. I understand there is a growing list of individuals who have expressed opposition to these bills, and I would like my name to be added to that list.

HB4913 focuses on making architecture easier, rather than less burdensome. As an architect, I am committed to protecting the health, safety, and welfare of the general public, and lowering the threshold for licensure has a very distinct potential to dramatically negatively impact our ability to protect the general public. Existing frameworks, such as NCARB's licensing models, balance education, experience, and competency assessments should be considered as alternatives to the proposals in HB 4913.

HB 4914, similarly, has a strong potential to increase the occurrence of substandard work and jeopardize the safety of the public. By diluting the ownership/management requirements of an architecture and engineering firm, unqualified individuals are given the ability to make uninformed decisions and deteriorate the public's trust in the architecture and engineering professions. AIA Michigan, the professional organization I belong to, has expressed a desire to engage with legislators, LARA, and the Board of Architects to explore a more comprehensive and effective model.

Please feel free to reach out with any questions.

Thank you

Andrew Stone, AIA, NCARB
938 Webb St.
Detroit, MI 48202

Dakota Soda

From: Stacey, Matt <MSTACEY@WadeTrim.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 29, 2025 10:50 AM
To: Dakota Soda
Subject: Opposition to HBs 4913 and 4914

As a licensed professional engineer with Wade Trim (company information below) in multiple states, including my home state of Michigan, I oppose the aforementioned bills as they weaken the educational requirements to become an engineer and weaken firm oversight of engineering companies within the state, likely leading to weakened professional standards, and potential issues with the public health, safety and welfare.

-Matt

WADE TRIM

Matthew J. Stacey, PE, Senior Vice President
Transportation Market Segment Lead
25251 Northline Road, Taylor, MI 48180
734.947.2658 office
734.255.0384 cell

Employee Owner since 1999

Dakota Soda

From: John Baldauf <jbaldauf@HNTB.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 29, 2025 11:06 AM
To: Dakota Soda
Subject: Please Vote No on House Bills 4913 and 4914

To Whom It May Concern,

As a licensed engineer with HNTB Michigan, I oppose HB 4913 & 4914 because they weaken educational rigor and firm oversight, jeopardizing Michigan's infrastructure and public safety. **Please Vote No on these two bills.**

Thank you,

John E. Baldauf, AVP, PE
Design Group Director | Michigan Office
Tel (313) 230-0969 **Cell** (313) 920-7999 **Email** jbaldauf@hntb.com

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Dakota Soda

From: Steve Carlisle <scarlisle@gowightman.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 28, 2025 4:33 PM
To: Dakota Soda
Subject: Opposition to HB 4913 & 4914

To whom it may concern:

As a licensed engineer with Wightman, I believe HB 4913 and HB 4914 could unintentionally lower the professional and oversight standards that ensure safe, reliable infrastructure across Michigan. We must keep the bar high for the firms protecting the health and welfare of Michigan residents.

Thank you,

Steve Carlisle PE

OFFICE 269.487.9712 MOBILE 269.449.6814
2303 PIPESTONE ROAD, BENTON HARBOR, MI 49022
GOWIGHTMAN.COM

Dakota Soda

From: Sarah Barrett <Sarah.Barrett@ohm-advisors.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 28, 2025 4:45 PM
To: Dakota Soda
Subject: Opposition of HB 4913 & 4914

Importance: High

Hi Dakota Soda,

My name is Sarah Barrett and I am an engineer at OHM Advisors. As an engineer that has an accredited bachelors in Civil Engineering from Wayne State University and is taking the proper steps towards licensure, I **oppose** HB 4913 & 4914 because they weaken educational rigor and firm oversight, jeopardizing Michigan's infrastructure and public safety.

My personal contact information is as follows:
Phone – (248) 925-6230
Address – 30179 Westwood Drive, Madison Heights, MI 48071
Email – sarah.barrett@ohm-advisors.com

Thank you for your time,

SARAH BARRETT
ENGINEER

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Dakota Soda

From: Scott Lockwood <slockwood@aewinc.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 28, 2025 4:52 PM
To: Dakota Soda
Subject: HB 4913 and 4914

To all Economic Competitiveness Committee Members,
I am reaching out today because I understand the House Economic Competitiveness Committee is voting on HB 4913 and 4914 this Thursday, 10/30. **I urge you to please vote no on these bills.** I thoroughly believe these bills weaken educational rigor and firm oversight, jeopardizing Michigan's infrastructure and public safety. Please contact me if you have any questions or comments. Thank you for your consideration,

