



Oregon

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Board of Architect Examiners

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Testimony for:

HB 2268: Architect Regulation Law, ORS 671.010-220

Mr. Chair and members of the Committee,

Thank you for considering HB 2268 today. HB 2268 is a statutory housekeeping bill. The bill was drafted in an effort to bring the statutory language up to date in the regulation of architects and architecture firms 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 clarify the statutory language, and to allow for streamlining of such things as registration, renewal periods, and document sealing requirements through administrative rules.

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 and more efficient for the state.

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 rules.
- 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.

