

Interior Design through Advocacy



Issue 05
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Elevate

Issue 5 - Summer 2022

01

PUSHING FOR PROGRESS

Advocates testify at the State Capitol in for the sunset review of SB 153.

02

DESIGN PROFESSION REGULATIONS

How are interior designers regulated differently than other design professionals in California?

03

CELEBRATING SUCCESS IN WI & IL

Senate Bill 344 passed, successfully codifying interior design. legislation.

04

COMPARISON OF COMPETENCIES

New data illustrates similarities and distinctions between peer professions.

05

LEGISLATOR OF THE YEAR

IIDA'S Northern and Southern California Chapters honor State Senator Dave Cortese.

06

CALL TO ACTION

Six ways you can get involved in Advocacy efforts across the state.

07

ADVOCACY SPONSORS

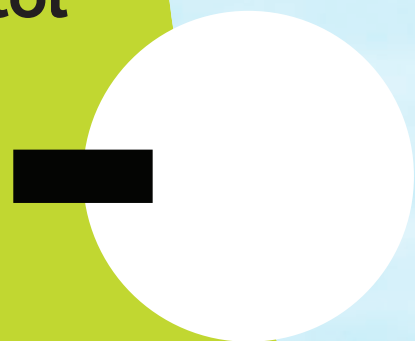
Sponsorship supports our efforts to demystify, promote, and elevate interior design in CA.