Scott Lockwood, PE
Executive Vice President
51301 Schoenherr Road, Shelby Twp., MI 48315
Phone: 586-726-1234
Cell: 586-914-9947
E-mail: slockwood@aewinc.com

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Dakota Soda

From: Mariah Cummings <Mariah.Cummings@ohm-advisors.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 28, 2025 4:50 PM
To: Dakota Soda
Subject: HB 4913 & 4914

Mr. Soda,

As a licensed engineer with OHM Advisors, I oppose HB 4913 & 4914 because they weaken educational rigor and firm oversight, jeopardizing Michigan's infrastructure and public safety. Michigan has made great progress in recent years to improve our public infrastructure. Please consider the downfall of these bills and vote NO on Thursday.

MARIAH CUMMINGS, PE
PROJECT ENGINEER

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Dakota Soda

From: Jessica Katers <jessica.katers@ohm-advisors.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 28, 2025 3:57 PM
To: Dakota Soda
Subject: opposing HB 4913 & 4914

Committee Clerk Soda,

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

In my role as our Director of Michigan Municipal Services, my team serves 80+ communities throughout Michigan; we want to ensure that the public health, safety and welfare remain protected well into the future by retaining educational requirements that align with the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES) Model Law used by the majority of our peer states within the USA and that business decisions are made by licensed engineers in their leadership roles within their firms taking into account ethics and safety (required and governed by the licensing board) above profit.

Removing either of these requirements will signal that Michigan accepts lower education and oversight thresholds than the majority of other states, may jeopardize current licensed engineer's ability to practice across state lines or receive reciprocity in licensure, and will remove the one safeguard that aligned us with the 42 other states in the Union that either license firms or issue Certificates of Authorization to practice.

JESSICA KATERS, PE
DIRECTOR OF MICHIGAN MUNICIPAL
Jessica.Katers@ohm-advisors.com

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Dakota Soda

From: Garza, Jennifer M. <jenniferg@spicergroup.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 28, 2025 3:59 PM
To: Dakota Soda; Rep. Bill G. Schuette (District 95)
Subject: Opposing HB 4913 & 4914

Dear Ms. Soda,
As a licensed engineer with Spicer Group, Inc., I oppose HB 4913 & 4914 because they weaken educational rigor and professional standards, jeopardizing Michigan's infrastructure and public safety.

Dear Mr. Schuette,
I urge you to vote no on these bills. They could compromise engineering quality in our district, risking safety in critical projects like public drinking water, wastewater, and transportation systems.

Sincerely.

Jennifer Garza, P.E.
Drinking Water & Wastewater Director
SPICER GROUP, INC.
Cell: 989-488-8497
www.spicergroup.com
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Home:
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Midland, MI 48642

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Dakota Soda

From: Elaine J. Venema <evenema@fveng.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 28, 2025 4:10 PM
To: Dakota Soda
Subject: HB 4913 and 4914

Ms. Soda,

As a licensed engineer with Fleis & VandenBrink, I oppose HB 4913 & 4914 because they weaken educational rigor and firm oversight, jeopardizing Michigan's infrastructure and public safety. Nearly every state in the US requires engineers who work on public projects to be licensed in the State they are working in. This is critical for helping to ensure quality engineering in critical projects, like bridges, roads, water and sewer systems. Michigan should not be below national standards in this profession which works on public projects that our residents utilize daily.

If cosmetologists and barbers need licensure in Michigan, how much more do engineers?

Best regards,

Elaine

Elaine J. Venema, PE
Sr. Project Manager, Associate
FLEIS & VANDENBRINK
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Dakota Soda

From: Miller, Warren T. <warrenm@spicergroup.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 28, 2025 3:49 PM
To: Dakota Soda
Subject: Opposition to HB 4913 & 4914

To whom it may concern,

As a licensed engineer with Spicer Group, I oppose HB 4913 & 4914 because they lessen the educational rigor and firm oversight. This lesser requirements would jeopardize Michigan's infrastructure and public safety.

Thank you.

