



December 11, 2019

Chairman Scott Wiggam
Ohio House State and Local Government Committee
77 S. High St., 13th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215

RE: Support of Occupational Licensure Review Report for Registered Sanitarians and Sanitarians-In-Training

Dear Chairman Wiggam and Committee Members:

On behalf of the Ohio Environmental Health Association, we are submitting this letter of support for the recommendations in the House State and Local Government Committee's report to update the requirements and criteria for the Registered Sanitarian and Sanitarian-In-Training professions. OEHA represents environmental public health professionals across the state, and our members work hard every day to protect Ohioans by inspecting, educating, and enforcing Ohio's environmental health laws and rules. OEHA'S membership includes over 500 public health sanitarians who are health inspectors at local health departments, state agencies, colleges and universities, and other entities in the private sector.

Licensure of our profession exists to ensure that our workforce is properly qualified and trained to protect the public. OEHA believes the modifications in the report for Registered Sanitarians and Sanitarians-In-Training are based on industry and national best-practices as outlined by the National Environmental Health Association. The main changes are as follows:

Registered Sanitarian

- Change exam requirement to completion of a national licensing exam.
- Change license duration from one year to two years.
- Change continuing education from 18 hours of approved courses annually to 24 hours every two years.
- Change licensure fees from \$160 initial fee and \$90 renewal fee to \$100 initial fee and \$75 renewal fee.
- Change *Registered Sanitarian* license title to *Registered Environmental Health Specialist*, which is the profession's nationally identified professional title and credential.

Sanitarian-In-Training

- Change license duration from one year to two years.
- Change continuing education from 18 hours of approved courses annually to 24 hours every two years.
- Change licensure fees from \$80 initial fee and \$90 renewal fee to \$50 initial fee and \$35 renewal fee.
- Change *Sanitarian-in-Training* license title to *Registered Environmental Health Specialist in Training*, which is the profession's nationally identified professional title and credential.

Additionally, OEHA supports the proposed changes to the following occupational licenses: Lead Abatement Project Designer, Lead Risk Assessor, Lead Abatement Contractor, Lead Inspector, Radon Mitigation Specialist, Radon Tester, and Radon Mitigation Contractor.

Thank you for your efforts to review and update the requirements to ensure our professional workforce is prepared to safeguard Ohioans health.

Please contact us if you have any questions or would like to discuss further.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Carrie Yeager', with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Carrie Yeager
OEHA President