

March 11, 2025

The Honorable Tou Xiong
Chair, State and Local Government Committee
3203 Minnesota Senate Building
Saint Paul, MN 55155

The Honorable Andrew R. Lang
Ranking Minority Member, State and Local Government Committee
2205 Minnesota Senate Building
Saint Paul, MN 55155

SUBJECT: SF 96 - Proposed Changes to Minnesota Statute 326.05; 326.10, subdivisions 1, 2, 10; 326.111, subdivisions 3, 4, 5, by adding a subdivision

Dear Chair Xiong, Ranking Minority Member Lang, and Members of the State and Local Government Committee:

The Minnesota Society of Professional Engineers (MnSPE) writes in support of SF 96, which proposes modifications to the qualifications and licensing requirements for professionals regulated by the Minnesota Board of Architecture, Engineering, Land Surveying, Landscape Architecture, Geoscience, and Interior Design (AELSLAGID) who all share a common goal to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public. These changes include adjustments to board member qualifications, examination procedures, temporary military licenses, and new language for enforcement against individuals with a lapsed license.

MnSPE was founded in 1939 and is an affiliate of the National Society of Professional Engineers. MnSPE provides professional engineer licensure advocacy, professional development, and outreach for Minnesota's future STEM workforce for all engineering disciplines and industries in Minnesota. Our members include professional engineers, experienced career engineers, early career engineers, and students.

SF 96 introduces important updates to ensure Minnesota's licensing requirements are both modernized and accessible. By focusing on professional competency and qualifications, SF 96 ensures that licensing standards align with the needs of today's workforce. Reducing the required years of professional experience for board members enables a more diverse range of professionals to contribute their expertise to the Board, fostering a balanced and forward-thinking regulatory body.

The inclusion of enforcement measures for lapsed licenses demonstrates the Board's commitment to maintaining accountability and ensuring that only qualified professionals practice, thereby protecting public safety. Additionally, the proposed statute changes expand communication efforts, including electronic notifications, to help professionals stay informed of renewal requirements. These improvements support compliance, minimize lapses, and ultimately strengthen trust in the licensing system.

MnSPE supports the provisions in SF 96 as they reflect a thoughtful approach to modernizing licensing practices, supporting professionals in their careers, and ultimately enhancing public safety and trust in the professions regulated by AELSLAGID. Thank you for the opportunity to comment in support of SF 96 and if you have any questions feel free to reach out to Darin Mielke at dmielke@carvercountymn.gov or (952) 465-6795.

Sincerely, 

Jennifer Lowry PE
MnSPE President



Darin Mielke PE
MnSPE Legislative Advocacy Committee Chair