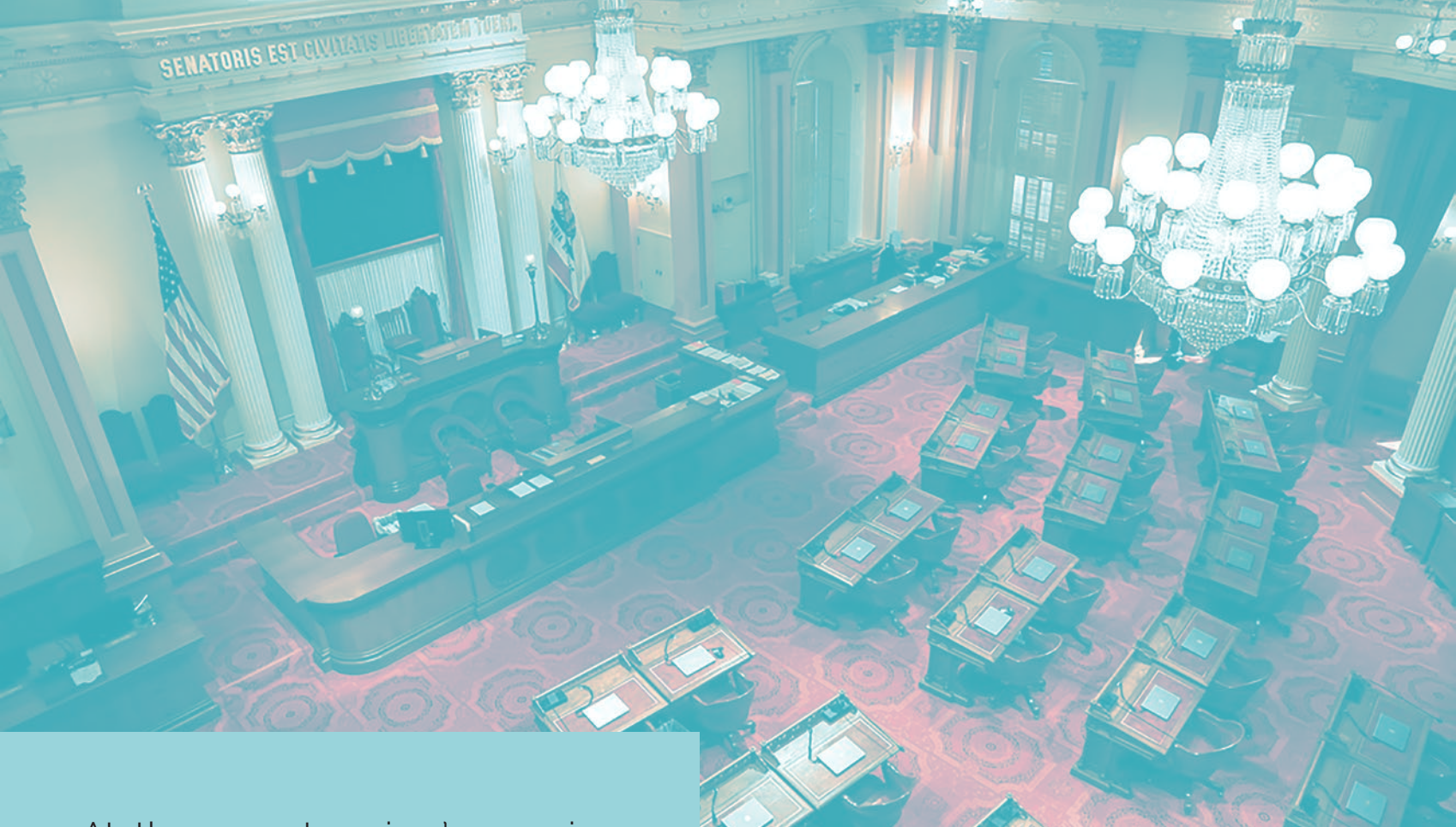


Pushing for Progress

Testifying at the State Capitol

This March, California's Business & Professions committee began review of the regulation of the interior design occupation and its regulating body, the CCIDC (California Council for Interior Design Certification) as established in 1990 through SB 153, in a process called a "sunset review".





At the sunset review's opening hearing at the State Capitol in Sacramento, VPs of Advocacy from the Northern California chapter, Laura Taylor and Adam Newton, testified in person while VPs of Advocacy from the Southern California chapter, Christine Peter and Nicole Dehlin-Grant, testified via call-in. Other call-in testimony included Matthew Barusch, Government Affairs and Advocacy Manager from CIDQ (Council for Interior Design Qualification).

While testifying on such a public stage can be intimidating and capturing the complex policy positions of IIDA in a few short minutes is challenging, IIDA's advocates were thrilled to establish a presence at the hearing and champion California's commercial interior designers.

Matthew Barusch
Government Affairs and Advocacy Manager
CIDQ (Council for Interior Design Qualification)



"Clearly, there is incongruity in how the state regulates the design professions. The model of a national competency assessment with education and experience requirements, utilized in conjunction with CSEs (California supplemental examinations), is how California regulates all other design professions including architecture which has distinct similarities with interior design. Only interior design does not have this model."



Nicole Dehlin-Grant, VP of Advocacy
Southern California Chapter

"Commercial interior designers, especially new professionals, are confused by the certification structure because it is so widely different from our peer professionals like architects, landscape architects, and engineers who take a nationally-based exam and a California Supplemental Exam to become registered through the DCA (Department of Consumer Affairs). We think the state can and should do better for interior designers. We are not granted stamp and seal privileges in most jurisdictions [in California]; in fact, I have experienced this issue when I've taken plans to the city - they expect me to have a male colleague come with me to plan check and speak on behalf of a technical field I've been working in for 20 years."



Christine Peter, VP of Advocacy
Southern California Chapter

"While I appreciate CCIDC acknowledging that the commercial interior design certification has a place and currently has issues, they've attempted to define a path for commercial interior designers that, unfortunately, is not effective and it does not solve the problems we are currently facing."



Laura Taylor, VP of Advocacy
Northern California Chapter

"I want to recommend to this committee and the legislator to take some time to review this certification and make some meaningful progress on the issues of stamp acceptance and testing that have come up several sunset reviews in a row. I'd like to ask that we not extend for another 4 years the certification that is clearly not working for some commercial interior designers like myself."

Adam Newton, Asst VP of Advocacy
Northern California Chapter



"This profession is led by women, members of the BIPOC community, and LGBTQ people. The lack of standardized privileges that align with our peer design professionals like architects or civil engineers makes it just that much harder to compete economically and professionally. As a member of the queer community myself, I strongly believe that the lack of standardized, codified privileges facing our profession is of incredible importance to correct. Commercial interior designers want proper legal regulation and privileges for the work that we are qualified to do and, actually, are already doing."

Celebrating Success in Wisconsin & Illinois

In March of 2022, Wisconsin's Senate Bill 344 passed, with support from ASID, IIDA, and CIDQ, successfully codifying holistic interior design legislation and significantly expanding the scope of interior design in Wisconsin.

The new legislation reinforces the critical role of Wisconsin interior designers who protect occupant health safety in their work through robust practice rights and a strong scope of practice.

The bill removes several barriers for designer registration and establishes the Department of Safety and Professional Services (DSPS) as the bureau in charge of the industry's

certifications. The legislation further allows designers in Wisconsin to stamp and seal construction documents.

Upon its passage, IIDA Executive Vice President and CEO, Cheryl S. Durst stated, **"I am pleased to see legislators acknowledging the skill, talent, and critical value of interior designers and their practice. The work they do is vital not only to inspire and empower, but also to create safe, healthy, and highly functional environments."**

In June of 2022, Illinois' Governor, J.B.. Pritzker signed into law House Bill 4715, which was voted on unanimously by the Illinois House and Senate. This historic legislation recognizes interior design as a distinct profession in the built environment and acknowledges the crucial role professional interior designers play in protecting occupant health, safety, and well-being.

