

ASCE GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

March 2, 2017

Alabama Section Winter Meeting







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[http://www.asce.org/issues and advocacy/](http://www.asce.org/issues_and_advocacy/)

<http://cqrcengage.com/asce/states>

- Overview of ASCE Government Relations
- Introduction to ASCE Strategic Priorities and Priority Issues
- Overview of Tools & Resources
- Government Relations Basics

- Terminology: Advocacy, Government Relations, Lobbying
- Profession is well respected by policymakers
 - Known for *Report Card on America's Infrastructure*
- Large membership presents both challenges and opportunities
- Sections/Branches lead the effort
 - Governing structure also presents challenges for government relations
- ASCE works with other groups to advocate for the profession
 - NSPE, ACEC, etc.

- **501(c)(3) organizations are permitted to lobby**
 - Ok to advocate for issue or legislation or regulatory action

- **Prohibited from political activity**
 - Not ok to give money to candidates, endorse candidates

- **ASCE national can provide guidance**

- ASCE relies on volunteers to be advocates
- Very few Sections/Branches have any staff
- Very few have lobbyists
- Role of Society staff:
Provide guidance, support through expertise, resources, materials, and funding



- **Participation with federal legislative coalitions**
 - Americans for Transportation Mobility (ATM)
 - Transportation Construction Coalition (TCC)
 - Value of Water Coalition
 - STEM Education Coalition

- **Participation with national groups with state influence**
 - National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL)
 - National Governors Association (NGA)
 - National Lieutenant Governors Association (NLGA)
 - Council of State Governments (CSG)

ASCE Public Policy Committee

America's
Infrastructure

Key Contact

State & Local
Government
Relations

Energy, Env, &
Water PC

Engineering
Practice PC

Infrastructure
& Research PC

Transportation
PC

- ASCE has 160+ policy statements
- Approved by Board of Direction
- Provide guidance on public policy
- Give permission to act on public policy
- Reviewed on 3-year cycle
- Survey of members determines federal and state priorities
- Board approves priority issues

The screenshot shows the ASCE American Society of Civil Engineers website. The top navigation bar includes links for JOIN, RENEW, DONATE, LOGIN, HELP, and a SEARCH bar. Below this, a secondary navigation bar lists MEMBERSHIP & COMMUNITIES, EDUCATION & CAREERS, CONFERENCES & EVENTS, ISSUES & ADVOCACY (highlighted), PUBLICATIONS, and TECH AREA.

The main content area is titled "PUBLIC POLICY STATEMENTS" and includes a "SHARE" button with social media icons. The text states: "To promote the goals of the American Society of Civil Engineers, the Board of Direction has adopted official Policy Statements on major technical, professional and educational issues of interest to the civil engineering community and the nation." It also mentions that the complete texts of the Society's 166 current policy documents are listed here, reflecting Board of Direction actions through October 5, 2014.

Below this, there is a link to "Download ASCE's policy book." and a note that for more information about ASCE Policy Documents and the Policy Development Program, one should contact Martin Hight, Senior Manager, Government Relations.

