
HOUSE BILL 2721

State of Washington

69th Legislature

2026 Regular Session

By Representatives Volz and Zahn

Read first time 02/04/26. Referred to Committee on Consumer Protection & Business.

1 AN ACT Relating to registered commercial interior designers;
2 amending RCW 18.08.330 and 18.08.340; adding a new chapter to Title
3 18 RCW; and prescribing penalties.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that in order to
6 safeguard life, health, and property and to promote public welfare,
7 it is necessary to regulate the practice of registered commercial
8 interior design. The practice of registered commercial interior
9 design in Washington is declared a professional practice, subject to
10 regulation and control in the public interest. It is a matter of
11 public interest and concern that the practice of registered
12 commercial interior design, as defined under this chapter, merits and
13 receives the confidence of the public and shall be limited to those
14 persons determined by the board to be qualified and registered under
15 this chapter.

16 It is the purpose of this chapter to promote, preserve, and
17 protect the public health, safety, and welfare by and through the
18 registration and regulation of persons, whether within or outside of
19 Washington, who engage in the practice of registered commercial
20 interior design within Washington. In furtherance of this purpose,
21 this chapter constitutes the Washington state board for architects

1 and registered commercial interior designers, whose members,
2 functions, and procedures shall be established in accordance with the
3 provisions of this chapter.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The definitions in this section apply
5 throughout this chapter unless the context clearly requires
6 otherwise.

7 (1) "Administration of the construction contract" means the
8 periodic observation of materials and work to observe the general
9 compliance with the construction contract documents and does not
10 include responsibility for supervising construction methods and
11 processes, site conditions, equipment operations, personnel, or
12 safety on the worksite.

13 (2) "Applicant" means an individual who seeks registration in
14 accordance with the requirements and processes set forth in this
15 chapter and as may be established by the board.

16 (3) "Approved educational program" means an educational program
17 as approved by the board.

18 (4) "Architect" means an individual who is registered as an
19 architect under chapter 18.08 RCW to practice architecture.

20 (5) "Board" means the Washington state board for architects and
21 registered commercial interior designers constituted under RCW
22 18.08.330 and governed by RCW 18.08.340.

23 (6) "Certificate of authorization" means a certificate issued by
24 the director to a business entity that authorizes the entity to
25 practice registered commercial interior design.

26 (7) "Certificate of registration" means the certificate issued by
27 the director to a newly registered commercial interior designer.

28 (8) "Council for interior design qualification" or "CIDQ" means
29 the council for interior design qualification or its successor.

30 (9) "Department" means the department of licensing.

31 (10) "Director" means the director of licensing.

32 (11) "Engineer" means an individual who is registered as an
33 engineer under chapter 18.43 RCW to practice engineering.

34 (12) "Interior nonstructural construction and alteration project"
35 means interior work within the building envelope that involves the
36 construction, modification, or removal of nonstructural elements that
37 do not affect the structural, seismic, or exterior envelope systems
38 of a building or structure.

1 (13) "Interior nonstructural element" means an interior assembly,
2 component, or finish located within a building that:

3 (a) Does not bear, support, or transfer structural loads to the
4 foundation, frame, or structural system of a building;

5 (b) Is not part of the building's primary or secondary structural
6 system, including but not limited to load-bearing walls, columns,
7 beams, floor and roof structural systems, and foundations;

8 (c) Can be constructed, altered, relocated, or removed without
9 compromising the structural integrity, stability, or safety of the
10 building;

11 (d) Includes, but is not limited to:

12 (i) Nonload-bearing interior partitions and demountable partition
13 systems;

14 (ii) Interior glazing systems, including glazing in nonload-
15 bearing walls;

16 (iii) Nonload-bearing interior ceiling assemblies, including
17 ceiling systems that do not contribute to the structural or seismic
18 integrity of the building, and raised access floor systems not
19 integral to the structural frame;

20 (iv) Interior finish assemblies such as flooring finishes, wall
21 and ceiling finishes, and applied surface treatments;

22 (v) Interior stairs that are not structural and are outside of
23 protected exit stairways;

24 (vi) Interior millwork, casework, cabinetry, and trim;

25 (vii) Interior hardware and door assemblies;

26 (viii) Decorative interior architectural elements that do not
27 affect structural performance; and

28 (ix) An element designed and installed in accordance with
29 prescriptive requirements for the seismic anchorage, bracing, or
30 restraint of interior nonstructural assemblies and components, as
31 permitted by applicable codes and standards, and not requiring
32 engineering analysis or certification.

