

WHAT HAS AIA FLORIDA DONE FOR YOU LATELY?

Passing effective legislation is an investment of time, resources and capital. Countless hours of work are dedicated to 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.



2025

REGULATION AND CONTINUING EDUCATION PROTECTED

AIA Florida worked to oppose amendments eliminating the Board of Architecture and Interior Design and mandatory continuing education for architects. The language was attached to several vehicles during this session, often with minimal notice, passing multiple committees in the House. AIA Florida's Advocacy Team worked with sponsors and stakeholders and testified in committee meetings voicing concern over these changes. The Senate refused to concur with the House's amendment adding this deregulation language, marking the end of the attempt for this session.

2024

LICENSURE STANDARDS PROTECTED

AIA Florida's lobbying team worked with bill sponsors who were proposing licensure by endorsement for all professions regulated by DBPR. This could have potentially allowed architects coming from other states to not meet the same education standards as licensees living in Florida. Our lobbying team was ultimately able to find language agreeable to the sponsor that left the architecture licensure by endorsement statute intact with all those becoming licensed in Florida meeting the same standards. Legislation was also passed tying future increases for continuing contracts to comply with the Consultants' Competitive Negotiation Act (CCNA) to the Consumer Price Index, avoiding any large increases in the future.

2023

STATUTE OF REPOSE LOWERED

The Statute of Repose was lowered from 10 to seven years. The trigger starting the clock was amended to the earliest of the issuance of a temporary certificate of occupancy, certificate of occupancy, certificate of completion or date of abandonment of construction if not completed.

2022

LIABILITY PROTECTED

Legislation amending the Statute of Repose deleted chapter 558, Construction Defects, from Florida Statutes including the law protecting architects from personal suits. AIA Florida successfully worked with bill sponsors to ensure liability protections remained in statute. Other legislation filed this session deleted the requirement for equitable distribution among qualified firms in the Consultants' Competitive Negotiation Act (CCNA). Again, AIA Florida worked with bill sponsors to clarify the issue to be solved and CCNA remained intact. AIA Florida filed an amicus brief in *Feldman vs. DBPR* where a person holding a foreign license was claiming first amendment protection to use the term architect. The court ultimately upheld the Board of Architecture and Interior Design's (BOAID) disciplinary action, and the term architect remains exclusive to the use of those licensed to practice architecture.