Warren T. Miller, P.E.| Project Manager
SPICER GROUP, INC.
Office: 989-921-5572 | Cell: 906-281-0771
www.spicergroup.com

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Dakota Soda

From: Andrew Johnstone <ajohnstone@sda-eng.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 28, 2025 3:47 PM
To: Dakota Soda
Subject: Opposition to House Bills 4913 and 4914

Good afternoon,

My name is Andrew Johnstone, and I am a licensed professional engineer with Spalding DeDecker, based in Rochester Hills, Michigan. I am writing to voice my strong opposition to House Bills 4913 and 4914, which are currently under consideration by your committee.
As a licensed engineer, I oppose HB 4913 and 4914 because they erode the high standards of education and professional oversight that safeguard our state's engineering practices, putting Michigan's vital infrastructure and public safety at serious risk.

HB 4913 proposes changes to the Occupational Code that would permit the state board to approve "equivalents" in place of a verified ABET-accredited engineering degree for professional engineer licensure. Even though it keeps the experience and exam elements intact, this shift from objective accreditation to discretionary judgments could undermine the uniform quality and depth of preparation that accredited programs deliver. Such programs instill not only technical skills but also a strong ethical framework and focus on safety, which are critical for handling everything from roadways and bridges to utilities and power grids. Permitting less structured paths risks creating gaps in knowledge, heightening the chances of errors that could lead to failures with severe consequences.

In addition to this, Michigan's existing standards mirror the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES) Model Law, a benchmark adopted widely for consistent licensing and seamless professional mobility between states. Straying from this could position Michigan as an outlier, complicating engineers' ability to collaborate or relocate across borders and implying a tolerance for subpar qualifications that erodes confidence in our profession.

For HB 4914, the proposal to drop the mandate for two-thirds of a firm's key leaders to hold professional licenses removes a vital layer of accountability in engineering practices. Unlike the majority of states that regulate firms directly through certificates or authorizations, Michigan relies on this ownership rule as its primary mechanism to ensure professional judgment guides operations over purely financial motives. Without it, firms could fall under non-expert influence, prioritizing short-term gains at the expense of thorough, safe design processes.

I strongly encourage the committee to oppose these bills and uphold the robust safeguards that keep Michigan at the forefront of reliable, forward-thinking infrastructure.

Thank you for considering this perspective.

SPALDING DEDECKER

Andrew Johnstone PE
Engineer
p: (248) 844-5400 ext 1210
e: ajohnstone@sda-eng.com | w: www.sda-eng.com
Spalding DeDecker: Locations

Dakota Soda

From: Barden, Eric S. <ericb@spicergroup.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 28, 2025 3:46 PM
To: Dakota Soda
Subject: Please Oppose HB 4913 & 4914

Good Afternoon

As a licensed surveyor and owner of Spicer Group Inc, who employes more than 200 licensed engineers and surveyors, I oppose HB 4913 & 4914 because they weaken educational rigor and firm oversight, jeopardizing Michigan's infrastructure and public safety.

Please support individual and firm accountability by upholding the highest standards in professional oversight and ownership of engineering and surveying decisions that impact public and private infrastructure to keep Michigan residents safe.

When our firm owners are also licensed professionals, whose projects bear their signature and professional seal, the liability and ownership of their plans falls squarely on them. Can you imagine an environment where investment firms, or non-industry affiliated parties own and operate engineering and surveying firms? With no professional licensure at risk due to their poor decisions, they will ultimately prioritize profit over sound engineering decision making that protects the public. When profit is prioritized over sound engineering, bridges collapse, roads and sewers fail, and buildings fall. And when the non-licensed business owner is sued, him/her will close their LLC, and start another.

This legislation is bad for Michigan.

Eric S Barden, PS | Executive Vice President
SPICER GROUP, INC.
Cell: 989-239-5732
www.spicergroup.com

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Dakota Soda

From: Boals, Brian M. <brian.boals@spicergroup.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 28, 2025 3:28 PM
To: Dakota Soda
Subject: HB 4913 & 4914

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

Sincerely,

Brian M. Boals, P.E. | Senior Project Manager
SPICER GROUP, INC.
Cell: 231-313-4863
www.spicergroup.com

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Dakota Soda

From: Sarah Lipton <SLipton@degenkolb.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 28, 2025 3:19 PM
To: Dakota Soda
Subject: HB 4913 & 4914 Opinion as a Professionally Licensed Engineer

Dakota,

As a licensed professional engineer with Ruby + Associates, **I oppose HB 4913 and HB 4914**, as they both weaken the oversight and regulations for education and licensure. T**his hugely impacts safety concerns for our building and infrastructure**, as it does not keep the high accountability standards that we need to ensure we as professionally licensed engineers are safe, know what we're doing, and are well trained. This can lead to an increase in future infrastructure and structural failures in our state and is a step backwards, not forwards.

