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Memorandum in Support

S.2383-A by Senator Marcellino

The New York State Association of Professional Land Surveyors ("NYSAPLS") **SUPPORTS** the above bill, which seeks to require geologists to be licensed by the Education Department. In so doing, New York will join 27 other states that currently license geologists. As licensed professionals, geologists will come under the jurisdiction of the same licensing board that currently oversees professional engineers and land surveyors.

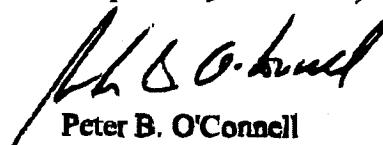
There is commonality of interest between geologists, professional engineers and land surveyors. Indeed, it is not uncommon for geologists to be employed by the same multi-discipline firms that employ professional engineers and land surveyors. Among other things, this bill will allow geologists to become full members of these firms.

As might be expected, this "commonality of interest" between geologists and land surveyors caused concern within the land surveying community. For example, such terms as "geologic mapping" raised the possibility that geologists were attempting to invade the scope of practice of land surveying. In this regard, land surveyors often map mining sites in order to insure that excavations remain within proper boundary lines. However, it was ultimately resolved that geologic mapping does not refer to this type of mapping, but to the mapping of large formations that are typically displayed on quadrangle maps.

There was also concern that that land surveyors would be precluded from measuring volumes of earth and engaging in other practices that arguably come within the definition of geology. Representatives for New York State Council of Professional Geologists ("NYSCPG") graciously amended their bill to alleviate these concerns.

For these reasons, NYSAPLS is joining with NYSCPG in **SUPPORTING** this bill.

Respectfully submitted,



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Legislative Counsel