

Subject: Support for HB2141-1

My name is Amy Donohue, and I am a licensed architect in 13 States, including Oregon, and a principal with Bora Architecture & Interiors, one of the oldest architecture firms in Oregon. I write in support of HB2141-1 and legal recognition for Commercial Interior Designers.

I have worked in the profession of architecture for more than 30 years. In that time, I have come to deeply value commercial interior designers as important partners in creating and improving the built environment. Whether performing arts centers or K12 schools, our growing interior design team contributes in significant and countless ways to the quality of our work. In 2018, we changed our name to include “& Interiors” – an acknowledgment of the critically important work our interior designers do for our practice and our community. From healthy materials and excellent indoor air quality to a keen sense of human experience and interior architecture, interior designers contribute a significant amount of creative energy and professionalism to our practice.

Oregon currently licenses architects, but lacks legal recognition for Commercial Interior Designers, despite their critical role in designing safe, accessible, and code-compliant spaces. As a State, we need to correct this deficit and acknowledge our design partners as licensed professionals – as 30 other states currently do. This action will ensure public safety and consumer protection as well as expand opportunities for women and small business owners.

To be clear, HB 2141 does NOT:

- Change or limit the work of architects, engineers, or residential designers
- Expand scope or require mandatory registration
- Allow structural, seismic, or exterior work

It is long past due to make this change and give recognition to this important group of professionals. I urge the Oregon State Legislature to pass House Bill 2141-1, establishing the Registered Commercial Interior Design Title Act to recognize, protect, and enhance the role of Commercial Interior Designers in Oregon. We will be the 31st State to adopt such a measure and license our interior design professionals. This is an important step for our built environment.