

INSIDE



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VOLUME 9, ISSUE 3

SUMMER 2007

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members,

By now I imagine most of you know the outcome of our bill for the 2007 legislative session that just ended. On May 9th our Practice Act, HB 1985, was killed on the floor of the House due to a point of order. Many other bills that day also had point of orders called on them, some bills survived, some died like ours. A point of order can be called when a bill that reaches the House or Senate floor differs in some way from the bill as it was approved in committee. It can be as simple as an added comma, a misspelling, or change of a word. Our bill had an extra word (apparently added for clarity), but the opposition searched and discovered it. This is a common, but frustrating, tactic that opponents of a bill frequently use to stall or kill a bill. Our bill could have been sent back to committee to have this corrected, but it was too late in the session for that to happen. Although we had good support for our bill in the House, this effectively ended our Practice Act bill for this session.

The Interior Design Practice Act was not the only bill that the TAID board monitored during the session. There were 21 bills introduced into the legislature, several which were passed, that affected interior designers and our profession in some way. We and our lobbyists worked on the wording of many of these bills to favorably affect interior designers. **Look for the listing of these bills in this newsletter to see important information you should know.**

The TAID board thanks all of you who helped with our legislative efforts for the 2007 session. More of you were involved this year and our lobbyist said it showed. They were impressed with the number of legislators who actually knew the name of an interior designer who had helped in their campaigns. This will still be one of the most important things we can do over the next year and a half, leading to the 2009 legislative session.

Even though the legislature does not meet again for another year and a half, we can not sit back and wait for that time to come. We need to keep in touch with our legislators during the off season. If you help on their campaigns or attend functions for them, remembering your face or name and that you are an interior designer, might make the difference in their vote for our bill next session. Please contact your legislator at their home/district office and see how you can help him/her, especially if they are running a campaign for re-election. You can find your legislator's contact information at www.capitol.state.tx.us. Any questions about this feel free to contact me at marilyn@supporttaid.org.

I hope to see you at the TAID booth at Metrocon.

Marilyn Roberts, ASID, RID
President, Texas Association for Interior Design

www.supporttaid.org

Visit our website for additional information

Executive Director News

As always, the 80th legislative session proved to be one with many surprises. Most of you are aware that the Speaker was challenged at the beginning and end of the session which this a very interesting 80th legislative session. TAID had a watchful eye on many bills this session. A list of the most relevant bills can be found on pages 4 and 5 of this newsletter.

I would like to speak to 4 of those bills. First, HB1985 and SB832 relating to the regulation of interior designers which died on the House Floor due to a Point of Order rule. Marilyn has given you the facts on the demise of this bill in her letter on the cover page. This was very disheartening for all of us but rest assured we have lost a battle but we will be back in 2009 to fight for our profession once more.

Second, HB 1038, relating to the operation of the Texas Residential Construction Commission. Again, please see page 4 for the wording on the two sections that apply to interior designers. I would like to add that this does NOT allow interior designers to be contractors; however, it does allow us to replace carpeting, add draperies, wallpaper, or similar “decorative” changes without being a licensed contractor registered with the Texas Residential Construction Commission. PLEASE, if you have any questions or need a more detailed explanation, please contact www.trcc.state.tx.us

Third, HB2060, relating to the Texas Board of Architectural Examiners. See page 5 for the wording on the sections that pertain to registered interior designers. This is a equalizer among all three professions regulated by TBAE. We are very pleased that we got this statute included and when an interior designer decides to go to Emeritus status the option will be available.

Fourth, SB541, relating to continuing education in sustainable and energy-efficient design standards for a person licensed by the Texas Board of Architectural Examiners. Details on page 5. Please note that this applies to renewals after September 1, 2008. TBAE will be contacting each of us with the rules and we will be sure to include those rules in a future newsletter.

As always, we appreciate the support of our members. We could not continue our efforts without your personal and financial support. THANK YOU!!!



Donna Vining, FASID, IIDA, RID, CAPS
Executive Director

SAVE THE DATE

Our 3rd Annual TAID Gala Art Show and Auction will be held on October 11, 2007, in Houston. Be sure to look for our postcard with all the details.

This is a great way to support TAID and find affordable art for yourself, your clients or as gifts. I bought four paintings last year and it was a win/win for TAID and me. I hope to see you there, Donna



Spotlight on our Board Members

Rosa G. Salazar, VP West Region

I can say with a fair amount of confidence that I am the board member with the least amount of actual interior design experience, being a recent graduate of the interior design program at Texas Tech University. However, I am certainly not new to the efforts of TAID and the legislative work put into passing a practice act for designers in Texas.