This will make it more difficult to work with other states, set our standards much lower than those states, and risk the public's safety with potentially unqualified designs. The **ABA's 2024 50-State Survey** confirms Michigan's rule aligns with 20–25 states requiring majority licensed ownership, while roughly 40 require firm-level licensing. **HB 4914 would leave no safeguards in place.**

Thank you for listening and responding to my perspective.
Regards,

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Sarah (Bednarcik) Lipton, PE*
Senior Engineer, *MI

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www.rubyandassociates.com

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Dakota Soda

From: Committee
Sent: Tuesday, October 28, 2025 11:14 AM
To: Dakota Soda
Subject: FW: I oppose House Bills 4913 and 4914

Matthew Carnagie
Director, Committee Clerks
Michigan House of Representatives

Phone: 517-373-5795
Address: PO Box 30014
Lansing, Michigan 48909
Email: mcarnagie@house.mi.gov

From: Arnie Bunkley <abb@ab2architecture.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 28, 2025 11:08 AM
To: Committee <committee@house.mi.gov>
Subject: I oppose House Bills 4913 and 4914

Madam Clerk,

I hereby request that my name be submitted in opposition to the bills referenced above. I have been a licensed architect for 50 years, and while trying to reduce the red tape is a noble cause, watering down of our standards and short-cutting requirements to make it easier to become licensed is not in the best interest of the profession or our clients. Reduce the red tape in the administrative area instead. Reduce the hurdles in the licensure process, not the amount of knowledge and experience necessary to uphold the value of the profession.

Likewise, the requirement that 2/3 of a firm's principals be licensed should not be removed, especially in today's atmosphere of unqualified leaders making dreadful decisions regarding health, safety, and welfare of the public is now the norm.

Respectfully submitted,

Arnold B Bunkley, AIA

Dakota Soda

From: Michael Shuell <shuellmi@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 28, 2025 10:44 AM
To: Dakota Soda
Subject: HB 4913 and HB 4914

Ms. Soda,
I'd like to note strong opposition to both HB 1943 and HB 4914.

HB 4913 would erode the influence of knowledgeable professionals and increase the input of unqualified individuals to affect complex and long lasting decisions.

HB 4914 Would weaken the standards to which professional are held. Architecture exams are difficult for a reason, with a pass rate hovering about 75%. Allowing individuals who have not been able to pass the exams another path to licensure does not benefit anyone and is a danger to the public.

Thank You

Michael Shuell, AIA
521 S Spinningwheel Ln,
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304

313.505.4339

Dakota Soda

From: Alissa Kirchhoff <alissa.kirchhoff@norr.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 28, 2025 10:01 AM
To: Dakota Soda
Subject: Opposition of House Bill 4913 & 4914

Good morning,

I am writing to tell you that I am in opposition of House Bill 4913 & 4914. As a licensed Architect I feel these bills will compromise the integrity of the profession.

Thank you,

Alissa Kirchhoff AIA, NCARB
Project Architect

T 312 873 1013
alissa.kirchhoff@norr.com

NORR Integrated Thinking. Inspired Design.

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Dakota Soda

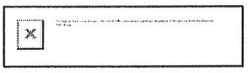
From: Chuck Gemayel <chuck.gemayel@sme-usa.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 29, 2025 11:31 AM
To: Dakota Soda
Subject: HB 4913 & 4914

Good Morning,

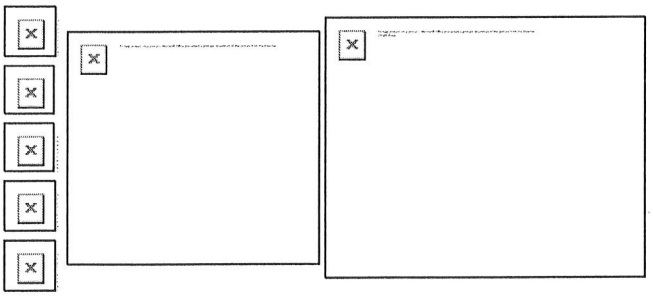
As a licensed engineer with Soil and Materials Engineers, Inc (SME), I oppose HB 4913 & 4914 because they weaken educational rigor and firm oversight, jeopardizing Michigan's infrastructure and public safety