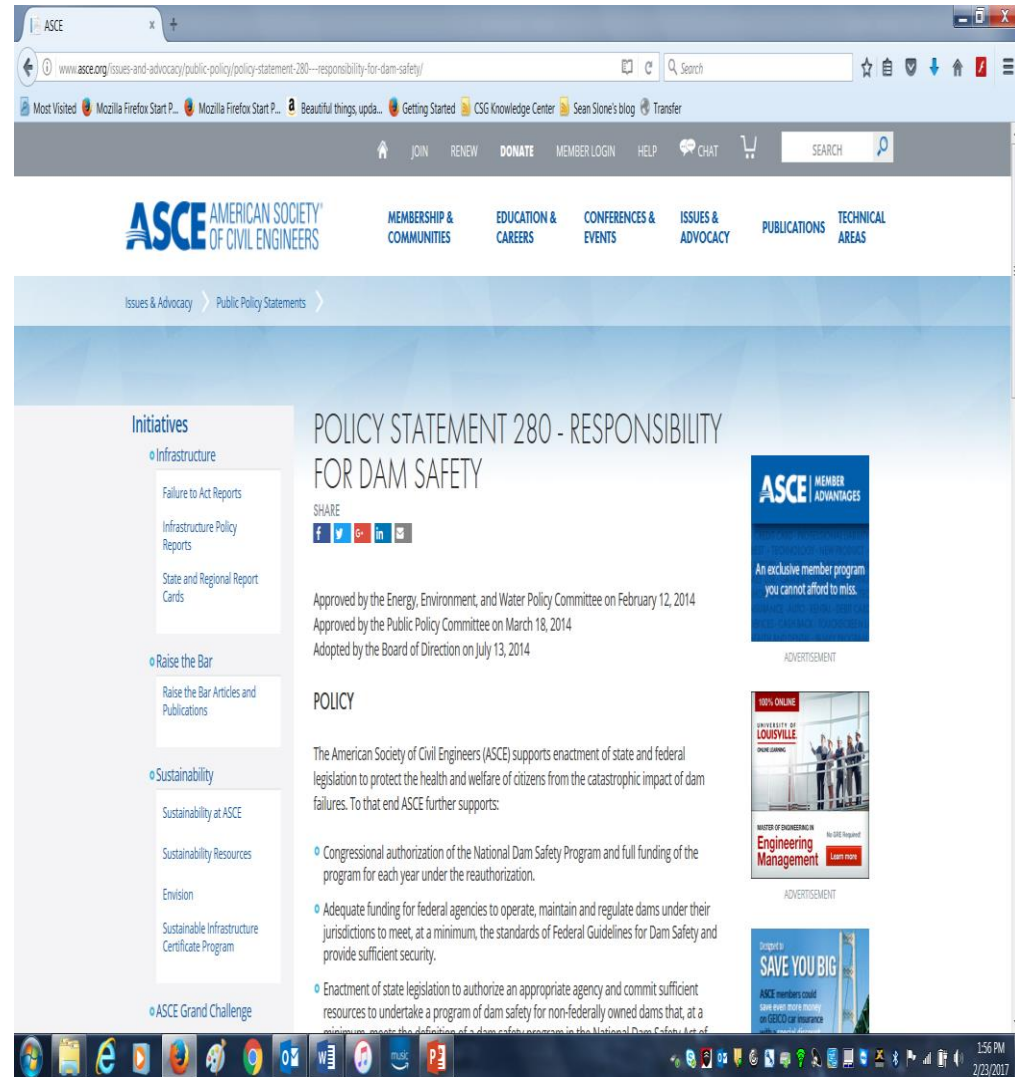
The page is organized into sections with bullet points:

- COASTAL ZONES, OFF SHORE AND WATERWAYS**
 - Policy Statement 162 - Coastal Development
 - Policy Statement 218 - Improvement and Maintenance of Ports
 - Policy Statement 286 - Waste Assimilative Capacity of Ocean and Coastal Waters
 - Policy Statement 330 - Coastal Data Collection Program
 - Policy Statement 349 - Coordination of Beach Erosion Control with Channel Maintenance
 - Policy Statement 498 - Coastal Wetlands
 - Policy Statement 507 - Restoring and Maintaining America's Beaches
 - Policy Statement 533 - Offshore Facilities Development
- DAMS, FLOOD CONTROL AND LEVEES**
 - Policy Statement 280 - Responsibility for Dam Safety
 - Policy Statement 421 - Floodplain Management
 - Policy Statement 470 - Dam Repair and Rehabilitation
 - Policy Statement 511 - National Levee Safety Program
 - Policy Statement 529 - Levee Certification
 - Policy Statement 545- Flood Risk Management
- DISASTER MITIGATION AND RESPONSE**
 - Policy Statement 294 - Cooperation with Government for Failure Investigation
 - Policy Statement 300 - Media Interaction Following Catastrophic Failures or Natural

On the left side of the page, there is a sidebar with "Our Initiatives" (Infrastructure, Raise the Bar, Sustainability) and "Advocacy" (Public Policy Statements, Priority Issues, Advocacy Programs, Tools & Training).

On the right side, there are two advertisements: one for "Y. GRIFFIN DEWATERING" and another for "PARKING... Made Better" by "PARKING STRUCTURES, INC.".

