



GRAction

a government relations newsletter published by the association for interior design professionals

August 2008

In This Edition

- ❖ [Note from VP of GRA](#)
- ❖ [Welcome New VPs of GRA](#)
- ❖ [Congratulations!](#)
- ❖ [NCSL in New Orleans](#)
- ❖ [State Updates](#)
- ❖ [Get Published](#)
- ❖ [Privacy Policy](#)
- ❖ [GRA Questions?](#)

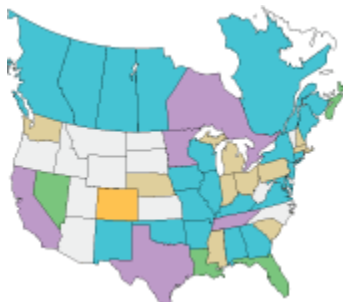
IIDA Web Site Links

[About](#)
[Membership](#)
[Education](#)
[Legislation](#)
[Member Login](#)
[Join IIDA](#)
[Career Center](#)
[Knowledge Center](#)
[Foundation](#)
[Perspective](#)
[Online Store](#)
[Contact](#)

GRA Resources

[Coalitions](#)
[Definitions](#)
[Interior Design Laws of North America](#)
[Language Errata](#)
[NCIDO Talking Points](#)
[Practice \(And Title\) Makes Perfect](#)
[Practice Legislation](#)
[Rules & Regulations](#)
[State Licensing Guide](#)
[Take Action!](#)
[Title Legislation](#)

Interior Design Laws of North America



- Title Act
- Practice Act
- Permitting Statute

Note From VP of GRA

As the Vice President of Government and Regulatory Affairs, I would like to welcome those who have recently joined the GRA Committee. Thank you in advance for the time and effort you will be devoting to your position on your board. Your passion and interest to see your state maintain, monitor or pass interior design licensure is greatly appreciated.

NeoCon '08 is behind us and I hope you had a very successful time in Chicago. The Chapter Leadership Conference was held prior to NeoCon and was well attended. The GRA staff and I gave a presentation to your Chapter Leadership that is available to you through IIDA Headquarters. It is a good educational tool for those of you who are in the beginning stages of forming a legislative coalition.

It was good to put names with faces at our in-person GRA committee meeting at IIDA's new LEED Gold headquarters. The committee held an open discussion about legislation ensuring that all interior designers in all states are qualified by the three E's to promote the health, safety and welfare of the public through interior design licensure.

We also had a very interesting and informative round table discussion. Kristie Nicoloff, the VP of GRA with the Carolinas Chapter, gave a presentation on the sales tax issues that have arisen in her Chapter. Katherine Setser, the VP of GRA with the Tennessee Chapter, presented her research on Cases of Harm. Both presentations will facilitate a more educated Member and help keep an offensive perspective as we move forward in our respective states.

Once again, I hope all of you are doing well and I wish you blessings and prosperity in business, legislation and life.

Regards,

Laura Brett Tribble, IIDA, ASID
IIDA Vice President of Government and Regulatory Affairs

Welcome New VPs of GRA

Welcome to all of the new and returning IIDA Chapter Board Members. We have many continuing VPs of GRA, some returning to the position, and others new to their Chapter Boards. From all sides, there is a huge amount of experience and enthusiasm, and we're looking forward to working with all of your Chapters to make 2008-09 a successful year. Welcome aboard!

- Legislation Introduced
- Title Act Enacted,
Practice Act Introduced

Get Published in GRAction

Do you have an article or image to share? Members are invited to submit content and images related to bill language, codes, coalitions, construction, interior design laws and regulations, legislation, and other issues relating to the practice of interior design to alevy@iida.org to be included in a future edition of GRAction.

IIDA Privacy Policy

IIDA takes your privacy seriously. We will not share your email, phone number or fax number with outside parties. To learn more about what IIDA is doing to protect you, view our [Privacy Policy](#).

GRA Questions?

Contact [Allison Levy](#), Managing Director of GRA at IIDA HQ.

send-to-friend

enter forwarding email

Send

Congratulations

Congratulations are in order to the hard working designers in North Carolina, who will no longer be taxed on their design services when products are sold as a result of the design fee. On July 16, 2008 HB2436 was signed into law by Governor Easley. For more information, visit www.cidl.org.