33 (14) "National council for interior design qualification
34 certification" or "NCIDQ certification" means the certification
35 issued by the CIDQ for successful completion of the NCIDQ
36 examination.

37 (15) "Person" means any individual, partnership, professional
38 service corporation, corporation, joint stock association, joint
39 venture, or any other entity authorized to do business in the state.

1 (16) "Practice of registered commercial interior design" means
2 the analysis, planning, design, coordination, documentation, and
3 management of interior nonstructural construction and alteration
4 projects in compliance with applicable codes, standards, regulations,
5 and guidelines. The "practice of registered commercial interior
6 design" includes the following:

7 (a) Programming, space planning, predesign analysis, and
8 conceptual design of interior nonstructural elements;

9 (b) Preparation of documents and technical submissions related to
10 interior construction, finish materials, furnishings, fixtures, and
11 equipment;

12 (c) Rendering of designs, plans, drawings, specifications,
13 contract documents, and other interior technical submissions;

14 (d) Construction and contract administration for interior
15 nonstructural construction and alteration projects within a proposed
16 or existing building or structure;

17 (e) Alteration or construction of interior nonstructural
18 elements;

19 (f) Integration of interior nonstructural elements with
20 mechanical, electrical, and plumbing distribution systems, including
21 coordination of interior systems at points of connection to central
22 building infrastructure, as permitted by code. This may include, but
23 is not limited to, the layout of branch distribution, integration of
24 local equipment or panels dedicated to that space, and coordination
25 of consultant work as required;

26 (g) Coordination with structural engineers, as appropriate, to
27 confirm compatibility of interior nonstructural work with structural
28 elements and to identify any requirements affecting interior
29 construction;

30 (h) Documentation of prescriptive seismic anchorage and restraint
31 of interior nonstructural elements in accordance with code-recognized
32 methods; any required engineering analysis or certification remains
33 under the responsible design or manufacturing professional;

34 (i) Preparation of a physical plan of space within a proposed or
35 existing building or structure, in compliance with creating and
36 maintaining accessible, safe, and code-conforming environments,
37 including any of the following:

38 (i) Determination of spatial layouts creating or modifying
39 circulation paths;

1 (ii) Determination of egress requirements, including calculation
2 of occupant load, travel distance, egress width, number, and
3 arrangement of exits;

4 (iii) Design of interior egress components, including exit access
5 up to the protected vertical exits and exit discharge, and
6 modifications to an existing horizontal exit access within a
7 building, provided the resulting occupant load does not exceed the
8 existing or potential capacity of the building's shared egress
9 systems;

10 (iv) Assessment and analysis of interior life safety and fire
11 protection needs to comply with codes, standards, regulations, and
12 guidelines related to interior nonstructural elements, encompassing
13 the integration of design requirements for passive fire protection
14 systems and the coordination of active fire protection systems as
15 they affect interior construction and egress;

16 (v) Interior material selection and application for all portions
17 of an interior construction project, including the means of egress
18 system;

19 (vi) Compliance with applicable codes, standards, regulations and
20 guidelines, including coordination and verification of how existing
21 building systems outside the scope of practice may affect interior
22 nonstructural work;

23 (j) Documenting or referencing building systems, assemblies,
24 elements, or components outside the scope of practice defined in this
25 section for purposes of demonstrating compliance with applicable
26 codes, standards, regulations, and guidelines when those systems
27 affect the interior work within the registered commercial interior
28 designer's responsible control.

29 (i) Verification of such conditions shall be based on record
30 documents, design documents under the responsible control of licensed
31 design professionals associated with the project, prior approved
32 permits, or other evidence acceptable to the authority having
33 jurisdiction.

34 (ii) Responsible control for systems, assemblies, elements, or
35 components outside the registered commercial interior designer's
36 scope remains with the licensed design professional of record for
37 those portions of the project.