- Give clear guidance on ASCE's position
- Have “built-in” talking points
- Can serve as template for:
 - Letters
 - Testimony
 - Discussions with legislators
- Sections / Branches must follow ASCE policy



- Licensing
- Qualifications Based Selection for Engineering Services
- Science, Technology, Engineering & Math (STEM) Education
- State Support for Civil Engineering Higher Education
- Sustainability
- Tort Reform & Indemnification for Pro Bono Services
- Transportation Infrastructure Financing

- 2016 Infrastructure Funding Legislation:
 - **New Jersey** 23-cent gas tax increase
 - Infrastructure Bank passed in **Nebraska**
- Successful 2016 Election Day for infrastructure ballot measures
 - ASCE supported **5** key ballot measures in **5** states
 - ASCE position prevailed on **5** of the **5** questions
- Funding proposals are again anticipated in 2017 in many states:
 - Gas Tax Bills: **Alabama, Indiana, Louisiana, Tennessee**
 - Funding proposals: **Minnesota, Missouri, South Carolina, Wisconsin**

- Continuing education
 - 8 states still with no continuing education requirement: AZ, CA, CO, CT, HI, MA, RI, VT, WA
- Encouraging states to adhere to ASCE policy
- Working to increase participation with state P.E. licensing boards
- Several states considered bills this year to do away with all professional licenses in 2015:
 - Arkansas, Indiana, Iowa, Minnesota, Nevada, Washington
 - All bills defeated with opposition from ASCE and other professions
 - Arkansas bill actually passed House, but never taken up by Senate
- In 2016 we saw activity in: **Arizona, Georgia, and Kansas**

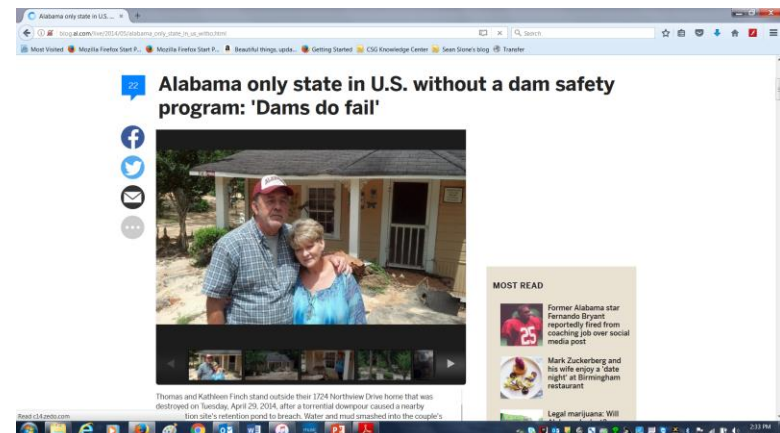
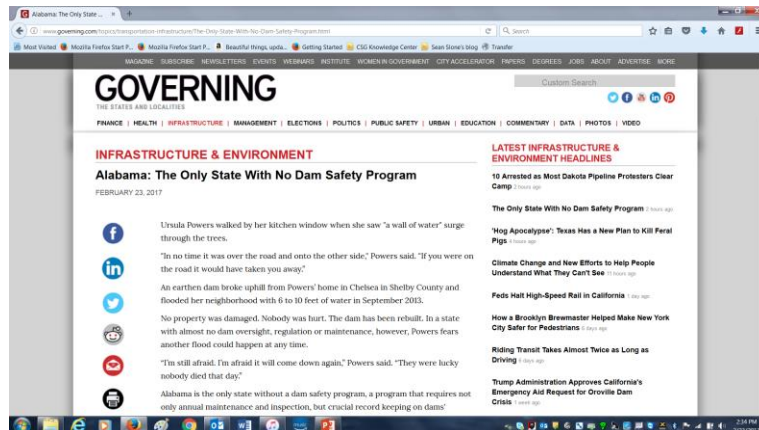
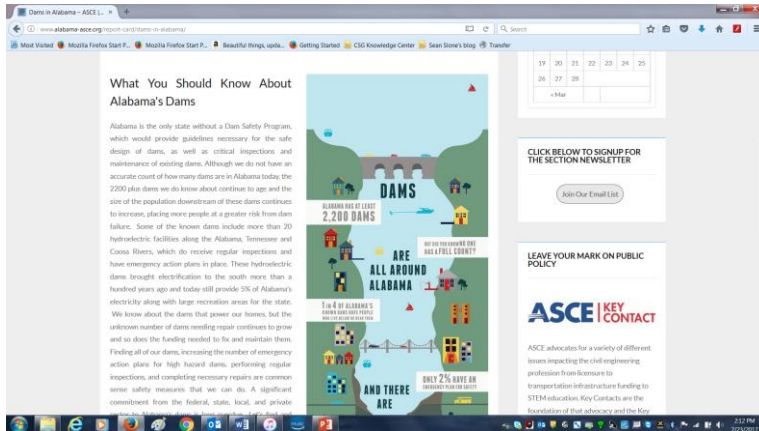
- Organize Section Government Relations
 - Designate a government relations contact
 - Form a government relations committee
- Track Legislation and Respond to Key Alerts
- Monitor State Licensing Board activity
- Release/Promote your State's Infrastructure Report Card
- Leverage social media and PR outreach

