

**MEMORANDUM OF SUPPORT**

S. 02383 and A 05262  
Licensure of Geologists

May 1, 2001

On behalf of the Central New York Association of Professional Geologists (CNYAPG) and its more than 135 members of professional geologists from Syracuse and the surrounding Central New York community, this memorandum is submitted in support of the above referenced bill numbers for licensure of geologists.

The CNYAPG was founded in 1993 to strengthen and advance the geologic sciences as a profession and to provide an open forum for the exchange of ideas; to promote the protection of public welfare through the professional practice of geologic sciences; to inspire and maintain the highest standards of professional conduct, business ethics, and personal honor of the membership and to publish or otherwise disseminate information related to the geologic sciences and associated technologies.

Geologists are routinely involved in matters pertaining to drinking water supplies, transportation, construction, mining, natural hazards, hazardous waste and cleanup programs, among others. The proposed legislation will address the following issues not being met by the status quo:

**Public health and welfare:** Geologists routinely make decisions and offer opinions that directly affect public health and welfare.

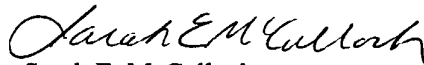
**Legal responsibility:** Professional licensure provides a positive legal responsibility and accountability to the public in matters that involve geology.

**Qualification assurance:** Licensure assures the governor, state legislature and state and local agencies that highly qualified geologists are available to work in the state. Licensure of geologists is a mechanism for the State of New York to provide the public with appropriate qualified professionals capable of making decisions regarding geologic issues.

**Consumer Protection:** The public looks to geologists to solve problems relating to land use and management such as solid waste disposal, groundwater protection, contaminant investigations (e.g. Superfund and Brownfield sites), sea-level rise, potable water supply development, mining, and public works projects to name just a few. Licensure is particularly important for a regulatory or service-driven industry where there may be few tangible factors to evaluate.

For all of the foregoing reasons, the CNYAPG urges favorable consideration of this legislation.

Respectfully submitted,



Sarah E. McCulloch  
President, CNYAPG