



Support Senate Bill 12-120(Senator Foster/Rep. Massey)

Concerning the existing ability of qualified interior designers to submit certain interior design construction documents to local government officials in connection with an application for a building permit.

CLARIFIES EXISTING STATUTE. SB 120 would help correct the problem of inconsistent treatment by local building officials of reviewing interior design construction documents. Although current law allows qualified interior designers to submit interior design drawings and specifications for review, some officials refuse to accept them, thus leading to increased costs and project delays. SB 120 would clarify the existing law by placing the existing directive within the appropriate state statutes concerning municipal and county building codes.

CREATES NO NEW REGULATIONS AND REQUIRES NO GENERAL FUND DOLLARS. SB 120 is a legislative solution that creates no new regulations and requires no general fund or cash fund dollars. Moving the existing statute (which is currently embedded within the state's engineering act) to the state's municipal and county building codes statutes should provide better awareness, clarification, and guidance to local building officials when accepting interior design construction documents.

FOSTERS COLORADO'S GROWING DESIGN INDUSTRY. The interior design industry continues to grow in Colorado and contribute to the state's economy. Currently, at least seven institutions of higher education have degree programs in interior design, and enrollment continues to increase in such institutions as Colorado State University and the Art Institute of Colorado. As students graduate from these institutions, clarifying this existing law should improve the ability of these graduates to use their degree to their fullest extent and allow them to remain in the state as practicing professionals.

ASSISTS SMALL BUSINESSES. Interior design firms are overwhelmingly small businesses. There are an estimated 450 interior design firms in Colorado, not including the hundreds of interior designers who are sole proprietors. Most of these businesses (85%) employ less than five workers. The consistent recognition of interior design construction documents would enable designers to file their drawings in a timely manner without hiring outside services, which can lead to increased costs and time delays.

PLEASE SUPPORT SB 120

For more information or to ask any questions, please contact:
Steve Balcerovich (720-351-2007) or Kathy Oatis (303-808-2710)

*The Colorado Interior Design Coalition (CIDC) is a not-for-profit, volunteer organization that was established to represent the design community since 1998. The organization continues to grow, adding over 300 members in 2011. Our mission is to act as a **single voice** to represent, protect, and promote the Interior Design profession in legislative and regulatory matters.*