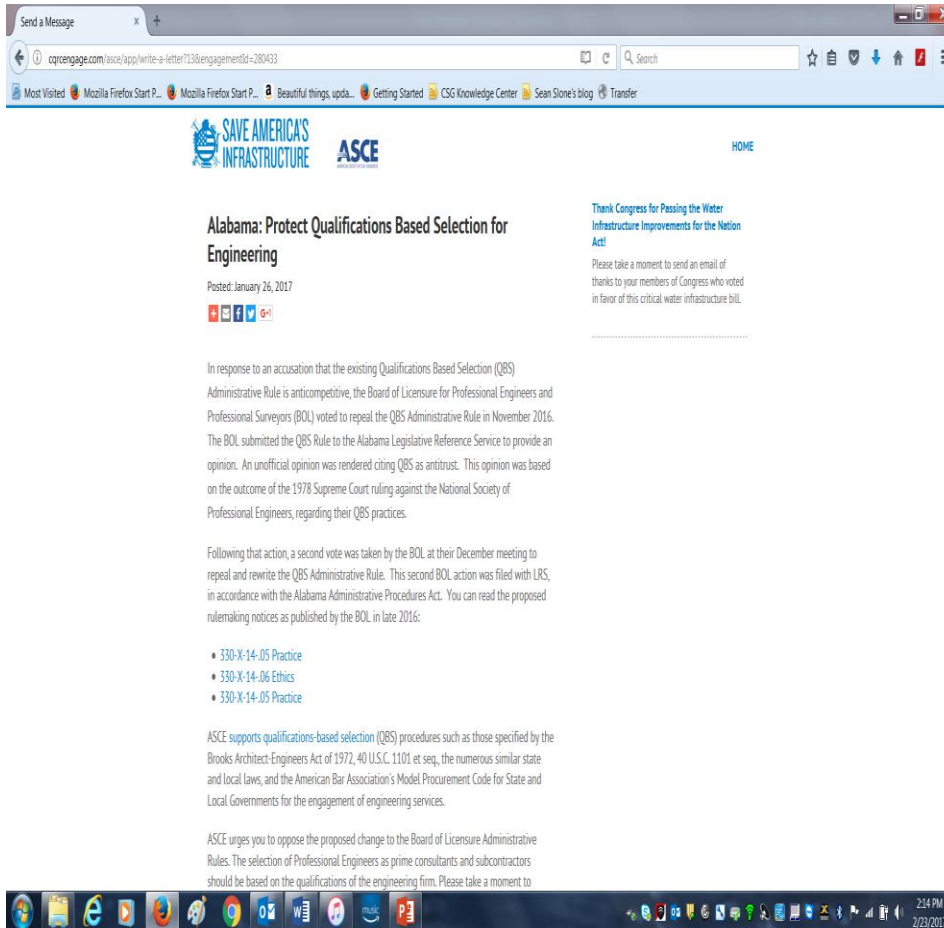
- Report Card for Alabama's Infrastructure (2015)
 - Infrastructure investment
- Dam safety
- Protecting QBS



- Released in late 2015
- Received wide media coverage
- Serves as valuable tool for:
 - Talking legislators
 - Raising awareness with the public
 - Establishing ASCE as a resource
- Proposals in Alabama Legislature
 - Gas tax increase

- You've probably heard: Alabama is the only state with no state administered dam safety program
- ASCE and Association of State Dam Safety Officials (ASDSO) partnering on the issue
 - Raise awareness
 - Educate legislators
 - Ultimate goal is legislation





- Several bills currently pending
- ASCE supports QBS
- Have coordinated with ACEC on this issue

■ Sustainable Infrastructure

- Report Card for America's Infrastructure
- Institute for Sustainable Infrastructure

■ Grand Challenge

- Influence major policy changes and infrastructure funding levels, while challenging civil engineers to focus on innovation, rethink life cycle costs, and drive transformational change—from planning to design to delivery.

