



SEAOI Members and Friends -

As many of you are aware, the **Structural Engineering Practice Act** sunsets every 10 years, with the next sunset slated for January 1, 2020. SEAOI has been actively involved in the renewal process for several months, and we are delighted to announce that a **bill extending the sunset to 2030, SB 657 passed both houses Friday evening**. SEAOI authored several changes which were ultimately incorporated into House amendments. The Senate concurred with the three House amendments on a vote of 59-0 - unanimous! The Senate now has 30 days to send it to the Governor and the Governor has 60 days to take final action.

We will issue a more detailed update soon, but highlights of the process include:

- In November of last year, SEAOI was invited to participate in a coalition to renew other practice acts that fall under the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation (IDFPR): Professional Engineers, Architects and Land Surveyors
 - SEAOI's interests were represented by Christine Freisinger, President-Elect, Jan Blok, SEPAC Secretary and Stephanie Crain, SEAOI Executive Director
- In early April, IDFPR introduced changes to the SE Renewal Act to the Senate and began the renewal process.
- SEAOI had several calls and meetings to negotiate changes to the SE Renewal Act as it went through the Senate and then House for approval
 - Kim Robinson of ISPE and Mike Waldinger of AIA Illinois generously contributed their expertise on previous practice act renewals and knowledge of the legislative process
 - Kevin Sido of Hinshaw & Culbertson provided a legal review of IDFPR's changes
 - John McLean, Chairman of SEPAC, contributed expertise in final reviews of the negotiations
- We are pleased with the final results of the Act, and SEAOI issued Proponent witness slips for the three Amendments

Thanks to the hundreds of hours of time and effort volunteered by Chris, Jan, John, Kim and Mike in conference calls, meetings, and document change tracking, the integrity of our practice act is protected.

Again, we will have more details to you about the specific changes very soon, and we will update you when the Governor takes final action. In the meantime, if you'd like to review the current Practice Act you may do so [here](#).

David Nickell, SE
SEAOI President 2018-2019

