



PROFESSIONAL  
CERTIFICATION  
COALITION

March 5, 2024

Sen. Jake Hoffman, *Chair*  
Senate Committee on Government  
[jake.hoffman@azleg.gov](mailto:jake.hoffman@azleg.gov)

Sen. Wendy Rogers, *Vice Chair*  
Senate Committee on Government  
[wrogers@azleg.gov](mailto:wrogers@azleg.gov)

**Re: SB 1343**

Dear Senators Hoffman and Rogers:

The Professional Certification Coalition (PCC)<sup>1</sup> writes regarding SB 1343, to address our concerns that it could weaken important occupational regulations that protect public health, safety, and welfare.

The PCC supports a careful review of licensing laws to ensure that unnecessary obstacles are removed. However, in its current form, SB 1343's repeal provisions could abolish occupational licensing boards without first considering whether eliminating a particular state licensing agency is in the public interest. Licensing boards that have been duly established by the legislature and on which the public relies should not be abolished without the legislature engaging in its important oversight role.

Abolishing licensing boards would shift their enforcement functions on to private certification programs – which lack the legal authority and resources to serve as a substitute. Further, many licenses require that an applicant or licensee obtain or maintain private certification as a condition of licensing. In this case, abolishing the board would abolish two layers of protection for public health, safety, and welfare.

Our concern is not hypothetical: in 2019, the Texas legislative session expired before bills to extend the Texas State Board of Plumbing Examiners were passed, resulting in automatic sunset provisions taking effect, thereby abolishing the Board and all licensing laws governing installers of plumbing, gas, and medical gas systems. To reinstate vital protections for the safety of homeowners and Texas residents, the governor was forced to take executive action to extend the Board's activity past its automatically scheduled expiration date.

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<sup>1</sup> The PCC is a nonprofit, nonpartisan association formed to address legislation that affects professional certification programs, those who hold private certification credentials, and the many constituencies that rely on professional certification. The PCC's organizational members include non-governmental professional certification organizations, professional societies, and service providers. The PCC's members reflect a wide spectrum of professions, including health care, engineering, financial services, and information technology, among many others. Our founding organizations – the American Society of Association Executives (the leading organization for association management) and the Institute for Credentialing Excellence (the leading developer of accreditation standards for professional certification programs) – govern the PCC.

To preserve substantive qualification requirements in licensing laws, the PCC proposes the following amendment:

- Add a new Section 41-1056(D)(4) to read “**are based on and substantially similar to uniform national laws, practices, and/or examinations that have been adopted by at least two-thirds of states and territories in the United States.**”

The PCC stands ready to work with you to craft legislation that strikes a reasonable balance between the benefits of occupational licensing and the desire for free markets in employment. Unfortunately, in its current form, this legislation goes too far by removing vital protections for the public.

Thank you for your consideration of these issues. Please feel free to reach out to us using the contact information identified below.

Sincerely,



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AABC Commissioning Group

ABRET Neurodiagnostic  
Credentialing & Accreditation  
(ABRET)

ABSA International: the  
Association for Biosafety and  
Biosecurity (ABSA)

Academy for Certification of  
Vision Rehabilitation &  
Education Professionals  
(ACVREP)

American Association of  
Professional Landmen (AAPL)

American Board for  
Certification in Orthotics,  
Prosthetics and Pedorthics  
(ABCOP)

American Board of Certification  
for Gastroenterology Nurses  
(ABCGN)

American Board of Foot and  
Ankle Surgery (ABFAS)

American Board of Medical  
Specialties (ABMS)

American Board of  
Neuroscience Nursing (ABNN)

American Board of Nursing  
Specialties (ABNS)

American Legal Nurse  
Consultant Certification Board  
(ALNCCB)

American Medical Certification  
Association (AMCA)

American Nurses Credentialing  
Center (ANCC)

American Payroll Association  
(APA)

American Society of  
Association Executives (ASAE)

American Society of Civil  
Engineers (ASCE)

American Speech-Language-  
Hearing Association (ASHA)

American Traffic Safety  
Services Association (ATSSA)

American Translators  
Association (ATA)

Arcitura Education, Inc.

Association for Financial  
Counseling & Planning  
Education (AFCPE)

Association of Surgical  
Technologists (AST)

Behavior Analyst Certification  
Board (BACB)

Beingcert

Board of  
Certification/Accreditation  
(BOC)

Board of Certified Safety  
Professionals (BCSP)

Board of Pharmacy Specialties  
(BPS)

Building Commissioning  
Certification Board (BCCB)

Building Industry Consulting  
Service International, Inc.  
(BICSI)

Certification Board for Diabetes  
Care and Education (CBDCE)

Certification Board for Music  
Therapists (CBMT)

Certification Council for  
Professional Dog Trainers  
(CCPDT)

Certified Financial Planner  
Board of Standards (CFP Board)

Certified Fund Raising  
Executive International (CFRE)

CertiProf, LLC

Chartered Financial Analyst  
Institute (CFA Institute)

Commission for Case Manager  
Certification (CCMC)

Commission on Nurse  
Certification (CNC)

Community Association  
Institute (CAI)

Construction Management  
Association of America  
(CMAA)

Council of Engineering and  
Scientific Specialty Boards  
(CESB)

Dental Assisting National Board  
(DANB)

Diving Equipment and  
Marketing Association (DEMA)

Entertainment Services and  
Technology Association (ESTA)

ETA International

Financial Planning Association  
(FPA)

Healthcare Sterile Processing  
Association (HSPA)

Hearth, Patio, & Barbecue  
Education Foundation (HPBA)

Heuristic Solutions

Hospice and Palliative  
Credentialing Center (HPCC)

Human Resource Certification  
Institute, Inc. (HRCI)

Institute for Credentialing  
Excellence (ICE)

Institute of Hazardous Materials  
Management (IHMM)

International Coach Federation  
(ICF)

International Information  
System Security Certification  
Consortium (ISC<sup>2</sup>)

Investments & Wealth Institute  
(IWI)

Irrigation Association	National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA)
IT Certification Council (ITCC)	National Restaurant Association (NRA)
Laborers' International Union of North America Training & Education Fund (LIUNA)	National Roofing Contractors Association (NRCA)
Medical-Surgical Nursing Certification Board (MSNCB)	National Society of Professional Engineers (NSPE)
National Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors (NAIFA)	Nephrology Nursing Certification Commission (NNCC)
National Association of Personal Financial Advisors (NAPFA)	Oncology Nursing Certification Corporation (ONCC)
National Athletic Trainers' Association Board of Certification, Inc. (NATA/BOC)	Pearson Vue
National Board of Certification and Recertification for Nurse Anesthetists (NBCRNA)	Pediatric Nursing Certification Board (PNCB)
National Board of Certification in Hearing Instrument Sciences (NBC-HIS)	Pharmacy Technician Certification Board (PTCB)
National Board of Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT)	Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship International (PATH)
National Board of Public Health Examiners (NBPHE)	PSI Services
National Board of Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting (NBSTSA)	QualityPro
National Certification Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (NCCAOM)	Rehabilitation Nursing Certification Board (RNCB)
National Certification Corporation (NCC)	School Nutrition Association (SNA)
National Commission for Health Education Credentialing (NCHEC)	SeaCrest Consulting
National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants (NCCPA)	Security Industry Association (SIA)
National Council on Family Relations (NCFR)	Society of Broadcast Engineers (SBE)
National Kitchen and Bath Association (NKBA)	Specialty Pharmacy Certification Board (SPCB)
	Spray Polyurethane Foam Alliance (SPFA)
	Towing and Recovery Association of America, Inc. (TRA)