■ Raise the Bar

- Promotes change in state licensure laws to increase the education requirements necessary for P.E. licensure

- President Trump
 - Has pledged to spend \$1 trillion on infrastructure over ten years
 - Has said he wants to tap the private sector for investment

- Secretary Chao met with Governors last weekend in DC
 - Agreeing on how to pay for infrastructure won't be easy
 - Told Governors that P3's aren't the answer for everything

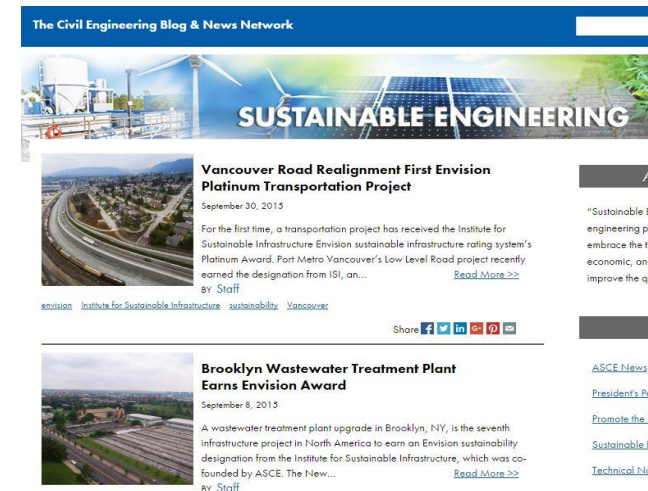
- Administration asked Governors for list of projects several months ago



2017

INFRASTRUCTURE REPORT CARD

- Policies relevant to sustainability
 - 418 – The Role of the Civil Engineer in Sustainable Development
 - 131- Growth and Development
 - Sustainability as a principle is referenced in many
- Committee on Sustainability
- Sustainable Engineering blog:
blogs.asce.org/category/sustainable-engineering
- Innovation in Sustainable Civil Engineering Award
 - Since 2011, ASCE has honored a civil engineering project annually for its inspirational applications of sustainability
- ASCE courses and conferences



- What is the Grand Challenge?
 - Reduce the life cycle cost of infrastructure by 50 percent by 2025 and foster the optimization of infrastructure investments for society.

- How is ASCE addressing the Grand Challenge?
 - Creating a Comprehensive Focus on Improving Infrastructure Delivery
 - Performance Based Standards
 - Innovation
 - Life Cycle Cost Analysis
 - Enhanced Resilience
 - Leveraging our complementary efforts on policy and infrastructure funding to help close the infrastructure gap

- An initiative to increase educational requirements for entry into professional engineering
- Based upon an accepted **Body of Knowledge**
 - Skills and attributes needed for professional practice
 - Today's educational model not compatible with BOK
- Licensure requirements If enacted:
 - An accredited bachelor's of engineering degree
 - *A master's in engineering degree or additional 30 semester credits of advanced education*
 - Three to four years of experience
 - Passing the FE and PE exams



■ State Government Relations Resources

- Financial support for events (SPAG – *not available in FY17*)
- Assistance hiring state lobbyists
- Weekly legislative update (state and federal): ***This Week in Washington***
- Legislative tracking service
- “How to” SGR manual

■ Staff support

- Legislative alerts
- Press outreach
- Talking points, testimony, research
- Social media and blogs

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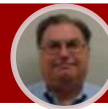
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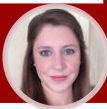
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- Accessible Online at: <http://cqrcengage.com/asce/states>
- Legislative and Regulatory reports
- Newest features:
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Alabama

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Getting Started

CSG Knowledge Center

Sean Slone's blog

Transfer

HOME

Alabama

ASCE's State Government Relations Staff works hard to ensure you have the latest infrastructure and professional practice policy information about your state. We encourage you to use our legislative and regulatory tracking service to quickly identify:

- Current Legislation and regulations
- News
- [ASCE's public policy positions](#)
- Key Alerts in your state

Engaging in the policy process doesn't stop here! We encourage you to reach out to us with updates or information about public policy issues in your state, please e-mail [Aaron Castelo](#) or [Maria Matthews](#).

Legislative Tracking Center

Please select a link to view a report or click the ► to limit the report to specific states.

