



Corner

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AIHA and Title Protection

Lester A. Slaback, Jr., CHP

Quoted and paraphrased from the *Synergist* (Vol. 5, No. 4, April 1994) cover article and commentary by Jill Niland:

The AIHA "...recommends and supports state legislative and regulatory language affording title protection for industrial hygienists... The position statement, adopted by the AIHA Board of Directors on 22 March, defines title protection as legally adopting the titles and definitions recognized by the profession with the state protecting IH titles. Those titles may be used only by those meeting the criteria outlined in definitions as part of the title protection legislation."

Title protection is a less restrictive form of regulation, "Other professionals are not excluded from practicing their professions as long as they (do not) misrepresent themselves by falsely claiming to possess these titles. Title protection... may allow for stricter enforcement for practicing the profession. On the negative side, title protection may exclude qualified members of the profession from practicing if legislative or regulatory language is not worded carefully."

Jill Niland, AIHA Board of Directors, identified three options from which Illinois had to choose in achieving that state's form of title protection. These include:

- Strict licensure, such as a professional engineer might hold.
- Title protection licensure, such as Illinois achieved. You cannot call yourself a licensed IH unless you have received a license.
- Registration, which merely requires registration with the state with no qualifications specified.

Niland further identified issues of concern with licensing,

including the potential for fees, achieving consistency among states, excluding qualified persons, provision for multiple levels of licensure (e.g., technicians), as well as the potential for "creeping governmental interference." The growth of OSHA/EPA activities over the last 24 years has driven the growth of the industrial hygiene profession.

For more information, contact Anne Dees or Aaron Trippier at 703-849-8888.

(Is Health Physics immune or unattractive to the practices of predatory hucksters? Also, the definition of Industrial Hygiene usually includes functions within the field of Health Physics. Such legislation conceptually could impact an HP practicing in that state. - LAS)

AAHP Election Results

The ballots for AAHP offices are in and the results follow:

- President Elect - Kenneth R. Kase
- Treasurer - Howard W. Dickson
- Director - Francis X. Massé

Both of the two changes to the AAHP By Laws were approved. In one change, provision was made for one member of the AAHP Nominating Committee to be named from the ABHP in order to provide closer coordination of input from the ABHP. In the second change the requirement that only CHPs be members of the AAHP Tellers Committee was eliminated for reasons of simplicity and expediency.

Terms of office will begin January 1995. Thanks from the AAHP to our Tellers Committee: Les Slaback, Jr., Tom Hobbs and Bill Webber.

Changes

Carol Berger, 1994 AAHP President Elect, has changed employers. She may be contacted at the following:

Carol D. Berger
 Integrated Environmental Management, Inc.
 1680 E. Gude Drive, Suite 305
 Rockville, MD 20850
 W: 301-762-0502; FAX: 301-762-0638 ■

AAHP Continuing Education Courses

Want to teach a course? Have suggestions for other courses you'd like to see offered by the AAHP? Contact David D. Snellings, Chair, AAHP Continuing Education Committee -- W: 501-964-7994; FAX: 501-964-7646. ■