



Buffalo Association of Professional Geologists, Inc.

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May 15, 2001

MEMORANDUM OF SUPPORT

LICENSURE OF GEOLOGISTS IN NEW YORK STATE (BILL NO.'S A05262 AND S02383)

On behalf of the Buffalo Association of Professional Geologists (BAPG), and its approximately 200 members across Western New York, this memorandum is submitted in support of licensure of Professional Geologists in New York State under bill numbers A05262 and S02383.

The proposed legislation for licensing of geologists parallels similar laws enacted in many other states and would benefit the residents of New York State.

Professional licensure of New York's geologists would provide:

- **Protection of Public Health and Welfare** – Geologists routinely make decisions and offer opinions relative to natural hazards, siting of landfills, evaluation and remediation of hazardous waste sites, and protection and development of drinking water resources.
- **Consumer Protection** – The public looks to geologists to solve problems relating to mineral exploration, coastal erosion, and a wide range of public works projects.
- **Qualification Assurance** – Licensure of geologists is a mechanism for the State of New York to provide the public with appropriately qualified professionals, capable of making decisions regarding geologic issues.
- **Legal Responsibility** – Professional licensure provides a positive legal responsibility and accountability to the public in matters that involve geology.

The BAPG was founded in 1985 to, among other things, strengthen and advance the geologic sciences as a profession and to inspire and maintain the highest standards of professional conduct and business ethics of its members. Because the objectives of licensure reflect those of the Association, the BAPG hereby states its support of the licensing initiative.

Respectfully submitted,

James J. Richert
President

cc: William Kelly (NYSCPG)

