

February 12, 2014

To: Senator Chip Shields, Chairperson & Committee Members of General Government Consumer and Small Business Protection

From: Ellen M Cusick, NCIDQ, IIDA; IDC-Oregon Legislative Chair

RE: SB 1521 Proposed Amendment - Public Hearing and Possible Work Session

Thank you, Senator Shields and committee members, for the opportunity to testify in support of the amendments to SB 1521.

My name is Ellen Cusick; I have been practicing Interior Design for 15 years and have been an educator for 12 years. My practice is focused on both residential and commercial interiors and I teach at Portland Community College and the Art Institute of Portland. I am a graduate of the Art institute, an NCIDQ certificate holder (#020947), IDC-Oregon Legislative Chair, and a member of IIDA.

As a representative for IDC-Oregon, we believe that establishing a work group is a welcome and necessary step to determine an appropriate place for the interior design board (as opposed to establishing a new board) and clarify what regulations should be imposed. The make up of the work group allows for all stakeholders to have a voice and to help shape the future of what it means to be a Registered Interior Designer in Oregon. We look forward to working with our colleagues on creating the best possible solution to fill a gap in the protection of public health, safety, and welfare in commercial buildings.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak to you regarding this important public safety issue.

Sincerely,

Ellen M Cusick, NCIDQ, IIDA