

Alaska Professional Design Council

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MEMBER SOCIETIES

Alaska Society of Professional Engineers (ASPE)

Alaska Society of Professional Land Surveyors (ASPLS)

American Institute of Architects, Alaska Chapter (AIA)

American Society of Civil Engineers, Alaska Section (ASCE)

American Society of Landscape Architects, Alaska Chapter (ASLA)

American Council of Engineering Companies of Alaska (ACEC)

American Society of Interior Designers, Alaska Chapter (ASID)

Institute of Transportation Engineers, Alaska Section (ITE)

Structural Engineers, Alaska (SEAAK) March 23, 2021

The Honorable Mia Costello, Chair Senator Labor & Commerce Committee Room 119 Alaska State Capitol Juneau, AK 99801

RE: SB86 - An Act relating to occupational licensing.

Dear Senator Costello,

The Alaska Professional Design Council (APDC) is a non-profit corporation representing over 5,000 Alaskan licensed professionals in the fields of engineering, architecture, landscape architecture, land surveying and interior design.

APDC is not opposed to the provisions within SB86 – An Act relating to temporary licensing as the bill is currently drafted.

We do however; wish to take this opportunity to express our opposition to any attempt to reduce current licensure requirements to practice engineering, architecture, or landscape architecture in Alaska, specifically completion of Arctic Engineering or design course requirements found in 12 AAC 36.110. Similarly, we do not support removing or bypassing requirements for surveyors to take the Alaska specific survey jurisprudence exam (12 AAC 36.100)

Alaska is indeed a unique environment with respect to design, whether it is our northern latitude, temperature extremes, subsurface geology, land status or seismic activity. Given the duration of completed design projects, it is important that our residents are not encumbered with the costs associated with infrastructure and assets that were designed without an understanding of our unique condition or surveys done without knowledge of local laws and standards.

It is also important to make clear that professionals arriving in Alaska *can* find employment within design firms working under the supervision of licensed Alaskan professionals as they complete their education requirements for Alaska licensure.

Thank you.

Willow

Colin Maynard, PE, SE, F.NSPE, Chair APDC Legislative Committee

cc: Senate Labor & Commerce Committee members