In Massachusetts, House Bill 4731 has officially been enacted by both the House and the Senate. The bill was to enable designers to respond on their own as a design professional to state RFPs which specifically request the services of an interior designer. Unfortunately, the bill was then returned, unsigned, by the Governor. For more information, visit www.midclink.org.

NCSL in New Orleans

July 22 through 25, IIDA participated as an exhibitor at the Annual Meeting of the National Conference of State Legislatures, held in New Orleans, LA. IIDA and ASID shared a booth in the exhibition hall, where they had the opportunity to provide information about interior design and network with other conference attendees. Special thanks to Michigan Chapter Members Carolyn Dwyer, Industry IIDA and Linda Thomas, IIDA, ASID, and Delta Regional Chapter Members Kathleen Mumme, IIDA, Karen Carbo, IIDA, ASID, Pam Bordelon, IIDA, and Dru Lamb, IIDA, who all helped staff the booth.

State GRA Updates

Alabama

With assistance from the Attorney General, revisions have been made to the interior design laws in Alabama to incorporate comments and questions from various courts and the state legislature. The revisions allow for decorators and retailers not tied to retail sales to charge fees for the services they provide. The revisions do not allow for the use of restricted terms and titles. This law is referred to as the "2006" law, and is currently in effect. The State Board has also revised their Administrative Code to comply with the revisions and approved it this month for submission to the legislature. The State Board will start charging yearly dues of \$125 again. Registered designers will have from October 2008 to September 2009 to earn the required CEUs. Failure to turn in the required eight hours of CEU credits by September 2008 will result in the loss of license and the loss of the use of terms and titles as dictated by

Mississippi

In Mississippi the interior design coalition is busy working with its other organizations to craft bill language to satisfy the concerns raised by the original interior design bill.

Pat Agnew is the new VP of GRA for the Delta Regional Chapter. She is located in Mississippi and will following our progress.

Nebraska

Nebraska is continuing the momentum from last year's legislative efforts. Half of the Senate will be newly elected this fall. The coalition is planning a Garage Sale event in September and a fall membership blitz. We also continue working to define local corporate support of legislation and to hold discussions with other interested organizations.

law.

Arizona

On June 20, 2008 the Interior Design Coalition of Arizona (IDCA) held its first in an ongoing series of informational meetings, "Dispelling the Myths". With approximately 60 people in attendance at the Collins College/Phoenix location, David Stone, IDCA President, along with Rob Dalager, IDCA lobbyist with Gallagher and Kennedy, presented a synopsis of the legislative efforts at present. The two continued the discussion by reviewing the 'myths' regarding the currently proposed legislation including those gathered from the participants' registration forms and taking questions from the group. The intent of the discussion was to further inform designers of IDCA's efforts. IDCA has other discussion sessions planned, "Dispelling the Myths II", for early September in both Tucson and Phoenix, and intends to continue the informational series into the early Fall in preparation for the 2009 legislative session.

California

The Southern California Chapter and the Northern California Chapter, as part of the IDCC coalition, were involved in the introduction of Practice Act legislation during the spring of 2008. California Senate Bill 1312, authored by Senator Leland Yee, was successfully introduced through the Business and Professions Committee and made it through Finance/Appropriations. The bill was ultimately pulled when opposition by the community colleges made passage by the full Senate unlikely.

Plans are to continue to work toward acceptance of a reintroduced bill. Increased focus has been placed on getting more groups 'in support of' or 'neutral' to this legislation going forward.

Georgia

North Carolina

The last few weeks have been fast and furious in the NC Legislature. Many designers have participated in the sub-committee hearings either by speaking or just in presence. Bills have been introduced in both the House and Senate and now the language has been combined and added to a new larger, budget bill, 2436. On July 16, 2008 the Governor signed the bill into law. Effective August 1, 2008 there will no longer be tax levied on interior design services when products are sold as a result of the design fee. Thank you to all who were involved!

Ohio

HB340 was introduced into the House by Representative Larry Flowers at the end of last year, and has been referred to the House Commerce and Labor Committee. HB340 is a Title Act that would allow designers who passed the NCIDQ to register with the state as a "Certified Interior Designer". This bill would still allow designers who have not passed or taken the NCIDQ exam to be identified as an "Interior Designer". The Coalition of Interior Designers for Legislation in Ohio, Inc. (CIDLO) encourages you to write your representative asking them for their support. For more information visit www.cidlo.org.

