
A state society of the National Society of Professional Engineers

July 20, 2016

Senator Patrick Leahy
437 Russell Senate Bldg
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

RE: Support of the Pre-College Engineering Education Act

Dear Senator Leahy:

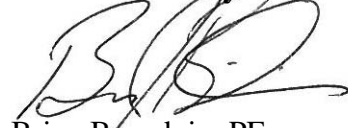
On July 7, 2016, Representative Tim Ryan (OH-13) and cosponsor Representative Tom Reed (NY-23) introduced the Pre-College Engineering Education Act. This bipartisan legislation, HR 5679, which emphasizes the importance of the E in STEM, takes an important step in underscoring the value and necessity of engineering education by enhancing K-12 engineering education and emphasizing the importance of attaining licensure as a professional engineer. To this end, HR 5679 recognizes the importance of early education in developing the skills and desire to become a professional engineer.

The licensed professional engineer has the foremost responsibility of protecting the public health, safety and welfare above all other interests. This is an intrinsic value that we all benefit from and that should be taught to students at all levels of education. The bill's goals of teaching students the overall analytical approach used in engineering, increasing participation of underrepresented student groups in the engineering pipeline, and providing professional development for teachers to teach engineering are critical to cultivating the next generation of engineers.

The Vermont Society of Professional Engineers (VSPE) is committed to the future of the licensed professional engineer across all the engineering disciplines our members serve. The growth of the engineering pipeline is not only important to the members in our profession but it is critical for our Nation since engineers play a direct role in supporting our economic health, national security, and quality of life. As the voice of professional engineers across Vermont, VSPE asks for your support of the Pre-College Engineering Education Act. We understand this bill is currently in the House but we are confident it will make its way to the Senate. Your actions on this are critical in helping this bill's goals to become a reality. We thank you for service to our State and your efforts in moving this bill forward. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 802-728-8000 or bbeaudoin@sanbornhead.com.

Sincerely,

Vermont Society of Professional Engineers



Brian Beaudoin, PE
State President