Dakota Soda

From: Bob Nelesen <bob.nelesen@tvcairport.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 28, 2025 1:56 PM
To: Dakota Soda
Subject: Opposition to HB 4913 & HB 4914

Rep. Soda,

I am both the Airport Engineer at the Cherry Capital Airport and the President of the Michigan Society of Professional Engineers (MSPE). MSPE is part of the Architects, Engineers and Surveyors Legislative Committee (AESLC). It has come to my attention that the Economic Competitiveness Committee will meet on Thursday to review HB 4913 & 4914. Please note for the record my personal and MSPE's request to oppose these bills.

HB 4913 would allow a path for apprenticeships to become a licensed engineer, surveyor, or architect. We believe this jeopardizes the public health, safety, and welfare of our residents. The idea of "experience only" allowing for licensure has been evaluated by many states, and all legislative direction has pushed for greater assurances for the public not less. The current system is a combination of rigorous education, experience, and testing that needs to remain. I have practiced civil engineering in many states over my 24+ year career. As one who is personally responsible for public health, safety, and welfare of critical infrastructure, this national standard needs to remain Michigan's standard.

Relatedly, MSPE wishes to express our desire to oppose the elimination of the 2/3rds ownership requirement for design firms. We are concerned that financial outcomes will take precedence over public health, safety, and welfare if firm majority ownership is not held by appropriately licensed professionals. Although improvements to language could be made for corporate firms, this legislation goes too far and has too many potentially negative far-reaching implications.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you,

Bob Nelesen, PE | Airport Engineer
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