38 (iii) When any system, assembly, element, or component of a
39 project extends beyond the scope of practice defined in this section,
40 the registered commercial interior designer shall promptly notify the

1 client in writing and recommend consultation with a design
2 professional licensed to perform that work.

3 (17) "Registered commercial interior designer" means an
4 individual holding a valid certificate of registration or certificate
5 of authorization issued by the director authorizing the practice of
6 registered commercial interior design.

7 (18) "Registered professional commercial interior design firm"
8 means a business entity registered in Washington to offer and provide
9 registered commercial interior design services under section 8 of
10 this act.

11 (19) "Responsible control" means the direct personal supervision
12 over, and detailed knowledge of, the content of all technical
13 submissions that are ordinarily exercised by a registered commercial
14 interior designer when applying the requisite standard of care.

15 (20) "Review" means a process of examination and evaluation, of
16 the documents, for compliance with applicable codes, standards,
17 regulations, and guidelines affecting the built environment that
18 includes the ability to control the final product.

19 (21) "Structure" means any construction consisting of load-
20 bearing members such as the foundation, roof, floors, walls, columns,
21 girders, and beams, or a combination of any number of these parts,
22 with or without other parts or appurtenances.

23 (22) "Technical submissions" means the documents covering the
24 practice of registered commercial interior design necessary to
25 demonstrate compliance with applicable regulatory requirements and/or
26 to fabricate or construct a project including, but not limited to,
27 drawings, digital models, specifications, performance criteria, and
28 installation requirements.

29 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** (1) Nothing in this chapter shall be
30 construed to authorize a registered commercial interior designer to
31 engage in the practice of architecture under chapter 18.08 RCW or
32 engineering under chapter 18.43 RCW or provide services that
33 constitute the practice of architecture or engineering.

34 (2) The practice of registered commercial interior design does
35 not include modifications or additions to any of the following:

36 (a) Changes of building use to occupancies not already allowed by
37 the current building or structure, or to occupancies of a greater
38 hazard as defined by the means of egress hazard categories table in

1 chapter 10, change of occupancy, in the international existing
2 building code;

3 (b) The construction classification of the building or structure;

4 (c) The structural system of a building, including changing the
5 building's dead load on the structural system and the seismic design
6 of interior elements, including analysis and structural calculations
7 for anchorage, bracing, or restraint beyond prescriptive requirements
8 permitted by code; however, registered commercial interior designers
9 may coordinate with structural engineers to confirm compatibility of
10 interior nonstructural elements with existing structural elements;

11 (d) The building envelope, including load-bearing and nonload-
12 bearing exterior walls, exterior wall claddings, exterior wall
13 openings, exterior windows and doors, balconies and similar
14 projections, roof assemblies and rooftop structures, and glass and
15 glazing for exterior use in both vertical, horizontal, and sloped
16 applications, and any element or assembly that affects the building's
17 weather resistance, moisture management, thermal performance, or
18 structural weatherproofing, including any new penetrations or
19 modifications to existing building envelope penetrations;

20 (e) Engineering of mechanical, plumbing, heating, air
21 conditioning, ventilation, electrical, low voltage, active fire
22 protection, or fire alarm systems;

23 (f) Integration of central mechanical, electrical, and plumbing
24 infrastructure serving the building as a whole, including plant
25 equipment (boilers, chillers, cooling towers, etc.), electrical
26 service and distribution (service entry, transformers, switchgear,
27 main distribution panels), and plumbing mains and pumps;

28 (g) Elevators and conveying systems;

29 (h) Shared building egress systems that serve the building as a
30 whole, including vertical protected exit enclosures and the exit
31 discharge points, or modifications that would increase occupant loads
32 beyond the designed capacity of those systems; or

33 (i) Life safety systems pertaining to fire safety of primary
34 structural elements or the fire protection of primary structural
35 elements, smoke evacuation and compartmentalization systems, or fire-
36 rated vertical shafts in multistory structures.

