



Shaping Tomorrow's Global
Built Environment Today

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ASHRAE Society President, 2025-2026

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January 26, 2026

The Honorable James Buchanan
Florida State Capitol
House Commerce Committee
404 S. Monroe St.
Tallahassee, FL 32399

RE: FL HB 607 "Industries and Professional Activities"

Dear Representative Buchanan:

I am writing on behalf of ASHRAE, the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating, and Air Conditioning Engineers. ASHRAE is a professional and technical society of 54,000 members dedicated to energy efficiency, indoor air quality, resiliency, and sustainability in the built environment. Through the Society's research, standards writing, publishing, certification, and continuing education, ASHRAE shapes tomorrow's global built environment today. As one of the premier subject matter experts on the built environment, and on behalf of our nearly 2,000 members in the state of Florida, I wish to share our opposition to provisions of FL HB 607 which would weaken engineer licensing requirements and would eliminate the Florida Board of Professional Engineers (FBPE).

ASHRAE supports policies and practices that equip Professional Engineers (P.E.) with the technical skills that engineers need to ensure a safe and efficient built environment. The FBPE helps deliver on these goals by maintaining rigor and a commitment to public safety throughout the engineering profession. FBPE's 11-member Board ensures that diverse engineering perspectives are considered. This technical expertise is vitally important in licensing fields such as engineering that have the potential to affect the health or life of an individual. The legislation gives little indication about how a replacement for FBPE will become qualified to make the technical and important decisions necessary to effectively assess this workforce. Through its technical expertise and effective management, the FBPE keeps Floridians safe and productive.

In addition to protecting the interest of public health and safety, the FBPE provides exceptional service to Professional Engineers in Florida. With administrative support provided by the FEMC, the board



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provides exceptional service to Florida's nearly 50,000 P.E.s. Its modern and efficient license renewal system effectively captures continuing education and commitment to engineering ethics and boasts a 98-percent online licensure renewal rate. Moving away from this highly efficient and effective system would unnecessarily burden the state's engineering community and eliminate a vital accountability tool. As hurricanes, wildfires, and other extreme weather events continue to test the resilience of Florida's built environment, a high-quality building stock is vital to the state's continued growth and success. However, it will be difficult to effectively bolster the resilience of buildings and infrastructure in Florida without a highly qualified engineering workforce capable of implementing the latest technology and engineering design practices. The FBPE provides a modern and efficient system to ensure these rigorous standards are maintained.

On behalf of more than 1,900 ASHRAE members in Florida, thank you for your consideration of these comments in opposition to HB 607. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or have your staff email GovAffairs@ashrae.org.

Sincerely,

Bill McQuade

ASHRAE Society President, 2025-2026