



Oregon

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Board of Architect Examiners

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Testimony for:

HB 2268: Architect Regulation Law, ORS 671.010-220

MEASURE: HB 2268

EXHIBIT: _____

H BUSINESS & LABOR

DATE: 2/6/2013 PAGES: 1

SUBMITTED BY: James Demro

Madam Chair and members of the Committee,

Thank you for considering HB 2268 today. This bill was drafted in an effort to bring the statutory language up to date in the regulation of the architecture profession in Oregon. Over time, codes and laws, industry terminology, construction documents and document submittal technologies, and state agency licensing technologies have changed. As a result, portions of the statute have become obsolete or dated. This bill seeks to bring the statutory language up to date, and to provide for such things as registration, renewal periods, and document sealing requirements to be set by rule.

The bill does not alter any of the regulations governing the architecture profession, and will not add any financial costs to the profession, the public or governmental agencies. The changes will, however, facilitate efforts by the agency to update and streamline processes in order to make registration and renewal of registration simpler for licensees.

The following issues will be resolved by the language changes proposed in this bill:

- Removing the January 31st renewal deadline for architectural firms will allow for a different date or a multi-year renewal to be established if deemed desirable by the stakeholders and the agency.
- Removing the requirement for applications to be submitted "15 days prior to any meeting of the board" and the "one year" renewal period allows for application dates, processes, and renewal cycles as established by rule.
- The Definitions section is updated in several places to provide clarity of terms used in statute and rule.
- Terminology relating to architectural practice and construction documents is brought into line with current usage.
- The terms "license" and "registration" are used similarly across the country in architect regulation, with some states using "license" and others using "registration." We have attempted to bring more consistency and clarity to the statutory language.
- Language updates recommend by Legislative Counsel will correct minor discrepancies, clarify language relating to architectural firms, bring the statute into line with current corporate law, change from criminal prosecution to civil penalty terminology, and correct miscellaneous statutes that contain references to licensed architects.

The Board of Architect Examiners developed this bill in cooperation with its stakeholders. The American Institute of Architects in Oregon helped us with this bill and supports it.

Thank you for your consideration today.





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What the measure does:

This is a statutory housekeeping measure. It will update definitions and statutory language in an effort to make the licensing law for architects in Oregon clearer. Over time, codes and industry terminology have changed making portions of the law dated or obsolete. It will also remove licensing cycles and deadlines from statute, allowing them to be established by administrative rule, providing opportunities for process streamlining by the Board of Architect Examiners.

HB 2268 makes no changes in policy or licensing requirements, and it would have no negative fiscal impact on the public, licensees or government agencies. The concept was developed with the full involvement and support of stakeholders.

Summary:

HB 2268 would accomplish the following:

- 1) Update the definitions section.
- 2) Clarify language relating to architectural firms.
- 3) Clarify language relating to construction documents, such as drawings, specifications, and plans.
- 4) Remove dates, licensing cycles, deadlines, and stamp requirements from statute, allowing these to be established by administrative rule.
- 5) Clean up miscellaneous language, such as usage of the words must, shall, license, and registration.

Fiscal Impact:

None

Contact Information:

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