

SB529_Brooks.pdf

Uploaded by: Benjamin Brooks

Position: FAV

BENJAMIN BROOKS
Legislative District 10
Baltimore County

Education, Energy, and the
Environment Committee

Energy Subcommittee

Chair, Joint Electric Universal
Service Program Workgroup



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TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 529
Business Occupations and Professions –
Professional Engineers – Examination

Education, Energy and the Environment Committee
February 20, 2025

Chair Feldman, Vice-Chair Kagan, and members of this committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify before you on SB 529, Business Occupations and Professions – Professional Engineers – Examination. The purpose of this bill is to ensure the safety and quality of engineers, no matter their educational or employment background, by requiring them to pass the Fundamentals of Engineering exam as well as the Principles of Engineering exam.

Currently there are three ways in which to secure licensure as a professional engineer; educational pathways and experience pathway. In two out of the three pathways, an applicant must have a 4-year degree and must pass the Fundamentals of Engineering examination prior to taking the Principles and Practice of Engineering examination. Under the third work-experience only option, an applicant with 12 or more years of satisfactory experience in engineering need only pass the Principles and Practice of Engineering examination.

SB529 merely aligns the experience only pathway with the education pathways by requiring an applicant to pass the Fundamentals of Engineering exam before passing the Principles and Practice of Engineering exam. This small change requires the same qualifications and offers continuity in the licensing of engineers.

For these reasons, I am requesting a favorable report on SB 529.

With kindest regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Benjamin T. Brooks".

Benjamin Brooks

FINAL MDSPE letter of support SB 529.pdf

Uploaded by: Gregory Morgan

Position: FAV



Senator Brian J. Feldman; Chair
Maryland State Senate
Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee
2 West Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

February 18, 2025

Re: Senate Bill 529

Dear Senator Feldman, Vice Chair Kagan and committee members,

For the record, I represent the Maryland Society of Professional Engineers "MDSPE" as it pertains to matters of legislation, licensing and regulations. We are pleased to be working with Senator Benjamin Brooks who has sponsored Senate Bill 529 which is being heard in the Education, Energy and Environment Committee.

In Maryland, there are (3) pathways to licensure as a Professional Engineer, (2) require an educational component and (1) is through an experience only path. The educational pathways require candidates to pass both the Fundamentals of Engineering as well as the Principles of Engineering examination. Currently the candidates seeking licensure through the experience only pathway are required to take the Principles of Engineering examination. The MDSPE, while continuing to support the experience pathway, wants to ensure that all candidates for licensure are required to pass both the Fundamentals of Engineering and the Principles of Engineering examinations. This change will help protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public by ensuring that all practicing engineers meet the same qualifications for licensure. Examinations and licensure is managed through the oversight of the Maryland Board for Professional Engineers.

On behalf of the MDSPE, I request your support of Senate Bill 529.

Sincerely,

Gregory J. Morgan, Sr.

Gregory J. Morgan, Sr.

20250218 MDSPE Written Testimony for Senate Bill 5

Uploaded by: Tory Pierce

Position: FAV

February 18, 2025

Senator Brian J. Feldman, Chair
Maryland State Senate
Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee
2 West Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Re: Senate Bill 529

Dear Senator Feldman, Vice Chair Kagan and Committee Members:

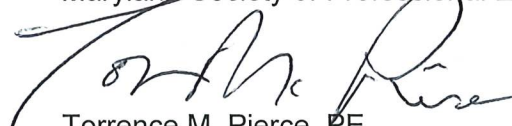
I am writing on behalf of the Maryland Society of Professional Engineers. While obtaining a license to practice engineering in Maryland is currently attainable without formal college education, the prevailing national standard, due to the complex nature of engineering, recognizes the need for formal education. In addition to a bachelor's degree in engineering, the national standard to practice engineering requires the passing of two (2) proficiency exams administered by the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES). These exams are commonly referred to as the "Fundamentals of Engineering" or FE exam and the "Principles and Practice of Engineering" or PE exam.

It is important to note that, in Maryland, there are three (3) paths to obtain a license to practice engineering:

1. Be an applicant with who graduates from a college or university approved by the State Board for Professional Engineers (Board) with a 4-year degree in engineering, four (4) years of satisfactory work experience under a licensed professional engineer and have passed both of the proficiency exams: the FE exam and the PE exam.
2. Be an applicant who graduates with from a college or university not approved by the Board, with eight (8) years of work experience under a licensed professional engineer and have passed both the FE exam and PE exam.
3. Be an applicant without a college degree with twelve (12) years of experience under a licensed professional engineer and have passed only the PE exam.

It is also important to note that Maryland is in the minority of states providing for a non-degreed path to becoming a licensed professional engineer. Senate Bill 529 maintains that non-degreed path; however, due to the practicing engineer's responsibility for public welfare and safety, we strongly believe all applicants seeking to practice engineering should confirm their competence and ability by passing both the FE and the PE exams and we ask that you support Senate Bill 529.

Sincerely,
Maryland Society of Professional Engineers



Torrence M. Pierce, PE
Legislative Committee Chair