



QUICK FACTS ON HB-1788: WE HAVE THE ABILITY, WE NEED THE RIGHT

HB-1788 opens opportunities for interior designers in our state that are only available to other licensed professionals, such as architects or engineers. Interior designers need the right to produce, sign and submit non-structural documents to building officials for the purpose of permitting. Numerous interior designers in Washington State are educated, trained and tested to perform these duties, but are denied the right. This legislation will preserve the current scope of practice for interior designers who decide that licensure is not the right path for their career, but will allow interior designers who want to register and work in regulated occupancies the opportunity to do so.

HB-1788 WILL:

- Create jobs and spur small business growth for interior designers
- Expand opportunities and give interior designers more leverage in the marketplace
- Allow "registered interior designers" to stamp and seal non-structural interior documents for permitting
- Allow for multiple paths to registration including "alternate education options"
- Give consumers a clear choice and reduce project costs by eliminating redundant document processing fees
- Allow "registered interior designers" to bid on state and federal interior contracts requiring "registered design professionals"
- Establish continued education and benchmarking for "registered interior designers"

HB-1788 WILL NOT:

- Put anyone out of business or prevent them from practicing interior design as they are legally allowed today
- Prevent anyone from calling himself or herself an interior designer or decorator
- Require a CIDA accredited degree to become registered
- Affect architects regulated under RCW 18.08
- Affect retail, wholesale or furniture dealerships
- Require or force anyone to become a "registered interior designer"
- Require or force anyone to hire a "registered interior designer"

WHAT THIS BILL MEANS TO WASHINGTON STATE:

SMALL BUSINESS JOB CREATION - Interior design registration opens new opportunities for independent interior designers who have lost jobs from large architecture and design firms. This bill would create jobs and allow interior designers to practice in the commercial design sector where they are currently limited from practicing to their fullest extent.

BIDDING ON STATE CONTRACTS - This legislation will allow registered interior designers the opportunity to bid on state and federal contracts that are currently prohibited because they are not "registered design professionals".

INCREASE CONSUMER CHOICE & REDUCE PROJECT COSTS - This bill gives consumers more choice. It will allow clients to hire interior designers for projects they were previously unable. It also gives consumers clear choices on what type of professional is qualified for their projects, beyond aesthetic considerations. Allowing interior designers the opportunity to seal and sign documents for permitting would reduce project costs that directly affect the consumer's bottom line in this challenging economy, by removing duplicated reviewing fees.