



**Alaska
Professional
Design Council**

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MEMBER SOCIETIES

Alaska Society of
Professional Engineers
(ASPE)

Alaska Society of
Professional Land
Surveyors (ASPLS)

American Society of Civil
Engineers, Alaska Section
(ASCE)

American Society of
Landscape Architects,
Alaska Chapter (ASLA)

American Society of
Interior Designers, Alaska
Chapter (ASID)

Institute of Transportation
Engineers, Alaska Section
(ITE)

Structural Engineers,
Alaska (SEAAK)

May 8th, 2023

To: the Alaska House of Representatives Labor and Commerce Committee,

The Alaska Professional Design Council (APDC) is a non-profit organization that serves as the voice of 1,150 design professionals across the state. Our members include licensed professionals who are committed to protecting the health, safety, and welfare of the public, as well as those seeking licensure to do the same. Together, our member organizations work collaboratively to represent the common interests of Alaska's design professionals and advocate for the advancement of the design practices represented.

We are writing in support of the passage of HB 159, which proposes the Registration of Interior Designers. These professionals are responsible for designing and modifying interior spaces in both public and private buildings. Their work involves non-structural design elements that can impact life-safety, such as accessibility, exiting access components, fire ratings of walls, and fire ratings of finishes.

Currently, there are no requirements for qualifications in Alaska for providing interior design services within buildings. This lack of regulation puts public safety at risk. By introducing licensure for registered Interior Designers, the public can be better protected. This licensure will ensure that those engaging in this work have the necessary education, experience, and examination qualifications, as with other design professionals.

Passage of HB 159 would allow qualified Interior Designers the autonomy to independently engage in regulated Interior Design practice. They are educated, extensively trained, and have undergone rigorous testing to ensure their expertise in this field. Additionally, licensure will allow them to stamp and submit their own permit drawings, which aligns with their qualifications.

As the APDC, we stand firmly in support of this bill and are available as a resource to answer any questions you may have. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

David Gamez, P.E.
APDC President