

Interior Design Licensure – The Florida Experience

Question Asked	Answer Given
Therefore a registered architect continues to be legally permitted to perform interior design functions in projects where he/she performs architectural functions, correct?	yes
Do architects have to get a separate license to also include interior design services?	no; interior design registration is voluntary but if an architect wants to apply for an interior design registration he or she can submit an application and pay \$30
Currently, do architects need to register with DBPR to practice Interior Design?	no
will we see deregulation of architects in coming sessions?	possibly discussed at some point but I don't see it ever happening
Why wasn't there consideration to a "grandfather clause" for those who had been in the practice of interior design prior to the new regulations. So that future "interior designers" needed to be licensed.	not sought by the interior designers to my knowledge
If I'm correct, in Texas when they regulated interior design, they "grandfathered" in architects who wanted to get an interior license without taking an exam.	don't know; but architects can obviously offer ID services without a license or get one for \$30 without examination.
I am disappointed the AIA didn't offer more support to the Interior Designers since they work so closely.	we worked closely with the IDs but they had a difficult time convincing policymakers that unlicensed persons could do the same thing licensees could do in a condominium building but not in an office building. We were only at odds with them when they said they could do everything that an architect could do in the interior of buildings-- and that we were behind the deregulation effort.
So does AIAFL think that the interior designers will be coming back to get a practice act?	their national representative was the one leading their negotiations with the House and Senate and he told us that the final product--the language in the bill-- is what they wanted and what they would be seeking in other states--"voluntary registration."