

2/27/2025

Senator Jesse Bjorkman
Chairman, Senate Labor and Commerce Committee
Alaska State Legislature

RE: Support for 2025 AK SB 54

Dear Chairman Bjorkman and members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee,

On behalf of the Council for Interior Design Qualification (CIDQ), I write to you today in support of Senate Bill 54, which would protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public if passed.

CIDQ is the premiere certifying organization for interior design professionals. Our organization develops and administers the three-part NCIDQ Examination, the national interior design certification examination utilized by U.S. jurisdictions for interior design registration or licensure, which assesses the competency of candidates to protect the public through the practice of interior design. With a membership comprised of state regulatory boards from across the United States and Canada, our organization takes seriously the responsibility to protect the public's health, safety and welfare, a responsibility our certified interior designers share.

NCIDQ-Certified Interior Designers are required to undergo formal postsecondary education and thousands of hours of paid, supervised experience to sit for the examination, which tests interior designers' knowledge of core competencies required for professional practice in the industry. This combination of education, experience, and examination helps ensure minimal competency of our certificate holders in the distinct practice of interior design, most of which practice in commercial, code-based environments like office buildings, hotels, hospitals, schools, etc. Our certificate holders are trained, tested, and qualified to design safe, functional public spaces in their practice.

Reasonable regulation of interior designers utilizing the NCIDQ Exam provides a means of offering the state and the public assurance that interior designers are qualified to practice in a manner that protects the public in Alaskan public spaces. CIDQ is prepared and committed to working with the Alaska AELS board and staff, as we do with all our member boards, to implement this bill, to protect health, safety, and welfare, and ensure that practicing Registered Interior Designers in Alaska are trained and competent. We thank the committee for considering this legislation and ask for a favorable report on this bill. Thank you, and I'm happy to be a resource to the committee to answer questions about the NCIDQ exam.

Sincerely,



Matthew R. Barusch
Director, Government Affairs and Advocacy
Council for Interior Design Qualification