

Queens Chapter

New York State Society of Professional Engineers

The Drawingboard

October 2016

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Next General Membership Meeting

The next general membership meeting will be held on Thursday October 27, 2016 at 6:15pm. at 422 Weaver Ave in Ft. Totten, NY

The admission fee is \$20 for members and \$30 for non members.

6:15-7:00pm Buffet Dinner

7:00-7:30pm General Membership Meeting

7:30-8:30pm Presentation – "The Business of Solar"

Please note: November meetings are scheduled for the second Thursday of the month due to Thanksgiving.

Presentation Outline

Learning Objectives:

The Business of Solar!

Solar is very popular today. It is one of the fastest growing industry and the most jobs offered today. As engineers we are analytical in our process to find out why this phenomena is happening and what are the trends that could disrupt this technology. Come join us and to learn how you can make an impact in this industry and make a difference. The world was not built in a day but we can energize it everyday.

1 Pdh will be granted contingent upon approval of program submission.

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Rules Update

Proposed Rules Governing the City of New York can be viewed at:

<http://rules.cityofnewyork.us/proposed-rules>

- [Measurement of Stack Emissions of Certain Generators](#)
- [Procedure for Modification of Deed Restrictions](#)
- [Fire and Life Safety Director Certificate of Fitness](#)
- [Amendment of Violation Classifications for Construction Superintendents](#)

Link of the Month

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/AirTrain_LaGuardia Read about the proposed link from LaGuardia to Flushing Meadow

DOB NOW: Safety

Brian Flynn, Former Chapter President

Following the outline in the DOB's **Building One City** Plan, the Building Department has gone live with **DOB NOW: Safety**. It is a new online portal for registered users to submit their compliance filings with the Department. The system went live on September 12, 2016. The submission of facade compliance filings with the Building Department can now only be done online through **DOB NOW: Safety**. To register, users must sign up through e-Filing. The big change for facade filings is that the owner also needs to register and then to review and accept the online filing before it is accepted by the DOB. Emails at milestones throughout the filing process will also be generated and sent to all involved parties.

We were told in the September orientation meetings that BIS will be retired and fully replaced by **DOB NOW**. BIS will be accessible for archival purposes only. For additional information go to

<http://www1.nyc.gov/site/buildings/industry/dob-now-safety-resources.page>.

Call Congress to Support the Education Bill

Salvatore Galletta, *Former Chapter President*

An article in the October, 2016 issue of NSPE's PE Magazine urges NSPE members and Engineers in general to support a piece of legislation (H.R.5679 – Pre-Engineering Education Act) that promotes Engineering and licensure. The bill was introduced by Rep. Tim Ryan (D-OH) and Rep. Tom Reed (R-NY) on July 7, 2016. NSPE leadership asks that we all do our part in supporting this important legislation by calling our respective representatives in Congress and urge them to co-sponsor the bill H.R.5679. Please call your congressman/woman as well as our Senators (see below for contact information) and ask them to support this legislation by co-sponsoring the bill.

This link will help you find the congressional representatives for your home and office addresses:

<https://www.govtrack.us/congress/members/map>

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Engineering Education Bill Emphasizes Role of Licensure

BY ARIELLE EISER

NSPE has played a major role in the introduction of a bill that, for the first time, addresses the connection between engineering education and licensure.

On July 7, Rep. Tim Ryan (D-OH) and lead cosponsor Rep. Tom Reed (R-NY) introduced the Pre-College Engineering Education Act. Although there have been many STEM bills, until now none of them has specifically addressed the value of PE licensure. NSPE secured a major victory for its members by working with Ryan and his staff to incorporate a provision explicitly emphasizing engineering education as a vital component in attaining licensure as a professional engineer. This legislation (H.R. 5679) is an important component in increasing awareness about the critical role of the professional engineer in protecting the public health, safety, and welfare.

To increase awareness of the legislation, NSPE sent an action alert to members, encouraging them to contact their elected officials. The results have been impressive. As of late July, nearly 200 NSPE members contacted 149 congressional offices! NSPE staff is working with Ryan's office to secure additional cosponsors and move the legislation forward.

In recent years, STEM has deservedly become an important part of the education system. However, the E in STEM is often pushed to the side, if not ignored completely. In fact, only a remarkably paltry 0.4% of the federal STEM annual budget, estimated around \$3.5 billion, funds engineering education. NSPE has been working with Ryan and his staff for several months to develop H.R. 5679 to meaningfully



improve engineering education—and to put the E back in STEM. The legislation has four main components:

- Establish a grant program at the National Science Foundation to encourage states and local school districts to develop and implement sustainable engineering education programs in elementary and secondary schools;
- Teach students the overall analytical approach used in engineering to prepare them to deal with complex technical and nontechnical problems and issues;
- Introduce students to modern engineering tools such as computer-aided design, computer-aided manufacturing, statistical analysis, and reliability analysis; and
- Emphasize engineering education as a vital component in attaining licensure as a professional engineer, which requires rigorous education, training, experience, and continuing education.

In Ryan's press release announcing the bill's introduction, NSPE Immediate Past President Tim Austin, P.E., F.NSPE, is quoted: "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 Pre-College Engineering Act takes an important step in underscoring the value and necessity of engineering education by enhancing K-12 engineering education and providing for expanded research to inform best practices. 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."

As professional engineers know all too well, it is very challenging to increase public awareness about the PE's value and role in protecting the public health, safety, and welfare. To have bipartisan legislation emphasize licensure from the early stages of education is a pivotal victory. The Pre-College Engineering Education Act recognizes the rigorous requirements and key skills for PE licensure and is a step toward increasing the engineering pipeline for future generations.

Arielle Eiser is NSPE's senior government relations manager.

Support H.R. 5679

Join your fellow members today. Visit NSPE's Legislative Action Center at www.nspe.org/resources/issues-and-advocacy and encourage your representative to cosponsor the Pre-College Engineering Education Act.