Oklahoma

Everyone attending Metrocon, August 14 and 15 in Dallas, is invited to stop by the OI DC booth. For more information, visit www.oicd.info.

Oregon

IDC-Oregon collaborated with IIDA Oregon Chapter in May and invited Denise Guerin, Ph.D. to speak about health, safety, welfare in interior design.

The IIDA Georgia Chapter will be holding their kick-off board retreat meeting the weekend of August 15-17 where planning will be under way to support the state coalition (GAIDP) in their efforts to provide a Fall CEU Event and to develop a strategic plan for GRA action for the year. Included will be developing plans for various educational events with Atlanta area practitioners and student chapters, as well as initial planning for the second annual "Designers' Day at the Capitol" Event in conjunction with GAIDP, which is tentatively scheduled for Spring '09.

Illinois

There is currently a joint effort underway between IIDA and ASID to host post NCIDQ sessions to encourage people who are NCIDQ certified to get their Illinois Interior Design Registrations. There is also a grassroots effort in conjunction with the Illinois Interior Design Coalition to encourage people who qualify for the NCIDQ exam to take their exam and to understand the importance of education, examination and registration of people in the profession. The IIDA Illinois Chapter also holds pre-NCIDQ sessions to encourage people to take the NCIDQ exam to aid in the effort of getting Interior Design professionals registered for their licenses.

Iowa

The Iowa Interior Design Examination Board is promoting registration among all eligible interior designers and architects in Iowa. Those design professionals meeting the requirements can be recognized as a Registered Interior Designer in the State of Iowa. Registrants must maintain continuing education to maintain and renew their certification.

For more information about becoming a Registered Interior Designer please contact Sylvia R. King, Executive Director, Iowa Interior Design Examining Board at 515-281-7356. Registration

The presentation was titled "Health, Safety, Welfare: What does it Really Mean?" Dr. Guerin's presentation was spot on and helped the audience understand the relevance of HSW, heightening awareness and understanding about the impact interior design has on the HSW of the public. The real-life examples she presented helped everyone recognize and appreciate some of the more subtle complexities of our profession.

We revisited our strategic plan and are implementing a five-year plan that will allow us to seek more support and gain better understanding about the definition and value of interior design. We continue to reach out to the various design organizations through legislative round table discussions and are currently organizing our first big event: Designer Jeopardy which was held on July 31st. The intention of this event is to bring designers together and raise awareness about the differences and similarities among the profession.

Oregon's legislative session begins January 2009 and IDC-Oregon will begin working to familiarize ourselves with the general process, vocabulary, and procedures associated with legislation during this time.

Pennsylvania

KMA will be donating \$5 to IDLCPA for every designer that attends their August 21 product show at their showroom, 2501 Butler Street in Pittsburgh. There will be a product show from noon to 6:30 pm with a Jimmy Buffett wrap up party to follow. For more information, or to rsvp, contact Alicia Condie, acondie@kma-associates.com, or Karen Newman, knewman@kma-associates.com.

South Carolina

2008 has been an active year for the SC Interior Design Coalition. The primary focus has been developing legislation to create an Interior Design Practice Act

Certificates are now available.

Kentucky

Dr. Peggy Sharon, IIDA, KYCID, has been reappointed by the Governor to be the Interior Design Member of the Kentucky Board of Architects and Certified Interior Designers. This is her second term. The Louisville/Lexington City Center will be hosting a legislative program on September 10 in Lexington, KY. Amy Vice, Executive Secretary on the Board, will be speaking on the importance of becoming Certified, how the certification and renewal process works and what we can do to help educate the general public. For more information, contact iidalouisvillelexington@yahoo.com.

Massachusetts

Massachusetts House Bill 4731, An Act to Recognize the Profession of Interior Designers to Bid on State Contracts, sponsored by Representative Lou Kafka has officially been enacted by both the House and the Senate. The bill recognizes interior designers as a "design professional" which would allow them to respond to state RFPs which specifically request the services of an interior designer. Currently, interior designers are required to become consultants to those who are a registered design professional (e.g., registered architects, registered engineers, etc.) to offer their services. Unfortunately, the bill was returned - without being signed - by the Governor.