I became interested in legislation as a student several years ago after hearing another student talk about her experience passing a practice act in the state of Alabama. The purpose of her message during that Leadership Conference was very clear to me and I decided I would use my position as the Student Representative to the Board of the Texas Chapter of ASID to encourage other students to join the legislative efforts in Texas. The timing was perfect as TAID was coordinating the Legislative Day in Austin. That was three legislative sessions ago and we had the first showing of students from different schools around the state. I believe that effort made a strong impression not only on the legislators but on the professional designers that had been working hard to get the message out. It seemed to reinforce the purpose and mission of taking the interior design profession to the next level. Three legislative sessions later, I am proud to say that the tradition of involving students in the legislative process in Texas still continues.

Fortunately, my dedication to the TAID mission did not stop there. After serving as the “SRB” of the ASID Texas Chapter, I went on to lead my ASID Student Chapter at Texas Tech University as President and again reinforced the importance of student involvement in the legislative process. We were able to raise funds to take an even larger group to the next Legislative Day in Austin, which brought us the recognition we needed to win the ASID Outstanding Student Chapter of the Year award in Washington D.C. My involvement with legislation evidently also caught the attention of ASID Headquarters and they asked me to join a speaking panel for the IDEC Conference in Savannah, GA to encourage educators to get involved and challenge their students to get involved in the legislative efforts of their states.

Now a few years later, here I am working as a designer for the school I love ... Texas Tech University, in the Facilities Planning & Construction office. Almost as soon as I started working here, I was asked to serve as a board member of TAID. As you can imagine that was an easy decision for me. That appointment eventually led to my service as Director of GRA for the IIDA Lubbock City Center.

Those that paid close attention probably noticed that I was “student” for many years. Before my “quest” to “change the world” or at least the interior design profession, I worked in the Community Development Department of the City of Lubbock for 11 years. Sometime in the middle of that I decided to pursue my passion and went back to school to earn my interior design degree as a non-traditional student, working full time and studying part-time. It took me a while, but the journey has been incredible and I’ve met some amazing people along the way. I like to think that my passion for interior design and legislation is contagious so I hope to encourage even more people to join us fulfill the TAID mission, just as I was able to “encourage” my husband, Raul. He is probably one of our biggest supporters now and even helps me educate others about the role and importance of an interior designer. Now with my first child on the way, I’m looking forward to sharing my passion with him or her and taking Baby Salazar along for the ride!



Legislative News

The house and senate considered the following bills which could affect the practice of architecture, landscape architecture, or interior design. This list does not purport to cover every bill that might affect our professions so it shouldn't be relied upon as a sole source of legislative data.

HB506 and companion **SB487** relating to the regulation of the practice of construction and program management for capital improvement projects of school districts. (Died)

HB507 relating to the submission and opening of bids, proposals, and statements of qualifications for contracts involving school district facilities. (Died)

HB861 and **SB 338** Relating to carbon monoxide alarms and smoke detectors in certain residential dwellings. (Died)

HB999 relating to the adoption of energy efficiency and conservation standards for the design, construction, and renovation of public school instructional facilities. (Left Pending in Committee)

HB1038 relating to the operation of the Texas Residential Construction Commission; providing penalties. (06/15 Signed by Governor)

Section 6. Section 401.002, (7-a) "Improvement to the interior of an existing home" means any modification to the interior living space of a home, which includes the addition or installation of permanent fixtures inside the home. An improvement to the interior of an existing home does not include improvements to an existing home if the improvements are designed primarily to repair or replace the home's component parts.

Section 8. Section 401.005 (b) This title does not apply to a homeowner or to a homeowner's real estate broker, agent, interior designer registered under Chapter 1053, Occupations Code, interior decorator, or property manager who supervises or arranges for the construction of an improvement to a home owned by the homeowner.

HB1387 relating to requiring a school district to provide for a feasibility study before acquiring title to real property through eminent domain. (Out of House – Died in Senate Affairs)

HB1567 relating to the requirement to hold a certificate of registration as a landscape architect. (Died)

HB1568 and companion **SB717** relating to the selection by certain governmental entities of providers of landscape architectural services. (Some of this was rolled into HB 2060)

HB1963 and companion **SB924** relating to rules and policies adopted by state agencies regarding engineering or architectural errors or omissions. (06/15 Signed by Governor – Allow time to correct/prepay penalty before final)

HB1985 and companion **SB832** relating to the regulation of interior designers. (Died in House Point of Order Rule 4 Sec. 32)

HB2060 relating to the Texas Board of Architectural Examiners; providing penalties. (06/15 Signed by Governor)

Only one board member may be full time faculty

Section 4. Sections 1051.353 (c) A person whose certificate of registration has been expired for more than 90 days but less than two years (change from one) may renew the certificate by paying to the board a renewal fee equal to two times the normally required renewal fee.

Cont. on page 5

Legislative News

Section 1053.156 Emeritus Status; Interior Designers. (a) The board by rule shall establish a procedure by which an interior designer may place the interior designer's certificate of registration on emeritus status. The interior designer must apply for emeritus status, on a form prescribed by the board, before the interior designer's certificate of registration expires.

(b) An interior designer is eligible for emeritus status if the interior designer:

- (1) has been an interior designer for 20 years or more; and
- (2) is 65 years of age or older.

