



WHAT HAS AIA FLORIDA DONE FOR YOU LATELY?

Passing effective legislation is an investment of time, resources and capital. Countless hours of work are put into advocating for AIA Florida members. Each piece of legislation represents many weeks, if not years, of dedication from a team of association members, staff, lobbyists and legal representatives. Here is a brief overview of strides AIA Florida has made over the years.

2018

RULE CHALLENGE ISSUED

AIA Florida issued a rule challenge on behalf of members who would be affected by the Florida Building Commission's (FBC) proposed rule changes to the Florida Building Code. Legislation that further defines the starting date of the 10-year statute of repose was signed into law by Gov. Scott.

2017

STATUTE OF REPOSE

AIA Florida backed legislation to define precisely when the clock starts on completion of contract in the Statute of Repose was passed. This protects design professionals from a previous court precedent giving indefinite liability by not "starting the clock" until final payment by owners.

2016

ARCHITECTS WITH A VOICE

After back and forth debate, legislators passed a bill giving architects a seat on panels that review and interpret changes to the Florida Building Code. Additionally, legislation was passed to protect architect firms from predatory lawsuits.

2015

RESOLUTION

In an initiative supported by AIA Florida, legislation was passed resolving construction defect claims through a negotiated settlement and shifting the burden of proof to the plaintiff. This bill was signed into law by the governor.

2014

SOLUTIONS

AIA Florida allied industries attempted to open Fla. Stat. § 287.055, Florida's qualifications-based selection process, for the sole purpose of changing the act's name. Eventually, based on AIA Florida's insistence, it was agreed by all parties that opening the statute would create an irresistible opportunity for adversaries to eradicate the statute.

2013

MORANSIS V. HEATHMAN

After years of hard fought battles, legislation passes allowing firms to exclude employees or agents from individual negligence for professional services.

2012

PROTECTING CCNA

Once again, legislators attempted to deconstruct CCNA by short-listing design firms by lowest contract price. AIA Florida's lobby team successfully defeated opposition.

2011

CCNA UNDER FIRE

The CCNA process, established in 1971, was under fire again. AIA Florida successfully defeated amendments allowing price negotiation in the early stages of CCNA. Architects were also protected from deregulation of the profession.

2010

WITT V. LA GORCE COUNTRY CLUB

AIA Florida began a partnership with other design professionals to pass legislation preventing clients from circumventing previously negotiated contracts to sue design professional personally and individually for economic damages.

2009

REBUILD & RENEW

AIA Florida provided lawmakers with a six-part plan, "Rebuild & Renew Florida Stimulus Plan," to help restore Florida's economy and provide better communities. Reciprocity legislation that would have significantly lowered Florida licensure requirements for out of state practitioners was successfully amended. Lastly, confusing language in the Florida Building Code was clarified.

2008

HOMETOWN DEMOCRACY DEFEATED

Attempts to place two different constitutional amendments on the ballot that would greatly hinder design professional's ability to provide services were defeated - one called Hometown Democracy required public referenda voting on every completed plan amendment and one enacted a services tax.

2007

CCNA ATTACKS CONTINUE

Consultants' Competitive Negotiation Act (CCNA) was under attack yet again, with a push to increase thresholds for construction costs and professional fees. AIA Florida was able to stop the concept's progression. The Florida Energy Conservation and Sustainable Buildings Act, promoting energy efficiency and tax incentives, was passed, only to later be vetoed by Gov. Christ.

2006

BOAID CLARIFICATION

AIA Florida succeeded in its clarification to BOAID rule making authority in remote offices regarding responsible supervisory control to deter plan stamping. AIA Florida worked to significantly reduce the state's statute of repose for architects from 15 years to 10 years.

2005

DESIGN PROFESSION SUCCESS

In a year of progression for the design profession, AIA Florida saw the successful establishment of supervisory control rules and electronic signing and sealing, clarification that governmental entities may not stockpile qualified firms under contract and force them into bidding wars and the correction of a conflict between the Florida Building Code and Fire Prevention Code.

2004

FAIR

AIA Florida successfully lobbied against the Floridians Against Inequities in Rates (FAIR) constitutional amendment removing all sales tax exemptions/exclusions (including those for architectural and consulting services) by 2007.