- All Legislation
- Civil Engineers
- Infrastructure Funding
- Licensure and Practice of Civil Engineers

Sustainability

Powered by CQ Roll Call

Regulatory Tracking Center

[All Regulations](#)

Civil Engineers

Legislature Details

Convene Date:	2/7/2017
Adjourn Date:	5/22/2017 (Est.)
Carry-over:	No
Governor:	Robert Bentley (R)
House Control:	Republican
Senate Control:	Republican

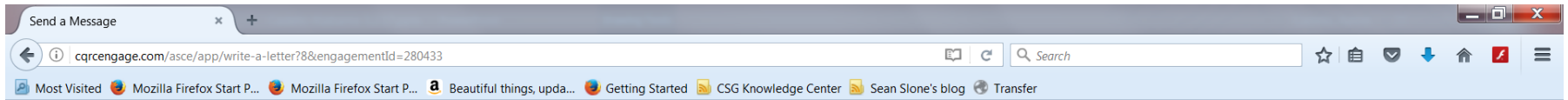
Top State Issues

Alabama: Protect Qualifications Based Selection for Engineering

The Board of Licensure is considering removing QBS from its Administrative Rules. Contact your legislator and the Board today to express the importance of ensuring engineering services are selected based on qualifications.

Top Federal Issues

1:47 PM
2/23/2017



[HOME](#)

Alabama: Protect Qualifications Based Selection for Engineering

Posted: January 26, 2017



In response to an accusation that the existing Qualifications Based Selection (QBS) Administrative Rule is anticompetitive, the Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers and Professional Surveyors (BOL) voted to repeal the QBS Administrative Rule in November 2016. The BOL submitted the QBS Rule to the Alabama Legislative Reference Service to provide an opinion. An unofficial opinion was rendered citing QBS as antitrust. This opinion was based on the outcome of the 1978 Supreme Court ruling against the National Society of Professional Engineers, regarding their QBS practices.

Following that action, a second vote was taken by the BOL at their December meeting to repeal and rewrite the QBS Administrative

[Continue Reading](#)

Thank Congress for Passing the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act!

Please take a moment to send an email of thanks to your members of Congress who voted in favor of this critical water infrastructure bill.

Please enter the address where you are registered to vote.

* First Name

* Last Name

* Home Address
Line 1



Alabama

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Beautiful things, upda...

Getting Started

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Sean Slone's blog

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Select a different report

Number: AL [R] HB 56 - Updated (Status 02/17/2017)

Sponsor: Rep. Kyle South (REP-AL)

Title: Public Housing authorities, non-profit affiliates of, limited immunity extended to Sec. 24-1-27 am'd.

Status: Pending third reading on day 5 Favorable from State Government - 02/16/2017

Number: AL [R] SB 201 - Updated (Status 02/23/2017)

Sponsor: Sen. Greg Reed (REP-AL)

Title: Motor vehicles, towing, ALEA authorized to regulate, fee dispute resolution process, civil penalties

Status: Transportation and Energy first Amendment Offered - 02/16/2017

Number: AL [R] HB 108 - Updated (Status 02/23/2017)

Sponsor: Rep. Jim Patterson (REP-AL)

Title: Elevator Safety Review Board, Sunset law review, continued with modification until October 1, 2018, Secs. 25-13-2, 25-13-6, 25-13-9 am'd.

Status: Reported from Fiscal Responsibility and Economic Development as

House Control: Republican

Senate Control: Republican

Top State Issues

Alabama: Protect Qualifications Based Selection for Engineering

The Board of Licensure is considering removing QBS from its Administrative Rules. Contact your legislator and the Board today to express the importance of ensuring engineering services are selected based on qualifications.

Top Federal Issues

Thank Congress for Passing the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act!

Please take a moment to send an email of thanks to your members of Congress who voted in favor of this critical water infrastructure bill.

Latest News

BRIEF: ALDOT plans bridge repair work on I-20 eastbound over Coosa River on Wednesday

The Anniston Star

...the Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT) will perform bridge repairs Wednesday, Feb. 22, starting at 9:30 a.m. ALDOT officials say the bridge repairs will be on the Interstate 20 eastbound bridge over the Coosa River at milepost 164.46 as follows: 0 Repair work will require the

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1:48 PM

2/23/2017

Use social media to keep your Section informed, engage elected officials, and educate the public.



facebook.com/ASCEGovRel



facebook.com/SaveUSAIInfrastructure



[@ASCEGovRel](https://twitter.com/ASCEGovRel)



[American Society of Civil Engineers \(ASCE\)](https://www.linkedin.com/company/american-society-of-civil-engineers)

■ Engage

- Familiarize yourself with the issues
- Why are these issues important to engineers?
- How do they affect public health, safety and welfare?
- What is ASCE's position?

