

02/07/2024

To: Senate Committee on Judiciary

From: John Poillucci

Re: Support for Senate Bill 1575

My name is John Poillucci from Spacehouse Architecture, LLC, located in Portland, Oregon. I am writing to support Senate Bill 1575.

As an architect and owner of a small business I respectfully request that the Senate Committee on Judiciary support bill 1575. This bill will help align legislation with what is conventional practice in the field of architecture. My license, contracts, and training are predicated on the fact that architects cannot be held to defend others against third-party claims. It is expected through the structure of my small business, and other architecture and professional design services, that we will only be responsible for defense costs to the proportionate extent of their liability or fault.

Without this ability to defend, I will not be able to maintain my current professional liability insurance. It is a requirement by Oregon state law that I maintain professional liability insurance. Therefore I would have no options to reasonably continue my practice of enhancing the built environment of my clients.

This issue of not being able to maintain professional liability insurance presents a huge challenge for my business where I am the only employee and as such I am required to maintain all of the requirements of running a business. Adding the issue of not being insurable could be insurmountable for me and my business.

I am hopeful that you will empower architects and design-industry professionals with the fairness of this legislation. Please support SB 1575.

Thank you,

John Poillucci AIA, NCARB, CDT

Owner, Architect