



**PCC Member Strategy Call
Summary
Thursday, October 14, 2021
12:00 pm ET**

Steering Committee: ICE (Denise Roosendaal), ASAE (Jeff Evans)

Legal Counsel: Jerry Jacobs, Craig Saperstein, Julia Judish, Lori Panosyan, Nicole Steinberg (Pillsbury)

1. Welcome

- a. Thank you for your continued support, participation, and engagement. Your time, input, and expertise are invaluable as we navigate the issues that matter most to our community.
- b. Thank you to those who have promptly submitted membership dues! This allows us to ramp up our activity for the fiscal year.
- c. **We have sent out the new password for the “for members” section of the PCC website to those that fulfilled their dues obligation – keep an eye out for this in your inbox.**

2. Federal Legislation

- a. REBUILD Skills Act: The Honorable Derek Kilmer (D-WA) addressed PCC members and engaged in Q&A. Rep. Kilmer:
 - i. Thanked the PCC for its leadership and said he is grateful for the partnership.
 - ii. Discussed that even before the COVID-19 pandemic, far too many workers were left behind in our nation’s economy and that professional certifications and credentials empower individuals to navigate economic change, rather than be victimized by it.
 - iii. Noted the simple fact that earning potential rises with educational attainment and access to professional certifications – making an individual more likely to be employed.
 - iv. Explained that the REBUILD Skills Act would ensure displaced workers will not face additional financial hardships from training and certification programs, and would also establish a federal directory of approved and legitimate programs that state workforce development agencies can rely on.
 - v. Emphasized the importance of providing easily navigable resources.
 - vi. Underscored that this is a bipartisan issue: enhancing the ability of Americans to compete.
- b. Following Rep. Kilmer’s presentation and participation in Q&A, Jeff Evans provided a Recap of the PCC Virtual Capitol Hill “Fly-In” related to *Freedom to Invest in Tomorrow’s Workforce Act* (S. 905/H.R. 2171) and the REBUILD Skills Act.

- i. Conducted roughly 20 meetings thus far, with more scheduled.
- ii. Thank you to those who have participated! We recognize that stepping into a completely different professional capacity is not always easy and that it takes time and energy.
- iii. We believe we are in a good position with a very actionable policy with a lot of utility and only a few places ripe for pushback.
- iv. The vast majority of meetings have been very supportive which encourages us that we are on the right path.
- v. After meeting with the PCC, Rep. Stephanie Murphy, who is a member of the House Ways and Means Committee, has informed us that she will sign on to the *Freedom to Invest in Tomorrow's Workforce Act*.
- vi. **Member question:** A lot of what the PCC does is defensive: trying to leverage certification to get what we want. What offensive options are there?
 - 1. **Answer:** Yes, most of our efforts have been largely playing defense. The coalition was formed to play defense on existential threats to private certification. We think the two federal bills we have worked to have introduced are proactive attempts to support certification. We would welcome further conversations on how we can increase this type of work at the state and Federal level.

3. State Legislation

- a. Update on Recent Bill Activity
 - i. We circulated the latest watchlists which included one new bill on the [general watchlist](#) and two new bills on the [reciprocity watchlist](#)— none of which are high priority.
 - ii. **MA H. 4154** is a medium priority ex-offender reentry bill. It is not a high priority bill because it actually incorporates the type of provisions we have been pushing for over the years, which indicates that our defensive work to improve state legislation that affects certification is also a form of proactive intervention. We are seeing improvements in bills even before we interact with them that are responsive to concerns we have raised on similar legislation. This bill clearly limits its scope to organizations that issue licenses and therefore would not affect the ability of private certification organizations to establish and enforce eligibility standards and ethics codes. It is still a concern from a policy standpoint in limiting the ability of licensing agencies to consider and act on relevant information, and many certification organizations rely on that information and regulatory board action.
 - iii. **WI SB 469** is a reciprocity bill; we have suggested amendments because it grants reciprocity without ensuring there is an equivalent scope of practice.
 - iv. We are continuing to monitor PA HB 1492 and are holding off on engaging a local lobbyist until there is some sign that it has a hope of moving forward.

No Recent Movement

Bill Name	Status	Description
PA HB 1492	Referred to the House Professional Licensure Committee on June 11, 2021.	Ex-offender reentry (reintroduction of HB 811 which includes a dangerous and poorly drafted restriction on use of the title “certified.”)

4. Outreach to Stakeholders

- a. ALEC/IJ
 - i. We have conducted outreach to these key national libertarian groups to discuss the model legislation they are offering up and address Clean Slate legislation and occupational licensing.
 - ii. Our goal is for stakeholders to understand the implications for the certification community and to avoid bills with unintended consequences.