37 (3) The following individuals and firms are not required to
38 obtain a registration to practice registered commercial interior
39 design pursuant to this chapter:

1 (a) An individual or firm who has a certificate or authorization
2 to practice as an architect under chapter 18.08 RCW shall be
3 qualified for a registration upon approval of a completed application
4 for such registration and payment of the corresponding application
5 fee. An architect who is licensed or registered is not required to
6 obtain a registration to practice registered commercial interior
7 design but must register as a registered commercial interior designer
8 prior to using the title "registered commercial interior designer";

9 (b) An individual who prepares plans, drawings, or specifications
10 for buildings for their personal private residential use, including
11 single-family or multifamily homes in concert with local governing
12 zoning, codes, and jurisdictional requirements such as
13 "appurtenances";

14 (c) A person who prepares drawings of the layout of materials or
15 furnishings or who participates in the selection of materials or
16 furnishings used in commercial interior design including, but not
17 limited to:

18 (i) Decorative accessories;

19 (ii) Wallcoverings, wall finishes or paint;

20 (iii) Floor coverings, tile, wood, stone, or concrete;

21 (iv) Window coverings;

22 (v) Lighting fixtures which do not disrupt structural elements;

23 (vi) Plumbing fixtures which do not disrupt structural elements;

24 (vii) Professional services limited to the design of kitchen and
25 bath spaces or the specification of products for kitchen and bath
26 areas in noncommercial settings; and

27 (viii) Spatial arrangements, interior construction assemblies,
28 millwork, fixtures, equipment, and furniture, if the preparation or
29 implementation of those drawings or the installation of those
30 materials or furnishings is not regulated by any building code or
31 other law, ordinance, rule, or regulation governing the alteration or
32 construction of a structure.

33 (4) This chapter shall not affect or prevent:

34 (a) The practice of naval architecture, landscape architecture as
35 authorized in chapter 18.96 RCW, engineering as authorized in chapter
36 18.43 RCW, or the provision of space planning or interior design
37 services not affecting public health or safety;

38 (b) Drafters, clerks, project managers, superintendents, and
39 other employees of architects from acting under the instructions,
40 control, or supervision of an architect;

1 (c) The construction, alteration, or supervision of construction
2 of buildings or structures by contractors registered under chapter
3 18.27 RCW or superintendents employed by contractors or the
4 preparation of shop drawings in connection therewith;

5 (d) Owners or contractors registered under chapter 18.27 RCW from
6 engaging persons who are not architects to observe and supervise
7 construction of a project;

8 (e) Any person from doing design work including preparing
9 construction contract documents and administration of the
10 construction contract for the erection, enlargement, repair, or
11 alteration of a structure or any appurtenance to a structure
12 regardless of size, if the structure is to be used for a residential
13 building of up to and including four dwelling units or a farm
14 building or is a structure used in connection with or auxiliary to
15 such residential building or farm building such as a garage, barn,
16 shed, or shelter for animals or machinery;

17 (f) Except as otherwise provided in this section, any person from
18 doing design work including preparing construction contract documents
19 and administering the contract for construction, erection,
20 enlargement, alteration, or repairs of or to a building of any
21 occupancy up to a total building size of 4,000 square feet; or

22 (g) Any person from doing design work, including preparing
23 construction contract documents and administration of the contract,
24 for alteration of or repairs to a building where the project size is
25 not more than 4,000 square feet in a building greater than 4,000
26 square feet and when the work contemplated by the design does not
27 affect the life safety or structural systems of the building. The
28 combined square footage of simultaneous projects allowed under this
29 subsection (4) may not exceed 4,000 square feet.

30 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** (1) To obtain a certificate of
31 registration to engage in the practice of registered commercial
32 interior design in Washington, an applicant must be of good moral
33 character, at least 18 years of age, and shall submit the following
34 qualifications to the board:

35 (a) A complete and signed written application in the form
36 prescribed by the board;

37 (b) Evidence of graduation and receipt of a degree from an
38 approved educational program;

1 (c) Evidence indicating the successful completion of the
2 experience deemed necessary by the board;

3 (d) Evidence of the successful completion of the NCIDQ
4 examination administered by CIDQ;

5 (e) Evidence of the successful completion of a Washington state
6 law review examination for registered commercial interior designers,
7 as established by the board; and

8 (f) Payment of all applicable fees specified by the board.

