

## 2011 BILL IMPROVEMENTS:

1. This bill only regulates “registered interior designers”, and no longer pertains to the practice of interior design.  
**INTERIOR DESIGN and INTERIOR DESIGNERS ARE FULLY EXEMPT.** The bill has been updated to clearly identify that “Interior Design cannot be regulated under this chapter”. **THERE HAS BEEN CONFUSION** in the past regarding this issue. The updated language resolves this and allows interior designers not seeking to work in regulated occupancies to practice as they are legally allowed to today without becoming registered.
2. Grandfathering requirements have been reduced from 15 years to 8 years. Allowing more “experience only” more interior designers access to registration.
3. Multiple education paths added to allow more interior designers access to registration.
4. “Alternates to education” added to allow more interior designers access to registration.
5. More power is given to the board. Allowing case by case review of applicants, increasing access to registration.

## WHAT THIS BILL WILL DO:

**EXPAND THE SCOPE OF PRACTICE:** This bill gives interior designers the right to work as they are educated, trained and tested, but legally prohibited from doing so today. If passed it allows “registered interior designers” to provide services in any occupancy and any square footage for non-structural interior spaces without review or supervisory control of an architect or engineer. **IT DOES NOT PREVENT ANYONE FROM PROVIDE INTERIOR DESIGN SERVICES.**

**GIVE STAMP & SEAL PRIVILEGES:** This bill allows “registered interior designers” the right to stamp and seal non-structural interior documents for the purposes of permitting.

**ALLOW STATE & FEDERAL CONTRACT BIDDING:** This bill allows “registered interior designers” the right to submit bids and perform work on non-structural interior projects requiring “registered design professionals” .

**PROTECT THE TITLE:** “Registered interior designer” is the title being protected under the bill. This bill does not prohibit the use of (or protect) the terms “interior design” or “interior designer” or the performance of those services. Anyone can continue using those terms and performing those services without being registered under this act.

**SEE BACK OF SHEET FOR EXEMPTIONS & REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS**



## REQUIREMENTS FOR BECOMING A 'REGISTERED INTERIOR DESIGNER':

**EDUCATION:** An interior design degree from an institution of higher education which includes no less than sixty semester or ninety quarter hour of interior design coursework that culminates in a degree or diploma; **OR** a substantially equivalent program of interior design education approved by the board **OR** the alternate education review process as determined by the board.

**EXPERIENCE:** Proof of documented experience of no less than 3,520 hours of interior design work experience.

**EXAMINATION:** Verification that the applicant has passed the required examination determined by the board. [The Board shall adopt an appropriate national examination that is administered by a nontrade organization that tests only proficiencies in codes and practices relating to nonstructural interior building systems and construction standards in residential and commercial buildings]

**ARCHITECT'S OPTION:** A registered architect may be granted a certificate with documented proof of six years of combined education and diversified experience in the practice of interior design as reviewed and approved by the board.

**GRANDPARENTING:** Applicants with eight (8) years of documented proof of diversified experience in the practice of interior design as approved by the board may register under this act with proof of passage of the code section of the required examination. Accommodation for individuals to sit for the code section will be provided by the board.

**CONTINUING EDUCATION:** A registered interior designer shall, as part of his or her license renewal, certify that he or she has completed the required continuing professional development as determined by the board.

**RECIPROCITY:** Applicants who are registered interior designers in another state or territory of the United States, the District of Columbia, or another country, may be granted a certificate of registration if the applicants qualifications and experience are determined by the board to be equivalent to those required in WA State.

**EXEMPTIONS:** This bill WILL NOT affect or prevent:

- The practice of architecture, landscape architecture, engineering, or naval architecture, or any legally recognized profession or trade not registered under this bill.
- An architect who is registered under applicable Washington State laws from providing interior design services or registered interior design services providing that such architects do not refer to themselves as registered interior designers unless registered by this bill.
- Any person from calling him or herself an interior designer or offering interior design services provided that he or she does not refer to him or herself as a registered interior designer.
- Any person who provides decorative services, or assistance in selection of decorative accessories, surface materials, window treatments, wall coverings, paint, floor coverings, lighting fixtures which are not part of a structure, plumbing fixtures which are not a part of a structure, cabinetry, surface-mounted fixtures, and loose furnishings and equipment not subject to review by the building department or jurisdictional fire codes.
- Any employee of a retail establishment, wholesale establishment, or commercial furniture dealership providing consultation or furnishings in the furtherance of a sale or prospective sale.
- Any person from doing interior design work including preparing construction contract documents and administration of the construction contract for:
  - (a) Residential buildings regardless of the size of the building as long as it does not contain more than four dwelling units;
  - (b) Residential buildings of more than four dwelling units, but only if the entire completed building is less than 4,000 square feet;
  - (c) Non-Residential buildings of any occupancy not exceeding 4,000 square feet.
- Drafters, clerks, project managers, superintendents, and other employees or consultants of a registered interior designer from acting under the instructions, control, or supervision of their employers.
- The construction, alteration, or supervision of construction by contractors or superintendents employed by contractors or the preparation of shop drawings in connection therewith.
- Owners or registered contractors from engaging persons who are not registered interior designers or registered architects to observe and supervise construction of a project.
- Any person who prepares plans, drawings or specifications for buildings for their own private residential use.