■ Advocate

- Take action
- Makes your voice heard
- Educate the public

■ Lead

- Represents the profession
- Inspire others to act
- Serve in ASCE leadership

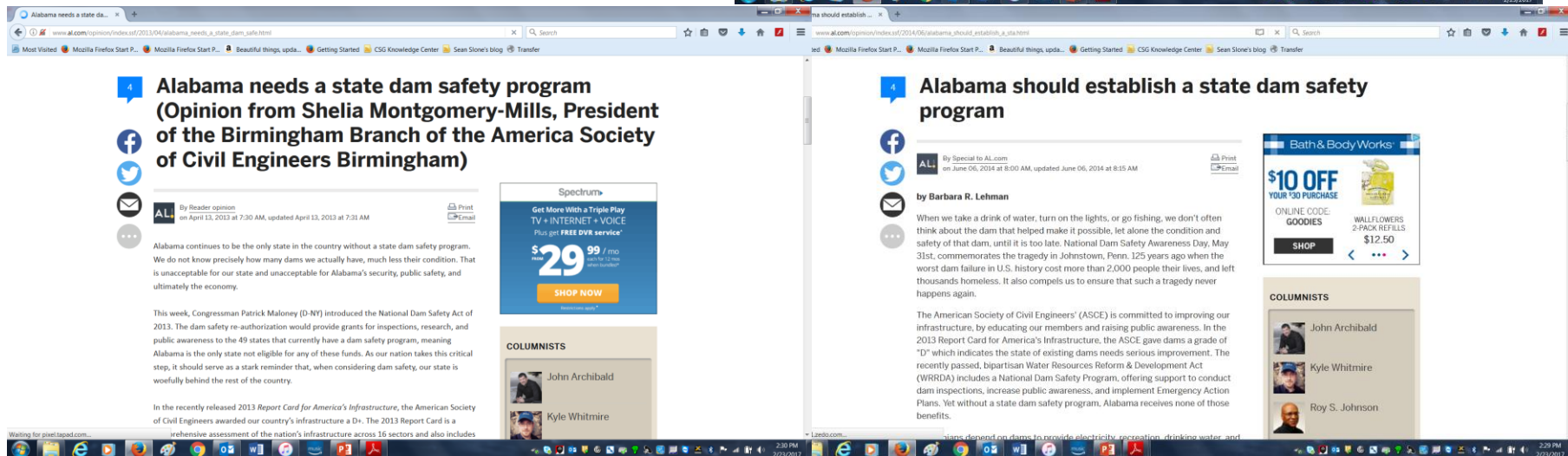
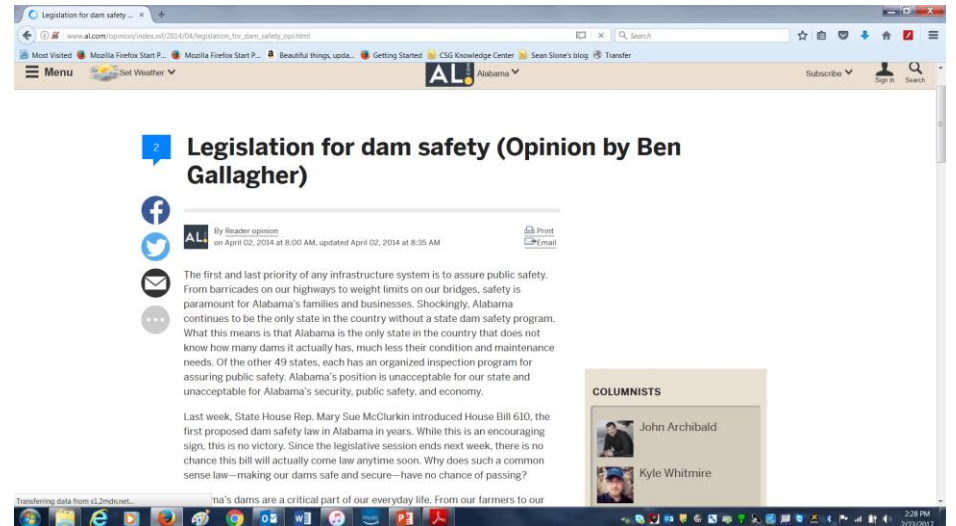


**Get involved.
Civil engineers
are problem
solvers and the
key contact
program is a
way to know
where the
problems are in
our policies and
legislation.**

Bob Cagle, P.E., F.ASCE

- **Identify your Federal, state and local elected officials**
 - Learn a little about them and their positions
- **Write, call or email your legislators**
 - Could be as simple as to inform them about an issue or the Report Card
 - Let them know you are for or against something currently pending
- **Meet with your legislators**
 - Attend a town hall or other meeting
 - Set up a time to meet with them to share concerns – your story has impact
- **Attend a PE Board meeting**
- **Testify before the legislature, PE Board, city council or state/ local agency**
- **Write an article / op-ed/ letter to the editor on an important issue**

- Writing an op-ed or letter to editor is easy!
- ASCE staff will assist



Become a Key Contact!

