

March 25, 2025

To: Senator Donald Olson, Senate Finance Committee Co-Chair

CC: Senate Finance Committee Members

**SB 54 Extend ALES Board; Register Interior Designers**

Good morning,

I would like to express my support of Senate Bill 54.

Interior Design is a specialized field of practice, within the built environment. As an interior designer, I know first-hand the rigor of the specialty. My education created a basis of understanding to interpret and apply building codes for practical and safe solutions. I worked under NCIDQ certified interior designers after graduation to establish a contextual understanding of real-world design solutions and best practices for application. Once eligible, I took that same examination (NCIDQ) to demonstrate and confirm my abilities to problem-solve and design solutions to create safe spaces for commercial use. Now, as an owner of an interior design & strategic planning firm I rely on this foundation in my day-to-day practice to ensure that projects are suitable for public use, and designers under my direct supervision are receiving training and exposure to this same diligence in practice.

Many of the projects that my firm completes are multi-disciplinary including consultant teams of mechanical engineers, electrical engineers, structural engineers, and others depending on the project's scope. In a multi-disciplinary team, each consultant assumes responsibility for their work, and SB 54 would enable interior designers to do the same: assume responsibility for our own work as it relates to public health, safety, and welfare. Professional registration for interior designers would not preclude architects from practicing this same scope, nor the broader scope within which they are trained & examined to practice within. Most importantly, registration would ensure that those practicing within this specialized area of the built environment are qualified to complete this work based on education, examination, and experience.

Thank you for your time in reading this letter of support for SB 54, Extend the AELS Board; & Register Interior Designers.

Sincerely,

**Kelsey Conway, ASID**

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