

OFFICE OF THE  
LOGAN COUNTY ENGINEER  
P.O. BOX 427  
1991 COUNTY ROAD 13  
BELLEFONTAINE, OH 43311  
www.lceo.us

SCOTT C. COLEMAN, P.E., P.S.  
LOGAN COUNTY ENGINEER

Telephone: (937) 592-2791  
Fax: (937) 599-2658

June 7, 2023

**RE: LOCCD33 County Engineer Qualifications**

Dear Chairman Dolan and members of the Finance Committee,

I ask that you remove language in HB 33 that changes what the qualifications are to run for County Engineer. I believe this issue should be in a standalone bill with input from the County Engineers Association of Ohio (CEAO) if the legislature wishes to make changes to this elected official position.

I strongly oppose the amendment to remove the requirement for the County Engineer to be licensed as a Professional Surveyor in the State of Ohio as part of the requirement for the office. There is also no specification that the engineer must be a Civil Engineer (I do not want an Electrical Engineer designing roads and bridges anymore than you would want me designing our electric distribution system).

The State of Ohio was the testing grounds for developing the surveying methods for use throughout the United States of America and we have all forms of surveying throughout Ohio. One of the original offices created by the General Assembly was the County Surveyor, which became the County Engineer in 1935. As such, we are still responsible for the surveying of public roads, establishing lost corners, approving survey plats and descriptions, and maintaining tax maps for the Auditor's Office, among many other surveying duties. Surveying is a full time duty for today's County Engineer.

Eliminating the requirement of a dual registered engineer and surveyor would be a huge detriment to our citizens, the counties and the state. The cost of hiring a Professional Surveyor would be a significant burden to every county. The pool of registered surveyors has continued to decline over the past decades and cannot accommodate the hiring of professional surveyors from private practice. We all have a limited number of surveyors working in our counties and cannot afford to lose them from serving in private practice. There simply are not enough land surveyors available to meet the demands of the citizens of Ohio. It is not uncommon in Logan County for surveyors to have a 9 to 12 month backlog of work.

We cannot afford to reduce the education, technical expertise and experience requirements of our public offices. Please remove this amendment from HB 33. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully submitted,



Scott C. Coleman, P.E., P.S.  
Logan County Engineer