



March 28, 2013

Representative Kurt Olson
Chairman
House Labor & Commerce Committee
Alaska State Capitol, Room 24
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Subject: House Bill 167

Dear Representative Olson:

Having followed Harley Hightower, FAIA's work for many years, particularly his work in legislative affairs on behalf of practicing architects in Alaska, I am writing to support his petition for approval of House Bill 167.

When the revisions to the Architect and Engineers Licensing Law that introduced the exemptions referenced in this bill I was concerned about the potential for misuse of the regulation as a means to skirt the intent of the licensing law as it regulates the practice of architecture specifically, and of other professions. The revisions that this bill addresses were intended to cover minor structures and engineering related to larger projects that were already designed and engineered by licensed professionals, work that falls within the ordinary daily work of these subcontractors. That the law has been used to go beyond scope of exclusion intended, and as observed and documented by the AEELS Enforcement and Advisory Board and experience of professionals in practice is indication of a need to modify and clarify the language.

The bill makes moderate and appropriate changes to the wording and language that make the intent more clear for the design and construction community and for the enforcement officials charged with its interpretation and implementation.

I urge the passage of this bill at this time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Crittenden".

John Crittenden AIA,
Vice President Architects Alaska
Former Director of AIA Alaska

Cc: Harley H. Hightower, FAIA