The IIDA-New England Chapter is working with MIDC, who is hosting the premier Massachusetts Interior Design Golf Outing to benefit the endeavor to obtain professional stature of Registered Interior Designers in Massachusetts. The event is scheduled for Wednesday, August 13, 2008 on Nicklaus Course at Pinehills Golf Course in Plymouth, MA. You can find more info on MIDC's website, www.midclink.org.

that provides appropriate consumer protection and public awareness without placing a burden on homeowners or jeopardizing the success of those who currently provide design services.

With that goal in mind, nearly one hundred interior designers, design students and professors descended on the SC State House in January to meet with lawmakers and encourage support for Interior Design legislation. The SCIDC hosted a legislative breakfast where they displayed examples of interior design and helped dispel the myth that designers just pick out paint chips and draperies. A number of the participating designers testified before the House Labor, Commerce and Industry Committee in support of our legislation and a broad range of proponents, including a number of architects, provided letters of support to members of the Committee.

Since then, the Coalition has been working hard to perfect the legislation, build our base of grassroots support and encourage designers across the state to get to know their Senators and Representatives and tell the Interior Design story to lawmakers across South Carolina. The Coalition will continue those efforts heading into the November election in preparation for the new two-year legislative session that will begin in January.

Tennessee

The Tennessee Chapter, as a participant in the Tennessee Interior Design Coalition, continues to monitor the state Board of Architectural & Engineering Examiners for actions which affect interior designers.

The Coalition is also preparing for the 2009 Session of the Tennessee Legislature, convening January 13, 2009, where we hope to introduce and pass a Practice Act. To this end they are:

- Redrafting the legislation to address concerns and suggestions of legislators and interior designers

Michigan

Currently in Michigan the state legislators are not in session, but Chapter Members have not rested on their laurels. CIDR has begun a special task force group to focus on the Senate hearing committee in order to apply some pressure. In addition, the President of CIDR and the Michigan Chapter VP of GRA attended the NCSL in New Orleans to increase CIDR's networking efforts.

The CIDR 13th Annual Golf Outing at Forest Akers West in East Lansing is on August 13, 2008 and CIDR looks forward to another successful event.

For questions or concerns about this or other CIDR events, including sponsorship opportunities, contact Wendi Reynolds, Golf Outing Chair at 248-343-8954 or Wendi_Reynolds@yahoo.com.

- Meeting with interior design groups/associations to explain the bill, listen to and address concerns in order to obtain their support and enlist their assistance
- Continuing dialogue with legislators and participating in legislative elections via campaign contributions and participation in campaigns; and
- Engaging in discussions with the Governor's Office to explain and gain support for the Practice Act.

Texas

Everyone attending Metrocon, August 14 and 15 in Dallas, is invited to stop by the TAID booth. For more information, visit TAID online, at www.supporttaid.org.

Minnesota

The Northland Chapter continues to work with its coalition, MIDLAC (Minnesota Interior Design Legislative Action Coalition), in the pursuit for a Practice Act in Minnesota. The Practice Act bills are HF991 and SF799 authored by House Representative Thissen. This past year, the coalition made great progress at the Capitol including many meetings with legislators, a Rally Day at the Capitol and a very informal informational hearing with the Commerce Committee. Over the summer we are continuing our sponsorship initiatives including developing a seminar series for this fall.

Washington

In June, there was media coverage by NPR titled "Northwest Interior Designers Want Greater Respect" and its legislation in Washington State. In July, there was the first annual Summer Block Party with over 300 design professionals celebrating the design community this year. The event set a new standard for collaboration as architects, engineers, landscape architects, industrial and interior designers, and students all joined forces in the South Lake Union neighborhood. The collaborating organizations in Washington State were AIA, ASID, ASLA, IDCW, IDSA, IIDA, and SEAW.

IIDA THE FUTURE OF DESIGN

International Interior Design Association
222 Merchandise Mart Plaza, Suite 567, Chicago, IL 60654 USA
If you prefer not to receive future IIDA emails, please [unsubscribe here](#).
www.iida.org | [Privacy Policy](#)