1. Receive timely Key Alerts
2. Act on Key Alert alerts
3. Read *This Week in Washington*



More info: www.asce.org/keycontacts

- Quarterly Webinars
- Advocacy Training
- Federal Advocacy Captains
- Legislative Fly-In: March 14-15, 2017
- Back Home Meetings, Town Halls, & Coffees
- Outstanding Civil Engineer Advocate of the Year: Individual & Team

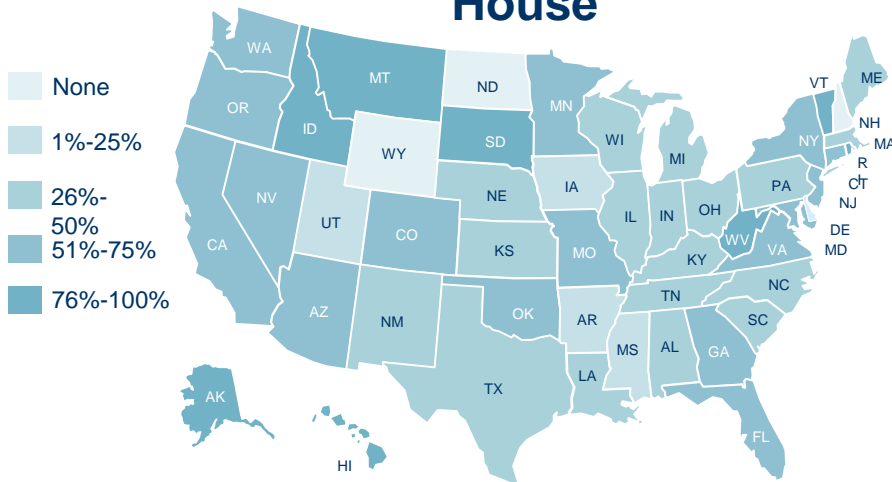


- Program to supplement Section and Branch efforts
- Serve as a liaison between the Section/Branch and ASCE GR staff
- Promote ASCE's priority issues to elected officials, policymakers and state licensing boards
- Coordinate advocacy efforts with Section/Branch Committee activities
- Promote government relations activities and Key Contact Program to ASCE members
- Serve as a "State Lead" at Fly-In

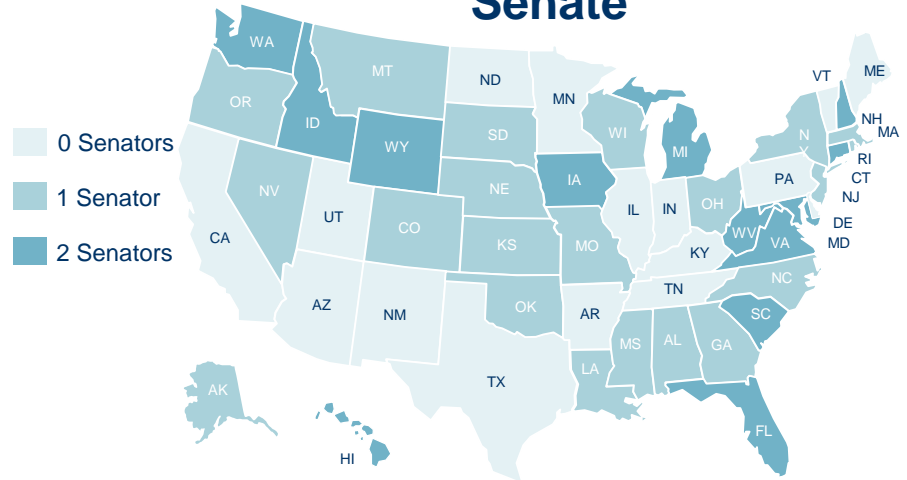


115th Congress members with prior experience as state legislators or Governors

House



Senate



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- Very few Sections/Branches have any staff
- Very few have lobbyists
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