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HOUSE BILL 1878

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State of Washington                      59th Legislature                      2005 Regular Session

By Representatives Conway, Wood, Jarrett, Kessler and Linville

Read first time 02/09/2005. Referred to Committee on Commerce & Labor.

1            AN ACT Relating to protecting the title of registered interior  
2 designer; adding a new chapter to Title 18 RCW; and prescribing  
3 penalties.

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

5            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 1.** In order to safeguard human health, safety,  
6 and property, and to promote public welfare, any person in either a  
7 public or private capacity using the title of registered interior  
8 designer is required to submit evidence that he or she is qualified  
9 under the provisions of section 3 of this act.

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

12           (1) "Department" means the department of licensing.

13           (2) "Registered interior designer" means a person registered under  
14 this chapter who is a registered design professional qualified by  
15 education, experience, and examination.

16           (3) "Registration" means the certificate of registration issued by  
17 the department to an interior designer under this chapter.

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 3.** (1) An applicant may qualify for  
2 registration as a registered interior designer if the applicant pays  
3 any applicable fee established by the department and shows to the  
4 satisfaction of the department that the applicant:

5        (a)(i) Has a current certificate number issued by the national  
6 council for interior design qualification; and

7        (ii) Has six years' combined work experience and formal education  
8 in interior design from an accredited degree program. At a minimum,  
9 there must be two years of formal education in interior design. The  
10 curriculum for formal education in interior design should encompass:  
11 Manual and computer-aided design, two and three-dimensional design,  
12 design and composition fundamentals, color theory, building systems,  
13 material, finishes and specifications, codes and ordinances,  
14 presentation skills, and business practices and management. Hours of  
15 experience must be distributed among six competency areas:  
16 Programming, schematic design, design development, contract documents,  
17 contract administration, and professional practice; or

18        (b) Has provided the department, by July 1, 2007, with proof of  
19 fifteen years of work experience as an interior designer and two years  
20 of formal education in interior design.

21        (2) The department may also grant registration by reciprocity. An  
22 applicant applying to the department for registration by reciprocity  
23 must furnish satisfactory evidence that the applicant holds both a:

24        (a) Valid registration or license issued by another registration  
25 authority recognized by the department, where the qualifications for  
26 registration or licensure are substantially equivalent to those  
27 required by this chapter on the date of original registration or  
28 licensure with the other registration authority; and

29        (b) Current certificate number issued by the national council for  
30 interior design qualification.

31        (3) The department shall develop by rule the necessary forms to use  
32 in verifying education and work experience for registration.

33        (4) The fees charged by the department must cover the costs of  
34 establishing and maintaining the registration program in accordance  
35 with RCW 43.24.086.

36        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 4.** The department shall grant a certificate of  
37 registration to an applicant who meets the requirements of section 3 of

1 this act beginning July 1, 2006. After July 1, 2007, a person may not  
2 use the title "registered interior designer" in this state or any other  
3 title, designation, sign, card, or device indicating that the person is  
4 a registered interior designer unless he or she is registered under  
5 this chapter. Every holder of a certificate of registration under this  
6 chapter must display it in a conspicuous place in the holder's  
7 principal office, place of business, or employment. No corporation,  
8 firm, partnership, or association may be granted a certificate of  
9 registration under this chapter.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** The renewal date for certificates of  
11 registration shall be set by the department by rule. A registered  
12 interior designer who fails to pay the renewal fee within thirty days  
13 of the due date shall pay all delinquent renewal fees, plus a penalty  
14 equal to one-third of the renewal fee. A registered interior designer  
15 who fails to pay a renewal fee for a period of five years may be  
16 reinstated under such circumstances as the department determines by  
17 rule. The department must adopt the renewal fees, penalty fees, and  
18 the frequency of renewal by rule.

19 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** An interior designer registered under this  
20 chapter must complete ten hours of continuing education instruction  
21 every two years. The department shall develop by rule a form to verify  
22 continuing education.

23 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** The department may issue a new certificate  
24 of registration to replace a lost, destroyed, or mutilated certificate.  
25 The director must charge a fee as determined by RCW 43.24.086 for the  
26 issuance of the new certificate.

27 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 8.** (1) A person who violates a provision of  
28 this chapter or a rule adopted under it is guilty of a misdemeanor and  
29 may also be subject to a civil penalty in an amount not to exceed five  
30 thousand dollars for each offense.

31 (2) The department must issue a cease and desist order to any  
32 individual who is not registered under this chapter and holds himself  
33 or herself out as a "registered interior designer."

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 9.**    (1) This chapter does not affect or prevent  
2 the practice of architecture under chapter 18.08 RCW or engineering  
3 under chapter 18.43 RCW.

4        (2) This chapter does not prevent any individual from offering or  
5 providing interior design services provided they do not use the title  
6 "registered interior designer."

7        (3) This chapter does not prevent any individual from using the  
8 term "interior designer."

9        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 10.**    This act may be known and cited as the  
10 registered interior designer professionals act of 2005.

11        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 11.**    Sections 1 through 10 of this act  
12 constitute a new chapter in Title 18 RCW.

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