



PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATION COALITION

Notes
PCC Member Strategy Call
Tuesday, April 29, 2025
1:00 pm ET

Steering Committee: I.C.E. (Denise Roosendaal), ASAE (Mary Kate Cunningham)
Legal Counsel: Jerry Jacobs, Craig Saperstein, Julia Judish, Nicole Steinberg, Lori Panosyan, Laura Killalea, Jaria Martin (Pillsbury)

I. Welcome/Membership Updates

II. Federal Legislative Activity

- a. As a reminder, major tax and spending reform legislation – known as the One Big Beautiful Bill (OBBB) is projected for this Congress; we are working to include the Freedom to Invest in Tomorrow's Workforce Act in the OBBB. Congressional leaders aim for the House to pass a bill by Memorial Day and for the President to sign the bill into law after Senate consideration by July 4th, though that timeframe may be aspirational.
- b. We expect that tax exempt organizations will be targeted in this legislation. Therefore, ASAE is working to educate Congress through the Community Impact Coalition.
- c. There will likely be legislative language for the tax provisions of the OBBB before the mark up of the House Ways and Means Committee, which is projected to be the week of 12th.
- d. Nonprofit organizations with the highest revenues are a main target for the Administration. However, it is unclear if the House Ways and Means Committee would specifically target associations and certification organizations.
- e. Institutions of higher education, as well as entities such as nonprofit hospital systems and credit unions, are also a target for the Administration via endowments and excise taxes. As a result, we assume that association and certification bodies will need to be vigilant as there is the potential for both legislative activity from Congress and heightened investigative activity from the Administration.

III. Update on Freedom to Invest in Tomorrow's Workforce Act ([H.R. 1151/S. 756](#)) and Other Federal Activity

- a. As a reminder, this legislation would allow beneficiaries of 529 savings plans to use the tax-favored funds to obtain or maintain a certification or other postsecondary credential.
- b. During the 118th Congress, we gained 150 co-sponsors (90 Republicans and 60 Democrats).

- c. Earlier this year, the bill was reintroduced. As of May 8, 2025, we have 141 House co-sponsors (79 Republicans and 62 Democrats). Representative Rob Wittman (R-VA-01) is the House lead with Senator Amy Klobuchar (D-MN) as the Senate lead and 13 co-sponsors. We are continuing to work in a bipartisan manner to advance this legislation, while pursuing inclusion of the bill in the OBBB.
- d. In other federal advocacy activity, we are attuned to the fact that credentialing benefits for servicemembers recently experienced a cut in funding; however, we've worked with PCC member, the Project Management Institute (PMI), on this issue to draft appropriations report language to address this shortfall. We have engaged with key congressional offices and defense appropriators for each chamber.

IV. State Legislative Activity

- a. We have stopped direct engagement with legislators on clean slate bills given that clean slate bills are not primarily focused on certification.
- b. However, we want to provide resources to any PCC members/lawmakers that lay out the policy concerns in efforts to balance greater opportunities for those who have completed their sentence. Therefore, the PCC website has a [white paper](#) and a shorter [executive summary](#) outlining the PCC's position on clean slate legislation. These resources are available for your use and broader distribution.
- c. We've also identified six recommendations from the PCC for consideration for this legislation.
 - i. One of the key recommendations is concerning the list of excluded crimes, which are generally violent crimes. The PCC's position is that the list of excluded crimes should also include fraud because fraud is often relevant to a broad variety of occupations even if it is not "directly related" to the profession. There are numerous non-violent crimes that merit continuing disqualification from certain professions.
 - ii. Another PCC recommendation regarding clean slate legislation is to identify a balance between licensing boards and private certification organizations having access to criminal data but not allowing for this information to be used to stigmatize an individual. While the PCC believes an individual should not be permanently stigmatized or automatically disqualified for having a criminal record, licensing boards and certification organizations must be able to consider an individual's relevant past conduct as part of an individualized and profession-specific review before endorsing them.
- d. An updated version of the watch list is under the for members portion of the website; we are currently monitoring approximately 70 bills for this legislative session.

V. High Priority Legislation:

State	Bill Number	Category	Last Movement	Status
AK	SB 145/HB 158	Alt. Pathways	5/15/2025	In first chamber
AZ	HB 2282	Alt. Pathways	1/22/2025	In first chamber
IL	HB 1338/ HB 2614	Alt. Pathways	2/6/2025	In first chamber
IL	SB 2347	Returning Citizens	4/11/2025	In first chamber
KY	HB 133	Alt. Pathways	2/4/2025	Failed – Sine Die
MA	H 420/ S 198	Returning Citizens	4/25/2025	In first chamber
MO	HB 478/ SB 61	Alt. Pathways	4/15/2025	Both in second chambers
NV	AB 264	Returning Citizens	4/23/2025	In first chamber
OK	SB 317	Consumer Choice	2/4/2025	In first chamber
TX	HB 794/HB 3838	Review and Repeal	3/26/2025	In first chamber
TX	HB 710	Alt. Pathways	3/4/2025	In first chamber
TX	SB 100	Alt. Pathways	3/4/2025	In first chamber
TX	HB 2690	Consumer Choice	3/18/2025	In first chamber
TX	HB 5629/ SB 2255	Alt. Pathways	5/19/2025	In first chamber
TX	HB 4547/ SB 2943/ HB 5541	First Amendment	5/14/2025	In first chamber
UT	HB 474	Review and Repeal	3/27/2025	Enacted
VA	SB 826	Returning Citizens	3/24/2025	Enacted
WV	SB 263	Returning Citizens	3/11/2025	Failed – Sine Die

VI. Questions or Comments Time

- a. If you have questions regarding advocacy efforts or engagement for the Freedom to Invest bill, please feel free to email us.