The legislation expands the scope of interior design with permitting privileges for interior designers to stamp and seal plans, thus defining interior designers as professionals who protect and advance occupant health safety in their work.

"Interior designers are highly-skilled professionals who must have significant qualifications to pursue a career in the industry," said the bill's co-sponsor, State Representative Margaret Croke. "This bill will allow designers to stamp their own design plans for non-structural construction, removing an unnecessary barrier for those in the industry. Interior design is a traditionally female-dominated industry, and I'm proud to lead efforts to ease the challenges they face."

HB 4715 represents the next chapter of an initiative shared by IIDA, ASID, and CIDQ to codify legislation that accurately and comprehensively reflects the modern interior design practice and its ever-expanding role.

"Interior designers bring an extensive body of knowledge, experience, and care to their profession, and this legislation reaffirms their impressive qualifications," said ASID CEO Gary Wheeler, FASID. "We are grateful to the state of Illinois for recognizing the profession's value and empowering designers to be true custodians of health and safety in the built environment. ASID is committed to advocating for our members, the profession, and the public as we continue to lead the national movement around practice rights."



Gary Wheeler
CEO | ASID



Cheryl Durst
Executive VP & CEO | IIDA

How are Interior Designers Regulated?

Design Profession Regulations in California

	Architects	Landscape Architects	Civil Engineers	Interior Designers
National Qualifying Exam	Architects Registration Examination (ARE)	Landscape Architects Registration Examination (LARE)	Professional Engineer Examination (PE)	No national examination required
State-Specific Exam	Architecture California Supplemental Examination (CSE)	Landscape Architecture California Supplemental Examination (CSE)	California Civil Seismic Principles (CSP) and Civil Engineering Surveying (CES) Examinations	California Interior Design Examination (IDEX)
Registration/Certification Title	Codified title of Architect	Codified title of Landscape Architect	Codified title of Civil Engineer	Codified title of Certified Interior Designer & non-codified title of Certified Interior Designer with a Commercial Designation
Regulating Body	California Architects Board	Landscape Architects Technical Committee under California Architects Board	California Board for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors	California Council of Interior Design Certification (not a state board)
Stamping/Signing Privileges	Stamping and sealing privileges	Stamping and sealing privileges	Stamping and sealing privileges	No established sealing privileges within California building departments

Comparison of Competencies

New data illustrates similarities and distinctions between the peer professions of architecture and interior design

Following careful research and discussion, the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (NCARB) and the Council for Interior Design Qualification (CIDQ) have completed a years-long study to identify several areas of definite similarity between the professions, as well as areas where there is some similarity or no similarity. Their provides a summary of these similarities and differences, as well as a detailed breakdown of any commonality between each task and each assessment objective.

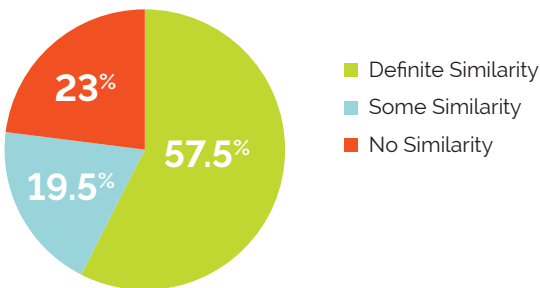
As the regulation of interior design continues to evolve in the United States, a

growing number of licensing boards jointly regulate both architecture and interior design. This report can be used to inform the public about these professions and licensing boards as they establish rules and requirements in their role to protect the public's health, safety, and welfare. IIDA's California chapters appreciate CIDQ and NCARB's leadership with this research and pursuit for understanding and will use its major findings to advocate for expanded scope of interior design practice in California.

From the collective team, the analysis found the following:

CIDQ

Practice Analysis of Interior Design
based on 87 total tasks
PERCENTAGE OF COMPETENCIES

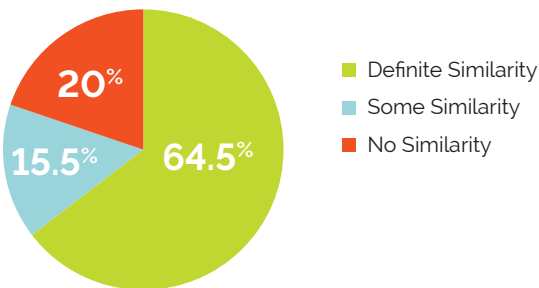


(78%) 67 of the 87 tasks in CIDQ's Practice Analysis reflected **Definite Similarity** or **Some Similarity** to NCARB's tasks

