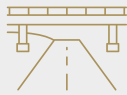


ACEC *Indiana* Issues 2027

CONSTRUCTION ENGINEERING INSPECTION CIVIL IMMUNITY

- Engineering firms providing Construction Engineering Inspection (CEI) services on highway and roadway projects are increasingly facing expensive lawsuits related to third-party bodily injuries that occur in work zones. **ACEC Indiana is collaborating with INDOT to address available contractual fixes; however, internal adjustments cannot prevent or mitigate expensive claims filed by external third parties.**
- Defending against these complex lawsuits incurs significant costs that spike engineering overhead. As these rates are passed through to INDOT, higher litigation expenses directly reduce the funds available for infrastructure. This means **Indiana's capital program ultimately delivers fewer road and bridge projects annually**, with taxpayer dollars being redirected from essential construction to cover legal defenses and rising insurance premiums.
- **This model has worked successfully in states such as Alabama, Florida, and Texas.** These states have already enacted tort reform specifically extending limited sovereign immunity to CEI firms when they are acting as authorized agents of the state. In these states, lawsuits were streamlined and construction contractors were not adversely impacted by the policy shift.



RE-INSTATE THE GAS TAX & IMPLEMENT TOLLING

Support long-term, sustainable transportation funding to meet Indiana's growing infrastructure needs. Existing transportation funding sources start significantly declining soon, and exacerbating the problem, the current 120-day gas and sales tax suspension is costing INDOT \$358 million and local road agencies \$170 million.

Protect user-based funding sources, support implementation of tolling on the I-70 corridor, and advance additional revenue solutions that ensure continued investment in the roads, bridges, and infrastructure that drive Indiana's economy.



PROFESSIONAL LICENSING

Monitor recommendations from the Indiana Professional Licensing Agency (PLA) regarding streamlining licensing boards. Prioritize preserving professional engineers' licensure and its associated qualifications is more crucial than ever to ensure a balance of public safety with innovation and economic development.

Understand the potential negative impacts of universal licensure, it may compromise the rigorous evaluation and expertise required for professionals in Indiana. Learn more in this video:



WATER ISSUES

Engage in implementation of recent legislation impacting water infrastructure and continue to advocate for a comprehensive statewide water plan that addresses Indiana's long-term water quality, supply, and infrastructure needs.

Advocate for policies that provide sustainable investment strategies, maintain appropriate local oversight, and ensure practical, cost-effective implementation of water infrastructure improvements statewide.



CONTRACTING & QBS (Qualifications Based Selection)

Legislation in 2026 included a provision for all INDOT projects in excess of \$250M to go before the State Budget Committee for review. ACEC is committed to the selection of engineering services based on QBS (IC 5-16-11.1-1), therefore ensuring the state benefits from the most competent and experienced teams for complex infrastructure projects.

Preserve QBS to safeguard project quality, public safety, and responsible use of taxpayer dollars in Indiana.



LEGISLATIVE OVERSIGHT OF PROJECTS

Support a policy environment that allows engineering professionals to apply their expertise without unnecessary statutory direction. Decisions regarding design standards, materials, and project-specific applications are best determined by qualified engineers based on safety, performance, and site conditions.

Encourage a balanced approach that preserves professional judgment and avoids prescriptive requirements that may limit innovation, efficiency, and project effectiveness.



AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES

of Indiana

WHO WE ARE

- ACEC Indiana is the business voice of 6,000+ engineers, land surveyors and other highly trained specialists and licensed professionals who design and improve our built environment in the Hoosier state.
- **\$7.4 billion contributed to the GDP**
- **\$488 million State & Local Taxes Collected***

*Source: Indiana economic impact data from the American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC) Research Institute, 2025 Economic Assessment & Forecast of the Engineering and Design Services Industry, Appendix 1.



TRANSPORTATION



WATER RESOURCES



VERTICAL STRUCTURES



SURVEYS & MAPS



AIRPORTS



PARKS & TRAILS

HOW CAN WE HELP YOU?

- Provide expert testimony on infrastructure issues
- Serve on task forces or advisory boards
- Let ACEC know what needs you have!

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