9 (2) In lieu of furnishing evidence supporting subsection (1)(b),
10 (c), and (d) of this section, an applicant may provide a copy of the
11 applicant's NCIDQ certification.

12 (3) The board may use documentation and verified data stored by
13 CIDQ in the same way that it may use data stored by the board to
14 establish an applicant's qualifications for a registration.
15 Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the board
16 shall share such information with CIDQ as may be reasonably requested
17 from time to time, provided that CIDQ agrees to maintain the
18 confidentiality of such information.

19 (4) A certificate of registration shall be effective upon
20 issuance by the director. A person issued a registration may use the
21 title of registered commercial interior designer in Washington,
22 subject to the provisions of this chapter and the board regulations.

23 (5) An applicant for registration as a registered commercial
24 interior designer shall be of a good moral character and at least 18
25 years of age.

26 (6) Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, any
27 individual or firm who has a certificate or authorization to practice
28 as an architect under chapter 18.08 RCW shall be qualified for a
29 registration for commercial interior design upon approval of a
30 completed application for such registration and payment of the
31 corresponding application fee. An architect who is licensed or
32 registered within Washington is not required to obtain a registration
33 to practice registered commercial interior design but must register
34 as a registered commercial interior designer prior to using the title
35 "registered commercial interior designer" in Washington. For
36 architects registered as registered commercial interior designers,
37 satisfaction of the requirements for renewal of licensure or
38 registration as an architect shall be deemed to satisfy the
39 requirements for renewal of the registration as a "registered
40 commercial interior designer."

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** The director may, upon receipt of the
2 current registration fee, grant a certificate of registration to an
3 applicant who:

4 (1) Is a registered commercial interior designer in another state
5 or territory of the United States, the District of Columbia, or
6 another country;

7 (2) Has qualifications and experience determined by the board to
8 be equivalent to the qualifications and experience required of a
9 person registered under section 4 of this act; and

10 (3) Provides evidence of successful completion of the Washington
11 state law review examination for registered commercial interior
12 designers, as established by the board.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** (1) The renewal date for certificates of
14 registration shall be set by the director in accordance with RCW
15 43.24.086. Registrants who fail to pay the renewal fee within 30 days
16 of the due date shall pay all delinquent fees plus a penalty fee
17 equal to one-third of the renewal fee. A registrant who fails to pay
18 a renewal fee for a period of five years may be reinstated under such
19 circumstances as the board determines. The renewal and penalty fees
20 and the frequency of renewal assessment shall be authorized under
21 this chapter. The renewal date for certificates of authorization
22 shall be the anniversary of the date of authorization.

23 (2) The director may, in their discretion, consider any relevant
24 extenuating circumstances duly submitted in conjunction with any
25 petition and application for the reinstatement of a registration
26 where the applicant can demonstrate hardship, so long as the board
27 maintains its public protection mission in considering any such
28 petition and application. The board shall by regulation set forth
29 procedures and requirements for the reinstatement of a registered
30 commercial interior designer's registration.

31 (3) Any registrant in good standing may withdraw from the
32 practice of registered commercial interior design by giving written
33 notice to the director, and may within five years thereafter resume
34 active practice upon payment of the then-current renewal fee. A
35 registrant may be reinstated after a withdrawal of more than five
36 years under such circumstances as the board determines.

37 (4) A registered commercial interior designer must demonstrate
38 professional development since the individual's last renewal or
39 initial registration, as the case may be. The board shall by rule

1 describe professional development activities acceptable to the board
2 and the form of documentation of the activities required by the
3 board. The board may decline to renew a registration if the
4 registered commercial interior designer's professional development
5 activities do not meet the standards set by the board by rule. When
6 adopting rules under the authority of this subsection, the board
7 shall strive to ensure that the rules are consistent with the
8 continuing professional education requirements and systems in use by
9 national professional organizations representing registered
10 commercial interior designers and in use by other states.

11 (i) Registered commercial interior designers shall, as part of
12 their license renewal, certify that they have completed the required
13 continuing professional development required by this section.

