

# ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

## REPRESENTATIVE KURT OLSON

- Chair: Labor and Commerce
- Vice Chair: Rules
- Member: Resources, Community & Regional Affairs,  
Economic Development Trade & Tourism,  
Fisheries, Legislative Budget & Audit

Session: January – April  
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Official Business

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### HB 167 Sponsor Statement

The Architects, Engineers and Land Surveyors Board is a regulatory board for the purpose of ensuring that licensed professionals meet a minimum standard of practice in the various professions to protect the public health, safety, and welfare.

Although a large majority of the registrants understand and work within their field of expertise, current statutes suggest that a registrant is allowed to seal design documents that are not in the realm of the registrants discipline of licensure if the "registrant certifies on the face of the documents to the extent of the registrants responsibility". The AELS Board Investigation Advisory Committee has reviewed many building code violations as a result. The majority of these small and seemingly uncomplicated buildings have had numerous and major health and safety code violations. The code violations are significant and are a result of the misuse of seals.

This legislation clarifies when seals can be used, and provides a definition, in statute, for "designs of minor importance" and "field drawings".

The Board of Architects, Engineers, Land Surveyors and Landscape Architects, and the Alaska Professional Design Council are in support of this legislation. I urge your support of this legislation.