

**A-Engrossed**  
**House Bill 2153**

Ordered by the House April 7  
Including House Amendments dated April 7

Introduced and printed pursuant to House Rule 12.00. Pre-session filed (at the request of House Special Committee on Small Business Growth)

**SUMMARY**

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure.

*[Requires Oregon Business Development Department to establish voluntary registry for commercial interior designers. Requires department to establish minimum education and experience requirements for commercial interior designer to be included in registry.]*

*[Allows commercial interior designer included on registry to create and supervise carrying out of plans, drawings and specifications for parts of buildings other than structural systems or building envelope.]*

**Requires Department of Consumer and Business Services to establish voluntary certification system for commercial interior designers. Requires department to establish qualifications for certification. Specifies certain minimum qualifications for certification. Authorizes department to charge fee for certification application.**

**Affirms that certified commercial interior designers may submit described work for purposes of building inspection programs and may supervise preparation of work.**

**Provides that when described work is submitted or supervised by certified commercial interior designer, exemption of work from registration and licensing requirements for architects, engineers and construction contractors is conclusively presumed.**

**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

1  
2 Relating to commercial interior designers.

3 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

4 **SECTION 1. (1) As used in this section, "interior design experience program" means an**  
5 **apprenticeship program meeting the content area requirements of a national accrediting as-**  
6 **sociation for interior design or interior architecture and completed under the supervision of**  
7 **the holder of a certificate from a nationally accredited institution, a certified commercial**  
8 **interior designer or a registered architect.**

9 **(2) The Department of Consumer and Business Services shall establish a voluntary cer-**  
10 **tification program for commercial interior designers. The department shall adopt rules es-**  
11 **tablishing the qualifications necessary for certification. At a minimum, an applicant for**  
12 **certification must qualify in one of the following ways:**

13 **(a)(A) Hold a bachelor's degree in interior design or interior architecture obtained by**  
14 **completing at least 120 semester hours or 180 quarter hours of education or a master's de-**  
15 **gree in interior design or interior architecture;**

16 **(B) Successfully complete an interior design experience program that includes at least**  
17 **3,520 hours of experience; and**

18 **(C) Pass an examination administered by a national accrediting association for interior**  
19 **design or interior architecture.**

20 **(b)(A) Hold an associate's degree in interior design or interior architecture obtained by**

**NOTE:** Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter *[italic and bracketed]* is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 completing at least 60 semester or 90 quarter hours of education;

2 (B) Successfully complete an interior design experience program that includes at least  
3 of 5,280 hours of experience; and

4 (C) Pass an examination administered by a national accrediting association for interior  
5 design or interior architecture.

6 (c)(A) Have 10 years or more of full-time experience, or the equivalent, that a national  
7 accrediting association for interior design or interior architecture recognizes under an al-  
8 ternative review process as equivalent to the education and experience described in para-  
9 graph (b) of this subsection; and

10 (B) Pass an examination administered by a national accrediting association for interior  
11 design or interior architecture.

12 (3) To remain certified under this section, a commercial interior designer must attend  
13 continuing education recognized by a national accrediting association for interior design or  
14 interior architecture. The designer must attend an average of at least 10 hours of continuing  
15 education per year. The department shall establish the interval for reporting continuing ed-  
16 ucation.

17 (4) An application for commercial interior designer certification must be in a form ac-  
18 ceptable to the department.

19 (5) The department may charge a fee for the filing of applications under subsection (4)  
20 of this section. The department shall adopt an amount for the fee that is reasonably calcu-  
21 lated to compensate the department for expenses incurred in the administration and  
22 enforcement of the voluntary certification program.

23 (6) Any work described in section 2 of this 2017 Act that a certified commercial interior  
24 designer performs is conclusively presumed to be commercial interior design work that is  
25 exempt from licensing or registration requirements under ORS 671.010 to 671.220 or 672.002  
26 to 672.325 or ORS chapter 701.

27 (7) This section and section 2 of this 2017 Act do not restrict the scope of work that may  
28 otherwise be lawfully performed by a commercial interior designer, whether or not certified  
29 under this section.

30 **SECTION 2.** (1) A commercial interior designer certified under section 1 of this 2017 Act  
31 is qualified for purposes of any municipal building inspection program under ORS 455.148 or  
32 455.150, or a building inspection program administered and enforced by the Department of  
33 Consumer and Business Services, to submit plans, drawings, designs and specifications:

34 (a) Regarding architecture or engineering work that the designer has prepared as an  
35 employee of a registered architect or registered professional engineer;

36 (b) Drafted or otherwise prepared by the designer under the instruction, control or  
37 supervision of an employing registered architect or registered professional engineer;

38 (c) For a single family residential building or a farm building;

39 (d) For a garage, shed, shelter or other structure in connection with or auxiliary to a  
40 single family residential building or a farm building;

41 (e) For the construction, alteration or enlargement of a building or an appurtenance to  
42 a building, if the building has a ground area of 4,000 square feet or less, and is not more than  
43 20 feet in height from the top surface of lowest flooring to its highest interior overhead fin-  
44 ish;

45 (f) For the alteration or repair of a building, if:

1       **(A) The structural part of the building, including but not limited to the foundation walls,**  
2 **floors, roof, footings, bearing partitions, beams, columns and joists, is not involved;**

3       **(B) The building code classification for use or occupancy is not changed; and**

4       **(C) The building code classification by type of construction for the building is not**  
5 **changed; and**

6       **(g) For materials to be fabricated or consumed by a construction contractor.**

7       **(2) A certified commercial interior designer is qualified to supervise the preparation of**  
8 **plans, drawings, designs and specifications described in subsection (1)(c) to (f) of this section,**  
9 **whether or not the designer was the submitter of the plans, drawings, designs and specifi-**  
10 **cations for the work.**

11       **(3) A municipality administering and enforcing a building inspection program under ORS**  
12 **455.148 or 455.150 is not required to verify the certification of a commercial interior designer**  
13 **submitting plans, drawings, designs or specifications described in subsection (1) of this sec-**  
14 **tion to the municipality.**