



# Alaska State Legislature

## Senator Matt Claman

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### Senate Bill Sectional Analysis — Version G

#### **Section 1**

*AS 08.03.010. Termination dates for regulatory boards.*

Extends the AELS Board's termination date by eight years to June 30, 2033.

#### **Section 2**

*AS 08.48.011(b). Board created.*

Adds two seats to the AELS board: one for an interior designer and one additional engineering seat. This addition creates separate seats for electrical and mechanical engineering, which currently share a seat. It also modifies the seat held by a mining engineer to include the option of either a mining engineer, or a petroleum engineer, or a chemical engineer.

#### **Section 3**

*AS 08.48.011(b). Board created.*

This section affects the same statutes as Sec. 2. The interior designer sitting on the board must be registered once this act and board regulations go into place per Sec. 37.

#### **Section 4**

*AS 08.48.055(b). Executive administrator of the board; investigator.*

Amends to add to statute a Range 23 salary for the AELS Board's Executive Administrator.

#### **Section 5**

*AS 08.48.071(f). Records and reports.*

Adds registered interior designers to the list of professions about which the department shall assemble statistics relating to staff and board performance.

#### **Section 6**

*AS 08.48.101. Regulations; policy guidance; bylaws; code of ethics.*

Adds a new subsection (c) authorizing the board to adopt regulations establishing a definition of interior design for the purpose of this chapter and requires that the definition include non-load-bearing interior construction, space planning, finish materials, and furnishings.

#### **Section 7**

*AS 08.48.111. Power to revoke, suspend, or reissue certificate.*

Adds registered interior design to a list of professions that the board may suspend or refuse to renew, or whose certificate may be revoked, or who may be reprimanded if found guilty of fraud, gross negligence, incompetence, or misconduct in accordance with a code of ethics as adopted by the board. This section also removes the requirement that the code of ethics be distributed in writing to every registrant and applicant.

## **Section 8**

*AS 08.48.171. General requirements and qualifications for registration.*

Adds registered interior designers to a list of applicants for registration that must be of good character and reputation. Applicants must provide proof of qualified education, training, and expertise.

## **Section 9**

*AS 08.48.181. Registration upon examination.*

Adds registered interior designers to a list of applicants for registration that shall be meet examination requirements designated by board regulations and national standards.

## **Section 10**

*AS 08.48.191. Registration by comity or endorsement.*

Adds a new subsection (e) allowing registration to interior designer applicants registered in other states if they meet board regulations.

## **Section 11**

*AS 08.48.201(a). Application for registration.*

Adds registered interior designers to a list of applicants for registration who must submit their applications in the manner approved by the board.

## **Section 12**

*AS 08.48.211(b). Certificate of registration.*

Adds registered interior designers to the list of certificates of registration that may be awarded.

## **Section 13**

*AS 08.48.215(a). Retired status registration.*

Distinguishes that retirement status under this chapter is available only for professional architects, engineers, land surveyors, or landscape architects.

## **Section 14**

*AS 08.48.218. Untitled practice of interior design.*

Adds new section stating that unregistered individuals may practice interior design but shall refrain from using the title "registered interior designer."

## **Section 15**

*AS 08.48.221(a). Seals.*

Adds "registered interior designer" to the list of seals a registrant may obtain. Additionally, it adds registered interior design to the list of registrants that may not affix or permit a seal and signature to be affixed to an instrument after the expiration of a certificate or for the purpose of aiding or abetting another person to evade or attempt to evade a provision of this chapter.

## **Section 16**

*AS 08.48.241(a). Corporations, limited liability companies, and limited liability partnerships.*

Adds “a group of registered interior designers” to the list of groups the board may, in its discretion, grant a certificate of authorization to.

### **Section 17**

*AS 08.48.241(b). Corporations, limited liability companies, and limited liability partnerships.*  
Specifies that a corporation, limited liability company, or a limited liability partnership authorized to offer registered interior design is responsible to the same degree as the designated registered interior designer and shall conduct its business without misconduct or malpractice in the practice of registered interior design.

### **Section 18**

*AS 08.48.241(d). Corporations, limited liability companies, and limited liability partnerships.*  
Adds registered interior designer to the list of certificates that must be displayed in the place of business along with the names of the persons designated in responsible charge.

### **Section 19**

*AS 08.48.241(e). Corporations, limited liability companies, and limited liability partnerships.*  
Adds registered interior designer to the list of certificates that must apply for a revised certificate if ownership is altered.

### **Section 20**

*AS 08.48.241(f). Corporations, limited liability companies, and limited liability partnerships.*  
Adds registered interior designer to the list of certificates the board may suspend or revoke.