Sincerely,

Chuck A. Gemayel, PE | Chief Operating Officer / Senior Vice President
43980 Plymouth Oaks Blvd. | Plymouth, MI 48170
734.454.9900 o |586.405.3490 c | chuck.gemayel@sme-usa.com



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Dakota Soda

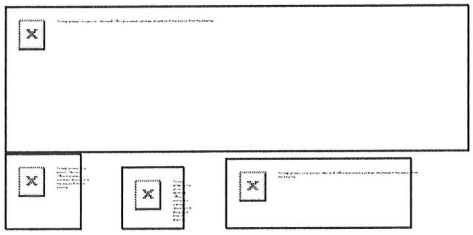
From: Troy Nuccio <tjnuccio@hengineers.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 29, 2025 3:16 PM
To: Dakota Soda
Subject: Opposition to HB 4913 & 4914

Good Afternoon

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

Regards,

Troy Nuccio, P.E. | **Project Manager**
Office (734) 759-1600
Mobile (734) 341-3136
13500 Reeck Road, Southgate, MI 48195
400 N. Main St., Suite 303, Milford, MI 48381
(248) 684-1033



COMMUNITY FOUNDATIONS BUILT WITH OPTIMISM

Dakota Soda

From: Doc Grimes <docgrimes@HNTB.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 29, 2025 3:29 PM
To: Dakota Soda
Subject: Respectfully and Fundamentally Oppose HB 4913 & 4914

Good Afternoon, Dakota Soda,

My name is Doc Grimes. As a licensed engineer with HNTB Corporation, I oppose HB 4913 & 4914 because they weaken educational rigor and firm oversight, jeopardizing Michigan's infrastructure and public safety. Michigan's infrastructure and public safety simply cannot be compromised.

Respectfully Yours,
Doc Grimes

oc Grimes, MBA, PE

echnology/Traffic Design

el (517) 318-7547 **Email** docgrimes@hntb.com

NTB CORPORATION

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Dakota Soda

From: Troy Hagon <thagon@acecmi.org>
Sent: Tuesday, October 28, 2025 4:16 PM
To: Rep. Mike Hoadley (District 99); Rep. Karl Bohnak (District 109); Rep. Brian BeGole (District 71); Rep. Jay DeBoyer (District 63); Rep. Mike Harris (District 52); Rep. Pat Outman (District 91); Rep. Alicia St. Germaine (District 62); Rep. Kristian C. Grant (District 82); Rep. Julie Brixie (District 73); Rep. Betsy Coffia (District 103); Joe Tate
Cc: Rep. Matt Hall (District 42); Rep. Bill G. Schuette (District 95); Sarah McNally; Dakota Soda
Subject: ACEC/Michigan Opposition to HB 4913 & HB 4914
Attachments: ACEC MI Letter of Opposition HB 4913.pdf; ACEC MI Letter Opposing HB 4914.pdf

Dear Chair Hoadley and Members of the House Economic Competitiveness Committee,

On behalf of the American Council of Engineering Companies of Michigan (ACEC/Michigan), I am sharing two attached letters for your consideration ahead of the Committee's continued discussion and possible vote on House Bills 4913 and 4914.

• The first letter outlines our opposition to **HB 4913**, which would allow undefined "equivalents" to an ABET-accredited engineering degree to be accepted for Professional Engineer (PE) licensure in Michigan. We believe this change would weaken established educational standards that protect public safety and the integrity of engineering practice in our state.

• The second letter outlines our opposition to **HB 4914**, which would remove the long-standing requirement that at least two-thirds of a firm's principals, officers, or members be licensed design professionals in order to offer or provide engineering services in Michigan. This two-thirds rule ensures that professional judgment and ethical responsibility remain in the hands of licensed engineers —those legally accountable to protect public safety. Eliminating this safeguard would allow business or financial interests to outweigh professional oversight and compromise the integrity of Michigan's design and infrastructure projects.

ACEC/Michigan represents over a hundred engineering consulting firms employing thousands of licensed professional engineers across the state. Our members are responsible for designing, maintaining, and safeguarding Michigan's critical infrastructure — including roads, bridges, drinking water systems, wastewater systems, stormwater management, and public buildings. The professional engineering licensure framework is in place to protect the public. We believe both HB 4913 and HB 4914, as drafted, would erode that protection.

Thank you for your time and consideration of our perspective. We would welcome the opportunity to discuss these concerns and answer any questions.