14 (ii) The board may adopt reasonable exemptions from the
15 requirements of this section.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** (1) The director shall issue a certificate
17 of registration to any applicant who has, to the satisfaction of the
18 board, met all the requirements for registration upon payment of the
19 registration fee as provided in this chapter. All certificates of
20 registration shall show the full name of the registrant, have the
21 registration number, and shall be signed by the chair of the board
22 and by the director. The issuance of a certificate of registration by
23 the director is prima facie evidence that the person named therein is
24 entitled to all the rights and privileges of a registered commercial
25 interior designer.

26 (2) Each registrant shall obtain a seal of the design authorized
27 by the board bearing the registered commercial interior designer's
28 name, registration number, the title "registered commercial interior
29 designer," and the name of this state. All technical submissions
30 prepared by a registered commercial interior designer and filed with
31 public authorities must be sealed and signed by the registered
32 commercial interior designer. It is unlawful to seal and sign a
33 document after a registrant's certificate of registration or
34 authorization has expired, been revoked, or is suspended.

35 (3)(a) A registered commercial interior designer may seal and
36 sign technical submissions under the following conditions:

37 (i) Prepared by the registered commercial interior designer;

38 (ii) Prepared by the registered commercial interior designer's
39 regularly employed subordinates;

1 (iii) Prepared in part by an individual or firm under a direct
2 subcontract with the registered commercial interior designer; or

3 (iv) Prepared in collaboration with a registered commercial
4 interior designer who is licensed in a jurisdiction recognized by the
5 board, provided there is a contractual agreement between the
6 registered commercial interior designers.

7 (b) A registered commercial interior designer who seals and signs
8 the technical submissions under this subsection (3) is responsible to
9 the same extent as if the technical submissions were prepared by the
10 registered commercial interior designer.

11 (4) Technical submissions filed with a public authority should
12 include a board prescribed scope of practice attestation form
13 affirming that the work is within the practice of registered
14 commercial interior design under this chapter. The board shall adopt
15 rules for the form's use and requirements for acceptance by
16 permitting authorities.

17 (5) A new certificate of registration or certificate of
18 authorization to replace any certificate lost, destroyed, or
19 mutilated may be issued by the director. A charge, determined as
20 provided in RCW 43.24.086, shall be made for such issuance.

21 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 8.** (1) Any business entity, including a sole
22 proprietorship, offering registered commercial interior design
23 services in Washington state must register with the board, regardless
24 of its business structure. A business entity shall file with the
25 board a list of individuals registered under this chapter as
26 responsible for the practice of registered commercial interior design
27 by the business entity in this state and provides that full authority
28 to make all final design decisions on behalf of the business entity
29 with respect to work performed by the business entity in this state.
30 Further, the person having the practice of registered commercial
31 interior design in their charge is themselves a general partner (if a
32 partnership or limited liability partnership), a manager (if a
33 limited liability company), or a director (if a business corporation
34 or professional service corporation) and is registered to practice
35 registered commercial interior design in this state.

36 (2) A business primarily engaged in, or representing itself as
37 primarily being engaged in, the sale or distribution of furniture,
38 fixtures, or equipment is not eligible for registration as a
39 registered commercial interior design firm. This does not prohibit

1 collaboration with such businesses for client-directed procurement or
2 specification services, nor prevent an individual registered
3 commercial interior designer employed by such a business from
4 maintaining individual registration.

5 (3) The business entity shall furnish the board with such
6 information about its organization and activities as the board shall
7 require by rule.

8 (4) Upon filing with the board of the application for certificate
9 of authorization, the certified copy of the resolution, and the
10 information specified in subsection (1) of this section, the board
11 shall authorize the director to issue to the business entity a
12 certificate of authorization to practice registered commercial
13 interior design in this state.

14 (5) Any business entity practicing or offering to practice
15 registered commercial interior design, whether or not it is
16 authorized to practice registered commercial interior design under
17 this chapter, shall be jointly and severally responsible to the same
18 degree as an individual registered commercial interior designer and
19 shall conduct their business without misconduct or malpractice in the
20 practice of registered commercial interior design as defined in this
21 chapter.