### **Section 21**

*AS 08.48.251. Certain partnerships.*  
Adds registered interior designer to the list of allowable practices a partnership of legally registered interior designers may engage in.

### **Section 22**

*AS 08.48.281. Prohibited practice.*  
Adds a new subsection (c) specifying that a person that is not registered with the board may not use the title “registered interior designer.”

### **Section 23**

*AS 08.48.291. Violations and penalties.*  
Specifies that a person who practices or offers to practice registered interior design in the state without being registered or authorized to practice is guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction is punishable by a fine of not more than \$10,000, or by imprisonment for not more than one year, or by both.

### **Section 24**

*AS 08.48.295(a). Civil penalty for unregistered or unauthorized practice.*  
Specifies that if a person who practices or offers to practice registered interior design in the state without being registered or authorized to practice, the board may enter an order levying a civil penalty.

## **Section 25**

*AS 08.48.311. Rights not transferable.*

Specifies that the right to engage in the practice of registered interior design is considered a personal and individual right, based on the qualifications of the individual as evidenced by the individual's certificate of registration, which is not transferable.

## **Section 26**

*AS 08.48.321(b). Evidence of practice.*

Adds a new subsection (b) stating that using the title “registered interior designer” implies that the person is registered with the board.

## **Section 27**

*AS 08.48.331. Exemptions.*

New paragraph (15) aligns AS 08.48 with Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) statutes allowing certain ADEC employees who are authorized to construct conventional onsite wastewater systems to do so without a professional license if the wastewater system has a design flow of less than 500 gallons of wastewater a day.

## **Section 28**

*AS 08.48.331. Exemptions.*

In paragraph (11), adds the construction of natural gas pipelines to the conditions in which an employee or officer of a company operating in Alaska must have a professional license.

## **Section 29**

*AS 08.48.331. Exemptions.*

Adds new subsection (c) allowing the Department of Environmental Conservation to adopt regulations limiting the locations in the state where exemption 15 may apply. Adds new subsection (d) defining the requirements that a utility company must meet to be exempted from having a professional license to operate under exemption 15.

## **Section 30**

*AS 08.48.341(4). Definitions.*

Adds registered interior design to the definition of “certificate of authorization.”

## **Section 31**

*AS 08.48.341(23). Definitions.*

Distinguishes existing registrant types as “professional” and adds “registered interior designers” to the definition of “registrant.”

## **Section 32**

*AS 08.48.341. Definitions.*

Adds new paragraphs (27) and (28) defining the practice of registered interior design and registered interior designer.

## **Section 33**

*AS 23.30.017(c)(1). Immunity for third-party design professional.*

Adds landscape architect or registered interior designer to the definition of “design professional.”

### **Section 34**

*AS 34.35.050. Lien for labor or materials furnished.*

Makes a technical change to subsection (1) and (4) and adds landscape architectural and registered interior design to a list of services that a person may have a lien on to secure payment.

### **Section 35**

*AS 35.15.010(c). Construction by department.*

Adds landscape architectural or registered interior design services to the definition of “professional services.”

### **Section 36**

*AS 36.30.270(a). Architectural, engineering, and land surveying contracts.*

Adds landscape architectural and registered interior design to the list of services that a procurement officer may award.

### **Section 37**

*AS 36.30.270(d). Architectural, engineering, and land surveying contracts.*

Adds landscape architectural and registered interior design to the list of services to which a procurement officer may add price as a factor in awarding a contract.

### **Section 38**

*AS 36.90.100. Contracts for architectural, engineering, land surveying, or landscape architectural services.*

Amends the statute to prohibit the state or a municipality from awarding contracts to individuals, qualified partnerships, and authorized corporations for the practice of registered interior design if they are not registered to provide registered interior design.

### **Section 39**

*AS 08.48.011. Board created.*

Subsection (c) is repealed. Subsection (c) is related to board seats which no longer apply due to Sections 2 and 3 of this bill.

### **Section 40**

*Uncodified law – Transition*

Adds new transition language requiring the interior designer appointed to the board as amended by Section 2 of this Act be certified by the Council for Interior Design Qualification and have resided in the state for at least three years immediately preceding appointment. Additionally, it allows for an interior designer to hold the board seat until a registered interior designer is appointed to the seat as amended by Section 3 of this Act, subject to meeting certain requirements.

### **Section 41**

*Effective date*

Clarifies that Sections 2 and 40 take immediate effect.

### **Section 42**

*Effective date*

Clarifies that Sections 28 and 29 take effect January 1, 2026.

**Section 43**

*Effective date*

Except as stated in Sections 41 and 42, this Act has an effective date of July 1, 2025.