Respectfully,

Troy S. Hagon | Deputy Director
American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC) of MI | acecmi.org
American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) - MI Section | asce.sections.org

Dakota Soda

From: Sam Bell <Sam.Bell@itsc2g.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 30, 2025 8:25 AM
To: Dakota Soda
Subject: Please Oppose HB 4913 & HB 4914

Dear Representative Soda,

I am writing as a licensed engineer and constituent to urge you to oppose House Bills 4913 and 4914. These bills would weaken the professional standards that protect public safety and the integrity of Michigan's infrastructure.

HB 4913 would allow undefined "equivalent" degrees to replace ABET-accredited engineering education for Professional Engineer licensure. ABET accreditation ensures that engineers have the technical and ethical foundation necessary to design safe roads, bridges, water systems, and other public assets. Moving away from this national standard risks inconsistent preparation and reduces reciprocity with other states.

HB 4914 removes the requirement that engineering firms be majority-owned by licensed professionals. Since Michigan does not license firms, this rule is currently the only safeguard ensuring that engineering decisions are made by those legally and ethically responsible for protecting public safety. Eliminating it creates opportunities for business interests to override sound professional judgment.

Together, these bills lower Michigan's standards below national norms and increase the risk of design errors, system failures, and long-term public cost.

I respectfully ask that you vote NO on HB 4913 and HB 4914 to help ensure Michigan's infrastructure remains safe, resilient, and professionally accountable.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Sam Bell, PE, PTOE, RSP1
Senior Transportation Engineer/Project Manager
C2G
CINCAR CONSULTING GROUP

17199 N. Laurel Park Drive, Suite 204, Livonia, MI 48152
400 Renaissance Center, Suite 2600, Detroit, MI 48243

C: (616) 951-1528
Sam.Bell@itsc2g.com | www.itsc2g.com

Dakota Soda

From: Kirk Cox <Kirk.Cox@ohm-advisors.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 29, 2025 4:32 PM
To: Dakota Soda
Subject: I oppose HB 4913 and HB 4914

Rep. Soda,
As a licensed professional engineer with OHM Advisors, and as a resident of Ann Arbor, I oppose HB 4913 and HB 4914 because they weaken professional standards, educational rigor, and firm oversight – jeopardizing Michigan's infrastructure and public safety.
Thank you.

Office: 34000 Plymouth Rd, Livonia, MI 48150
Home: 2861 Hardwick Rd, Ann Arbor, MI 48105

KIRK COX, PE
SENIOR PROJECT MANAGER

OHM Advisors®
D (734) 466-4485 | M (248) 535-4417 | O (734) 522-6711

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Dakota Soda

From: Jon Kramer <jon.kramer@ohm-advisors.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 29, 2025 5:19 PM
To: Dakota Soda
Subject: Opposition to HB 4913 & HB 4914

To whom it may concern:

As a licensed engineer, and as President of OHM Advisors, a firm that represents over 800 employees, a majority of whom are engineers, I am strongly opposed to HB 4913 & 4914. Michigan does not license firms or issue Certificate of Authorizations like 42 other states do, and the 2/3 rule is the only rule left protecting the public infrastructure. We have 12 offices in Michigan and believe this will be a matter of the deterioration of health, safety and welfare protections for our residents. Not good.

We are located at:

34000 Plymouth Road

Livonia, MI 48150

I live at

8266 Teahen Road

Brighton, MI 48116

JON KRAMER, P.E.
PRESIDENT

OHM Advisors®
D (734) 466-4581 | **M** (734) 679-6274 | **O** (734) 522-6711

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Dakota Soda

From: Czerwinski, Nick D. <nickc@spicergroup.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 29, 2025 6:37 PM
To: Dakota Soda
Cc: mikehoadley@house.mi.gov; karlbohnak@house.mi.gov; brianbegole@house.mi.gov; jaydeboyer@house.mi.gov; mikeharris@house.mi.gov; patoutman@house.mi.gov; aliciastgermaine@house.mi.gov; kristiangrant@house.mi.gov; juliebrixie@house.mi.gov; betsycoffia@house.mi.gov; jtate@house.mi.gov
Subject: Re: Strong Opposition to HB 4913 & HB 4914 – Protect Michigan's Engineering Standards and Public Safety

Dear Committee Clerk Soda,

As a Principal of Spicer Group Inc. and a licensed Professional Engineer in the State of Michigan (License No. 6201058360), holding both a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from Michigan Technological University, I am writing to register my strong opposition to House Bills 4913 and 4914.

