WARNING SIGNS: Critical Flaws in Licensing Reform Legislation

The Alliance for Responsible Professional Licensing (ARPL) supports common-sense licensing regulations and reform. However, broad-brush reforms that treat all licensed occupations and professions the same are not the answer. One size does not fit all.

Professions such as architecture, engineering, public accounting, surveying, and landscape architecture require high levels of technical proficiency and have a direct impact on public health, safety, and welfare.

That is why a narrowly tailored and nuanced approach is necessary to ensure reforms don't put the public at risk.

The following provisions are especially dangerous, as they would eliminate necessary safety and oversight mechanisms for licensed professions that directly impact public health, safety, and welfare.

- Provisions that allow the unlicensed practice of professions with high impact on public safety and welfare;
- Provisions that introduce temporary licenses that override existing licensing and regulatory board systems;
- Provisions that challenge or dilute the jurisdiction of licensing boards to ensure standards and qualifications and enforce actions against bad actors;
- Provisions that shift the burden of evaluating expertise and qualifications from the state to the public – particularly in complex, technical professions for which the public is illequipped to evaluate qualifications;
- Provisions that assume post-hoc actions, such as litigation, are sufficient to protect the public from harm.



LICENSING REFORM SHOULD NOT PUT THE PUBLIC AT RISK.