

March 25, 2025

Representative Nathan Sosa
Chairman, House Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection
Oregon State Legislature

RE: Support for 2025 OR HB 2141

Dear Chairman Sosa and members of the House Commerce and Consumer Protection Committee,

On behalf of the Council for Interior Design Qualification (CIDQ), I write to you today in support of House Bill 2141. Interior design is a unique and distinct design profession that has a direct impact on the public health, safety, and welfare, and passing this bill would serve to support the protection of the public in commercial interior spaces in Oregon.

CIDQ is the premiere certifying organization for interior design professionals. Our organization develops and administers the three-part NCIDQ Examination, the national interior design certification examination utilized by U.S. jurisdictions for interior design registration or licensure, which assesses the competency of candidates to protect the public through the practice of interior design. With a membership comprised of state regulatory boards from across the United States and Canada, our organization takes seriously the responsibility to protect the public's health, safety and welfare, a responsibility our certified interior designers share.

NCIDQ-Certified Interior Designers are required to undergo formal postsecondary education and thousands of hours of paid, supervised experience to sit for the examination, which tests interior designers' knowledge of core competencies required for professional practice in the industry. This combination of education, experience, and examination helps ensure minimal competency of our certificate holders in the distinct practice of interior design, most of which practice in commercial, code-based environments like office buildings, hotels, hospitals, schools, etc. Our certificate holders are trained, tested, and qualified to independently design safe, functional public spaces in their practice, addressing design elements such as accessibility, emergency egress, fire and life safety, and much more. This bill would allow them to practice to the fullest extent of their capabilities while protecting the health, safety, and welfare of the public.

Reasonable regulation of interior designers utilizing the NCIDQ Exam provides a means of offering the state and the public assurance that interior designers are qualified to practice in a manner that protects the public in Oregon. We thank the committee for considering this legislation and ask for a favorable report on this bill. Thank you, and I'm happy to be a resource to the committee to answer questions about the NCIDQ exam.

Sincerely,



Matthew R. Barusch
Director, Government Affairs and Advocacy