These bills represent a direct threat to public safety, professional accountability, and the long-term integrity of Michigan's infrastructure.

HB 4913 undermines the foundational educational standards that have protected Michigan citizens for decades. By allowing undefined "equivalents" to an ABET-accredited engineering degree, the bill replaces objective, nationally recognized rigor with subjective criteria that cannot guarantee competency in critical areas such as structural design, geotechnical analysis, bridge design, or water resources engineering—disciplines we apply daily at Spicer Group on behalf of Michigan communities.

HB 4914 eliminates the two-thirds licensed-principal ownership requirement, our state's only meaningful safeguard against non-professional control of engineering firms. Without this rule—and absent firm-level licensing or Certificates of Authorization—profit-driven decision-making could override ethical and safety considerations, increasing the risk of failures in the bridges, water systems, and transportation networks we design and maintain.

Spicer Group has delivered safe, reliable infrastructure across Michigan for over 80 years. Lowering licensure and oversight standards jeopardizes that legacy and the public trust we have earned.

I urge the Committee to reject both HB 4913 and HB 4914.

Sincerely,

Nicholas D. Czerwinski, P.E. | Principal

SPICER GROUP, INC.

Office: 989-754-4717 | Cell: 989-529-0256
www.spicergroup.com

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Dakota Soda

From: Graham, Richard V. <richg@spicergroup.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 29, 2025 4:01 PM
To: Dakota Soda
Cc: Rep. Mike Hoadley (District 99); Rep. Karl Bohnak (District 109); Rep. Brian BeGole (District 71); Rep. Jay DeBoyer (District 63); Rep. Mike Harris (District 52); Rep. Pat Outman (District 91); Rep. Alicia St. Germaine (District 62); Rep. Kristian C. Grant (District 82); Rep. Julie Brixie (District 73); Rep. Betsy Coffia (District 103); Joe Tate
Subject: Strong Opposition to HB 4913 & HB 4914 – Protect Michigan's Engineering Standards and Public Safety

Dear Committee Clerk Soda,

As a Vice President of Spicer Group Inc. and a licensed Professional Engineer in the State of Michigan (License No. 6201062039), holding both a Bachelor of Science and Master of Science in Civil Engineering from Lawrence Technological University, I am writing to register my strong opposition to House Bills 4913 and 4914.

These bills represent a direct threat to public safety, professional accountability, and the long-term integrity of Michigan's infrastructure.

HB 4913 undermines the foundational educational standards that have protected Michigan citizens for decades. By allowing undefined "equivalents" to an ABET-accredited engineering degree, the bill replaces objective, nationally recognized rigor with subjective criteria that cannot guarantee competency in critical areas such as structural design, geotechnical analysis, bridge design, or water resources engineering—disciplines we apply daily at Spicer Group on behalf of Michigan communities.

HB 4914 eliminates the two-thirds licensed-principal ownership requirement, our state's only meaningful safeguard against non-professional control of engineering firms. Without this rule—and absent firm-level licensing or Certificates of Authorization—profit-driven decision-making could override ethical and safety considerations, increasing the risk of failures in the bridges, water systems, and transportation networks we design and maintain.

Spicer Group has delivered safe, reliable infrastructure across Michigan for over 80 years. Lowering licensure and oversight standards jeopardizes that legacy and the public trust we have earned.

I urge the Committee to reject both HB 4913 and HB 4914.

Sincerely,

Rich Graham, P.E. | Vice President
SPICER GROUP, INC.
Cell: 248-495-2927
www.spicergroup.com
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Dakota Soda

From: Jim Rintala <Jim.Rintala@ohm-advisors.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 30, 2025 10:50 AM
To: Dakota Soda
Subject: HB 4913 and HB 4914

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

JIM RINTALA, PE
SENIOR PROJECT ENGINEER

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Dakota Soda

From: jbeythan@macmillanassociates.com
Sent: Tuesday, October 28, 2025 9:42 AM
To: Dakota Soda
Subject: Opposition of House Bill 4913 & 4914.

Good morning, please submit my name as a citizen opposed to House Bills 4913 and 4914.

Thank you,

JONATHAN H. BEYTHAN, PE, SE
PRINCIPAL | INDUSTRIAL DIRECTOR
PHONE: 989.894.4300 x 215 | CELL: 989.737.5737
JBEYTHAN@MACMILLANASSOCIATES.COM

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