(23%) 20 of the 87 of tasks in CIDQ's Practice Analysis reflected **No Similarity** to NCARB's tasks

NCARB

Practice Analysis of Architecture
based on 87 total tasks
PERCENTAGE OF COMPETENCIES



(80%) 77 of the 96 tasks in NCARB's Practice Analysis reflected **Definite Similarity** or **Some Similarity** to CIDQ's tasks

(20%) 19 of the 96 of tasks in NCARB's Practice Analysis reflected **No Similarity** to CIDQ's tasks

04

Legislator of the Year

IIDA'S Northern and Southern California Chapters Honor State Senator Dave Cortese

IIDA is proud to recognize State Senator Dave Cortese as the 2021 Legislator of the Year. This annual award recognizes an elected official who has put forth extraordinary effort on behalf of a cause championed by the commercial interior design community.

Senator Cortese represents Senate District 15 which encompasses much of Santa Clara County, the heart of Silicon Valley. Along with his accomplished career as an attorney and business owner, the Senator previously served on the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors, the San Jose City Council, and the East Side Union High School District Board.

In Spring of 2021, IIDA's Northern and Southern California boards both voted to publicly support SB 31 and SB 32 both authored by Senator Cortese. The bills target the decarbonization of buildings as a way of combating global warming - an area of clear importance to the architecture and design industry. Both California chapters of IIDA were eager to advocate for this important legislation, especially as they believe more radical action is needed to move the needle on slowing and ultimately reversing climate change. Senator Cortese showed great leadership in championing the fight against our changing climate even though neither bill ultimately made it to the Governor's desk.

"As IIDA engages with lawmakers regarding SB31 and SB32, we also have the opportunity to educate our representatives about our profession, our skills, and our impact on the health and safety of their constituents," says Laura Taylor, VP of Advocacy for IIDA's Northern California chapter.

IIDA advocacy ambassadors who are constituents of Senator Cortese presented the award in April at his district office in Campbell, California in San Mateo County.



From left to right: **Adam Newton** (Asst VP of Advocacy), **Melanie Harbert** (Silicon Valley Advocacy Chair), **Nick Steele** (Former VP of Advocacy Co-Chair), **Senator Dave Cortese**, **Verda Alexander** (IIDA NC Chapter President 2021-22)

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As IIDA engages with lawmakers regarding SB 31 and SB 32, we also have the opportunity to educate our representatives about our profession, our skills, and our impact on the health and safety of their constituents.

Laura Taylor
VP of Advocacy
IIDA Northern California

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Call to Action



6 Ways to Get Involved

1

STAY INFORMED

For the latest updates on Commercial Interior Design legislation, text "InteriorDesign" to **52886**.

2

HOST A WORKSHOP

If you are interested in holding a lunchtime or virtual introductory workshop about interior design advocacy in your office, please contact advocacy@iidanc.org.

3

KNOW WHO YOUR REPRESENTATIVES ARE

Find out who represents you in California's State Senate and State Assembly by visiting findyourrep.legislature.ca.gov and searching both your home and work addresses. Once you know who represents you, follow them on social media. Remember, they work for you!

4

BECOME NCIDQ CERTIFIED

NCIDQ Certification is the industry's nationwide recognized indicator of proficiency in interior design principles and a designer's commitment to the profession. IIDA argues that the qualifying exam for certified or registered commercial interior designers in California should be the [NCIDQ exam](#).

5

JOIN THE EFFORT TO EDUCATE LOCAL OFFICIALS

We need committed individuals from every district willing to meet with their representatives and lobby for upcoming legislation regarding how interior designers practice in the state.

[Fill out this quick form](#) to help us build our network of design advocates in California. We occasionally call upon this network to represent our membership and educate public officials about the impact we make in our communities.

6

JOIN OUR ADVOCACY COMMITTEE

In addition to our VP of Advocacy and Assistant VP of Advocacy, each of our City Center committees has a position for Advocacy chair or Advocacy co-chairs.

APPLY NOW

Thank you to our 2022 Advocacy Sponsors

Patron contributions towards Advocacy enable Board members to advocate for the profession of interior design, collaborate with our Southern California Chapter, participate in legislative events, and give IIDA representatives face time with decision making legislators.

If you're interested in becoming a sponsor for IIDA NC's Advocacy initiatives, please reach out to our VP of Sponsorship:
sponsorship@iidanc.org.

Northern California
Supporting Sponsors

RAW

PIVOT



Interested in joining our advocacy efforts in California? Reach out to **your** local IIDA advocates!

Northern California:
advocacy@iidanc.org

Southern California:
christine.peter@iida-socal.org
nicole.dehlin-grant@iida-socal.org

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