22 (6) For each certificate of authorization issued under this
23 section there shall be paid a certification fee and an annual
24 certification renewal fee as prescribed by the director under RCW
25 43.24.086.

26 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 9.** A registered commercial interior designer
27 shall maintain documentation of technical submissions for at least
28 five years and make records available to the director upon request.
29 Records must be adequate to demonstrate the registered commercial
30 interior designer's responsible control over the technical
31 submissions.

32 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 10.** (1) Except as otherwise provided under
33 this chapter, it shall be unlawful for any person to engage in the
34 practice of registered commercial interior design or use the
35 designation "registered commercial interior designer" or any other
36 designation, words, or letters indicating registration as a
37 registered commercial interior designer, including abbreviations, or
38 hold themselves out as a registered commercial interior designer unless

1 duly registered as such by the board. This subsection does not
2 prohibit a person who is exempt, pursuant to this chapter, from
3 holding themselves out to the public or soliciting business as an
4 interior designer.

5 (2) A person may not knowingly:

6 (a) Use or attempt to use the registration of another registered
7 commercial interior designer;

8 (b) Use or attempt to use a registration that has been suspended,
9 revoked, or placed on inactive or delinquent status;

10 (c) File or cause to be filed a false or misleading registered
11 commercial interior design scope of practice attestation form;

12 (d) Obtain or attempt to obtain registration from the board by
13 fraud;

14 (e) Make any willfully false oath or affirmation to the board;

15 (f) Accept or receive compensation, directly or indirectly, from
16 a source other than their client or employer for a project under the
17 registered commercial interior designer's engagement, if such
18 compensation could compromise or appear to compromise their
19 professional judgment or responsible control.

20 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 11.** (1) Any person who violates any provision
21 of this chapter or any rule promulgated under it is guilty of a
22 misdemeanor and may also be subject to a civil penalty in an amount
23 not to exceed \$1,000 for each offense.

24 (2) It shall be the duty of all officers in the state or any
25 political subdivision thereof to enforce this chapter. Any public
26 officer may initiate an action before the board to enforce the
27 provisions of this chapter.

28 (3) The board may apply for relief by injunction without bond to
29 restrain a person from committing any act that is prohibited by this
30 chapter. In such proceedings, it is not necessary to allege or prove
31 either that an adequate remedy at law does not exist or that
32 substantial irreparable damage would result from the continued
33 violation thereof. The members of the board shall not be personally
34 liable for their actions in any such proceeding or in any other
35 proceeding instituted by the board under this chapter. The board in
36 any proper case shall cause prosecution to be instituted in any
37 county or counties where any violation of this chapter occurs, and
38 shall aid the prosecution of the violator.

1 (4) No person practicing registered commercial interior design is
2 entitled to maintain a proceeding in any court of this state relating
3 to services in the practice of registered commercial interior design
4 unless it is alleged and proved that the person was registered or
5 authorized under this chapter to practice or offer to practice
6 registered commercial interior design at the time the design services
7 were offered or provided.

8 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 12.** The board shall have the power to impose
9 any action listed in section 11 of this act upon the following
10 grounds:

11 (1) Engaging in or committing any prohibited act as described in
12 section 10 of this act, including but not limited to acts that
13 compromise or appear to compromise professional judgment,
14 independence, or responsible control;

15 (2) Offering to pay, paying, or accepting, either directly or
16 indirectly, any substantial gift, bribe, or other consideration to
17 influence the award of professional work;

18 (3) Being willfully untruthful or deceptive in any professional
19 report, statement, or testimony;

20 (4) Having a financial interest in the bidding for or the
21 performance of a contract to supply labor or materials for or to
22 construct a project for which employed or retained as a registered
23 commercial interior designer except with the informed consent of the
24 client or employer after full disclosure; or allowing such interest
25 to influence professional judgment;

26 (5) Signing or permitting a seal to be affixed to any drawings or
27 specifications that were not prepared or reviewed by the registered
28 commercial interior designer or under the registered commercial
29 interior designer's personal supervision by persons subject to the
30 registered commercial interior designer's direction and control; or

31 (6) Willfully evading or trying to evade any law, ordinance,
32 code, or regulation governing construction of buildings.

