



The Professional Certification Coalition (PCC) is a nonprofit association founded in July 2018 to address legislative initiatives that affect professional certification programs and those who hold private certification credentials. The PCC currently has over 115 organizations as members, including non-governmental professional certification organizations, professional societies, and service providers. The PCC's members reflect a full spectrum of professions, including health care professionals, professional and civil engineers, human resources managers, financial professionals, and information technology professionals, among many others. The PCC advances the best interests of those who use or rely on professional certification—such as employers, reimbursers, and the general public—as well as of individual professionals themselves who achieve professional certification status. Our founding organizations are the American Society of Association Executives (the leading organization for association management) and the Institute for Credentialing Excellence (the leading developer of accreditation standards for professional certification programs).

YEAR 1 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

ADVOCACY



Successfully lobbied for an amendment to **Ohio S.B. 255** to remove a provision calling for government certification to supplant private certification in some instances and to add a safe harbor provision exempting recognition of private certification from the evidentiary standard requiring a showing of present harms to public health and safety.

Hired lobbyists in Missouri and Pennsylvania to pursue the PCC's objectives; received confirmation from bill sponsor that a safe harbor provision will be added to **Missouri H.B. 564** (or its successor bill), should it return next year; and contributed to committee decision not to advance **Pennsylvania H.B. 811**.

Mobilized targeted participation from PCC members to send letters to legislators in key states.

Sent over **40 letters** to state legislators explaining the PCC's concerns and proposing specific amendments to bills.

Engaged in constructive conversations with the office of Senator Amy Klobuchar regarding broadening her bill to allow beneficiaries to use funds in 529 plans to cover a wider range of certification-related expenses. Advocated for advancement of broader legislative language with Members of Congress and staff on the House Ways & Means Committee, Senate Finance Committee, as well as other individual lawmakers.

STAKEHOLDER OUTREACH



Held multiple meetings with the **American Legislative Exchange Council** and the **Institute for Justice**; successfully persuaded them to incorporate many of the PCC's proposed amendments to model occupational licensing reform legislation relied on by state legislatures.

Met with multiple other stakeholder groups across the political spectrum, as well as nonpartisan organizations and think tanks, to educate them on the PCC's objectives and concerns.

Sponsored **National Conference of State Legislatures/ National Governors Association/ Council of State Governments** event and spoke to state legislators and regulators about the PCC's objectives.

Drafted detailed white paper on certification and occupational licensure reform to share with stakeholder organizations and think tanks.

LEGISLATIVE/REGULATORY MONITORING



Drafted analyses of and tracked over **80 bills** in **38 states**; provided regularly updated watchlist of relevant legislation to members.

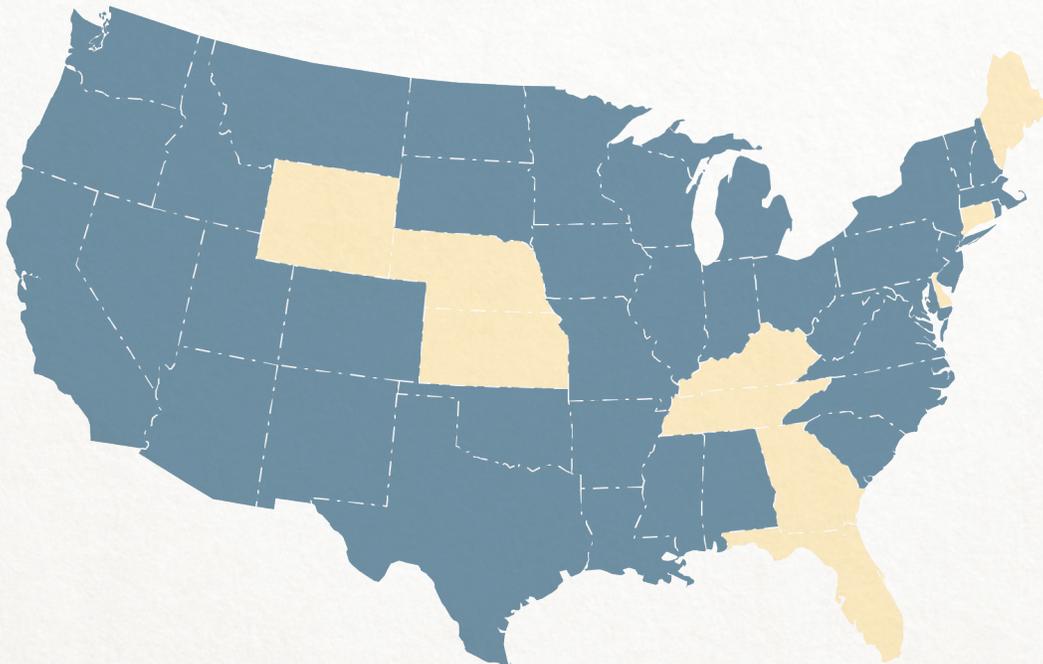
Held monthly member strategy calls and half-day in-person member meeting; provided regular written updates and alerts to members.

Developed and maintain robust website, with public-facing information and extensive members-only content.

Monitored certification-related legislation across the country.

Developed in-depth written analyses of high priority bills for members.

In its first fiscal year, the PCC analyzed and tracked more than 80 bills that were introduced in 38 states.



- States that introduced bills on the PCC's watchlist.
- States with no watchlist bills in first fiscal year through May 31, 2019.



YEAR 2 PROSPECTUS

Engage in direct lobbying efforts at the state level as needed to ensure continued protection of private certification.

Publish white paper outlining key principles related to legislation that restricts consideration of criminal conviction history, in connection with direct or indirect impacts on professional certifications.

Continue to monitor and analyze occupational licensing reform bills and relevant media coverage.

Engage in a grassroots and grasstops campaign to build significant bipartisan support for the legislation to permit beneficiaries to use 529 plan funds to cover costs associated with obtaining and maintaining a postsecondary credential.

Continue to cultivate relationships with key special interest groups engaged in occupational licensing reform and certification issues and develop new stakeholder group and think tank relationships.

Continue conversations with Congress regarding the federal **Fair Chance Licensing Act**.

Regular member strategy calls, written updates, and an in-person member meeting.

THE PCC LEADERSHIP

Visit the PCC website to learn more about the PCC, view the current member list, read our White Paper, or submit an application to join the Coalition: www.profcertcoalition.org.



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