



June 1, 2018

Governor Mike Parson
State of Missouri
P.O. Box 720
Jefferson City, MO 65102

Re: House Bill No. 1719, "Professional Employer Organization Act"

Dear Governor Parson,

The Building Commissioning Certification Board (BCCB) (www.bccbonline.org) and the nonprofit membership organization, Building Commissioning Association (BCxA) (www.bcxa.org) wish to offer comments on the Missouri Legislature's House Bill No. 1719 submitted by the General Assembly for your signature on May 18, 2018, to become effective on August 28, 2018. We urge you to veto this bill for reasons we outline below.

Many Associations certify professionals to ensure excellence and consistency within a profession or trade, House Bill No. 1719 defines "certification" as a governmental function, "a program in which the government grants nontransferable recognition to an individual who meets personal qualifications established by a regulatory entity. Upon approval, the individual may use 'certified' as a designated title." The BCCB provides certifications that are not currently regulated, but rather an earned professional credential. Based on language in the Bill, the State of Missouri would define certification as a state-based paid credential, not as evidence of knowledge, skills and abilities.

The purpose of Section 324.047.1 is "to promote general welfare by establishing guidelines for the regulation of occupations and professions not regulated prior to January 1, 2019." While we are certainly not opposed to minimal occupational regulation, we also are concerned with the quality of services provided by building commissioning professionals and their ability to distinguish themselves with a certification. The BCCB provides credentials to these individual under the Certified Commissioning Professional (CCP) and the Associate Commissioning Professional (ACP). There is no other profession that crosses the technical spectrum of building risk management between design teams, construction teams and operations personnel.

As a result of inconsistently delivered commercial building quality and performance, the BCxA worked diligently with the U.S. Department of Energy and National Institute of Building Science's Commercial Workforce Credentialing Council to evaluate and create voluntary national guidelines, known as the "Better Buildings Workforce Guidelines" (BBWG) to improve the quality and uniformity of commercial building workforce credentials. The resulting Job Task Analysis, conducted by subject matter experts across the nation, laid out a means by which individuals can select and achieve expertise in this field. This work also culminated in selecting the International Standard ISO 17024:2012 as the basis for design of all certification programs recognized by the Better Buildings Workforce Program. The main accrediting body to this standard is the American National Standards Institute (ANSI).

As an ANSI/ISO/IEC 17024:2012 -accredited organization that certifies professionals throughout the United States and Canada, the BCCB has worked diligently to prepare our programs, to meeting the strict guidelines of the standard for the development of personnel certifications.

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The document implies that conditions for certification are based on a government determination of *"whether practice of the profession or occupation proposed for expansion of regulation requires such a specialized skill that the public is not qualified to select a competent practitioner without assurances that minimum qualifications have been met..."* We however, believe that by following the ISO 17024:2012 process along with the work of our subject matter experts the BCCB is best at determining who should get certified.

We urge you to rely upon the certification of commissioning professionals and firms by ANSI-accredited professional associations such as the Building Commissioning Certification Board, using their hard-earned certification for new construction and existing building commissioning as a means of ensuring that buildings will function safely over time. We strongly urge you to veto this bill.

Sincerely,



Christopher W. Piché, P.Eng, CCP, CPMP, LEED AP
President
Building Commissioning Certification Board



John D. Villani, PE, CCP, CEM, LEED AP
President
Building Commissioning Association

cc: Liz Fischer, Executive Director
Building Commissioning Association