

Senator Riley:

On behalf of the Association of Environmental & Engineering Geologists (AEG) Licensure Committee, I am submitting the attached letter previously sent to the Oregon State Board of Geologist Examiners (OSBGE) in opposition to what is now Senate Bill 44. We had hoped that our opposition would cause OSBGE to pull this legislation, but that did not happen.

The stated purpose for this bill is to promulgate rules that would allow OSBGE to change the qualifications stated in Section 2 to allow geologists to obtain work experience under the direction of an engineer rather than a Certified Engineering Geologist (CEG) because there is a perception that there are no longer sufficient CEGs available to provide this leadership. This objective is stated on Page 2 of OSBGE's newsletter, which is attached. Although we share some common knowledge, skills, and abilities, we are different professions. We are certain that there is no way that the Engineers Board would accept engineer experience obtained under the supervision of an engineering geologist as qualifying for an engineer's license.

It should be pointed out that AEG's opposition to OSBGE's proposal is unprecedented; to the best of our knowledge, we have never in the past taken a position in opposition to a Geologist Board. We feel that the experience qualifications, which have been in place and successfully implemented for 40 years, should remain intact.

We are available to assist you in dealing with this issue, and are available to OSBGE to help identify the nature of the perceived problem and identify potential solutions. Please contact me if you have any questions regarding our letter or position.

Sincerely,

Kenneth G. Neal, Co-Chair  
AEG Licensure Committee  
Telephone: 360-280-6180