33 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 13.** There is established in the state
34 treasury the registered commercial interior designer's license
35 account, into which all fees paid pursuant to this chapter shall be
36 deposited, except as provided in section 17 of this act.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 14.** The board, through the director, shall
2 immediately suspend the certificate of licensure to practice
3 registered commercial interior design of a person who has been
4 certified under RCW 74.20A.320 by the department of social and health
5 services as a person who is not in compliance with a support order or
6 a residential or visitation order. If the person has continued to
7 meet other requirements for reinstatement during the suspension,
8 reissuance of the certificate shall be automatic upon the director's
9 receipt of a release issued by the department of social and health
10 services stating that the individual is in compliance with the order.

11 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 15.** The uniform regulation of business and
12 professions act, chapter 18.235 RCW, governs unlicensed practice, the
13 issuance and denial of licenses, and the discipline of licensees
14 under this chapter.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 16.** An applicant with military training or
16 experience satisfies the training or experience requirements of this
17 chapter unless the board determines that the military training or
18 experience is not substantially equivalent to the standards of this
19 state.

20 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 17.** (1) There is imposed a fee of \$6.50 on
21 each certificate of registration, renewal of a certificate of
22 registration, certificate of authorization, and renewal of a
23 certificate of authorization, issued by the director under this
24 chapter. The director must collect this fee and must quarterly remit
25 moneys collected under this subsection to the state treasury.

26 (2) The fee established by subsection (1) of this section is in
27 addition to other fees authorized by this chapter and prescribed by
28 the director under RCW 43.24.086.

29 (3) All moneys collected under subsection (1) of this section
30 must be deposited into the building code council account in the state
31 treasury.

32 **Sec. 18.** RCW 18.08.330 and 2010 c 129 s 3 are each amended to
33 read as follows:

34 There is (~~created~~) constituted a state board for architects and
35 registered commercial interior designers consisting of (~~seven~~) nine
36 members who shall be appointed by the governor. Six members shall be

1 registered architects who are residents of the state and have at
2 least ~~((eight))~~ five years' experience in the practice of
3 architecture as registered architects in responsible charge of
4 architectural work or responsible charge of architectural teaching.
5 Two members shall be registered commercial interior designers who are
6 residents of the state and have at least eight years' experience in
7 responsible charge of the practice or teaching of registered
8 commercial interior design. For the initial appointments to the
9 board, a registered commercial interior designer may qualify with
10 equivalent professional experience in commercial interior design
11 prior to the establishment of the registration system, as determined
12 by the board.

13 One member shall be a public member, who is not and has never
14 been a registered architect and who does not employ and is not
15 employed by or professionally or financially associated with an
16 architect.

17 The terms of each newly appointed member shall be six years.

18 Every member of the board shall receive a certificate of
19 appointment from the governor. On the expiration of the term of each
20 member, the governor shall appoint a successor to serve for a term of
21 six years or until the next successor has been appointed.

22 The governor may remove any member of the board for cause.
23 Vacancies in the board for any reason shall be filled by appointment
24 for the unexpired term.

25 The board shall elect a chair, a vice chair, and a secretary. The
26 secretary may delegate his or her authority to the executive
27 director.

28 Members of the board shall be compensated in accordance with RCW
29 43.03.240 and shall be reimbursed for travel expenses in accordance
30 with RCW 43.03.050 and 43.03.060.

31 The board shall have oversight authority over both the practice
32 of architecture under chapter 18.08 RCW and the practice of
33 registered commercial interior design under chapter 18.--- RCW (the
34 new chapter created in section 20 of this act).

35 **Sec. 19.** RCW 18.08.340 and 2010 c 129 s 4 are each amended to
36 read as follows:

37 (1) The board may adopt such rules under chapter 34.05 RCW as are
38 necessary for the proper performance of its duties under this
39 chapter.

1 (2) The director shall employ an executive director subject to
2 approval by the board.

3 (3) The executive director shall have oversight authority over
4 the state board of architects and registered commercial interior
5 designers constituted under RCW 18.08.330.

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 20.** Sections 1 through 17 of this act
7 constitute a new chapter in Title 18 RCW.

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