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To: Senate Finance Committee, Senators Hoffman, Olson & Stedman, Co-Chairs

From: Colin Maynard, PE, SE, F.NSPE

Date: April 14, 2026

Re: HB 314 – Arch, Eng, Surveyors; Reg Int Design

I understand that this bill will be heard by Senate Finance Committee soon. I am writing to you as an individual and not as a member of the State Board of Registration for Architects, Engineers, and Land Surveyors. Given the time remaining in the session, the bill that leaves passed the House should be the final version. I urge its passage.

1) In Section 3, keeping five engineering seats and deleting one of the land surveyor seats to keep the total number of board members at 11 makes sense. There are currently 5468 professional engineers in over fourteen disciplines. There are only 346 licensed land surveyors. The Board has managed acceptably with only one land surveyor for over a year now. This provision addresses the Governor's desire to not increase the size of the Board while adding an interior designer seat.

2) As to Section 28, item 15, the Department of Environmental Conservation has already adopted regulations which parallel this proposed statute language (despite currently not having the statutory authority to do so).

3) I know there are some architects who are adamantly against adding interior designers to the professions governed by the AELS Board but there are just as many, if not more, who are adamant that interior design professionals are qualified to do work related to public health, welfare, and safety in interior spaces. They should be able to seal their own work and not have to go to an architect for their stamp.

I believe that the concerns the Governor raised in his veto letter regarding a similar bill last year have been addressed by the current bill. I urge passage of the bill.

I am willing to discuss the bill with any committee member who has questions.