(Can use the title, pay renewal and exempt from continuing education)

HB2198 relating to authorizing certain public junior colleges to offer baccalaureate degree programs. (05/28 Sent to Governor)

HB2284 and **SB658** Relating to an energy-efficient building accreditation program. (Died)

HB2336 Relating to authorizing certain public junior colleges to offer baccalaureate degree programs. (Died)

HB3240 Relating to building energy performance standards. (Died)

SB238 relating to authorizing certain community colleges to offer a baccalaureate degree program in interior design. (Died)

SB356 and companion **HB447** relating to contracts by governmental entities for construction projects and related professional services and to public works performance and payment bonds. (05/29 Sent to Governor)

SB445 relating to design and construction standards for newly constructed state buildings. (Died in committee – left pending)

SB509 and companion **HB823** relating to the liability of certain licensed or registered professionals for damages arising from certain services provided during an emergency. (Good Samaritan bill - Signed into law 05/18)

SB541 relating to continuing education in sustainable and energy-efficient design standards for a person licensed by the Texas Board of Architectural Examiners. (06/15 signed by Governor)

This will require all registrants with TBAE to have at least one of their eight hours of continuing education relating to sustainable or energy efficient design standards.

Applies to all renewals after September 1, 2008. TBAE shall adopt rules, procedures, forms, and fees not later than January 1, 2008.

SB899 relating to design and construction standards for newly constructed or renovated state buildings, public school facilities, and higher education facilities. (Died in committee – pending)



2007 new board members sworn in at Haworth showroom

Julie Reynolds, VP Northeast
Steve Patterson, VP Legislation
Marilyn Roberts, President
Dan Bassano, VP Marketing
Carol Myers, President-Elect
Daniel Kauth, VP Industry

Continuing Education



TAID's First Correspondence Course

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The materials necessary will be sent to you within two weeks. You will take the class online via your computer. When finished, mail or fax in your answers and we will send you a certificate within two weeks of receipt of your completed questionnaire.

TAID will have more correspondence CEPH courses in the fall.

Send your name, address,
and check for \$65.00 to

TAID

**11418 Hylander Drive
Houston, TX 77070**

www.supporttaid.org



Remember...

When you complete your classes with TAID,
We track them for you; Your money stays in Texas; and
Your money goes to support your profession, not individuals.

FUTURE CEU DATES

DALLAS

September 21

November 16

All classes will be held at the
World Trade Center, Room 9065

Check our website for more details.

www.supporttaid.org

WE HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE

Dallas CEU's continue to stand out as excellent education at an affordable rate. TAID is very grateful to all of the excellent CEU providers to donate their time and talents to make this an outstanding educational opportunity.

TAID will continue to strive for the best in educational opportunities. November 16th, Tom Schwenk, Seminars by Design co-founder, will present 4 hours of continuing education courses that are IDCEC approved courses – the new requirement for all ASID members. One hour will also be on sustainable or energy efficient design standards which is going to become another mandate from TBAE for renewals after September 1, 2008.

THANKS TO ALL OF YOU WHO ATTEND FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT



TBAE News

(TEXAS BOARD OF ARCHITECTURAL EXAMINERS)

2007 has been a fast-paced year so far at the Texas Board of Architectural Examiners (TBAE), so we're trying hard to keep interior designers across Texas well informed about new agency rules and projects. Read on for news and information you need to know.

Dishonest practice rule

A new rule adopted by the Board clarifies that interior designers may not provide any interior design services to a governmental agency during the process of selecting a design professional, such as a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) or Request for Proposals (RFP)—even if the RFQ or RFP requests those services. The new rule does not, of course, mean an interior designer cannot respond to an RFQ or RFP. Rather, this rule is intended to prevent design professionals from providing a quid pro quo for being retained on a publicly funded project. Rule 5.154 became effective July 18, 2007.

Auto-cancellation extends from one year to two

The 80th Texas Legislature adjourned on May 28, after providing some good news for forgetful TBAE registrants. Most interior designers know that if a license is allowed to remain expired for more than a year, by law that expired license becomes cancelled. Basically, the process to become re-registered is summed up in two painful words: starting over.

But a provision in the new law offers some relief. Now, auto-cancellation happens at two years instead of one. While we certainly don't advocate letting a license remain expired, interior designers likely will appreciate this lightening of what was a rather severe penalty.

Remember, though, that there's still a late fee for a lapsed registration. Starting the day after expiration, you will have to pay 1.5 times the regular renewal fee, and after 90 days, the total jumps to two times the renewal fee. Finally, don't forget that while your registration is lapsed, you are not allowed to use the title of "interior designer," and you can't refer to the services you offer as "interior design."

Coming September 1: Lower registration fees

In June the Board voted unanimously for something to make Texas interior designers smile. Starting September 1, annual in-state registration fees will be reduced by \$5.

Said TBAE Executive Director Cathy Hendricks, "Five dollars isn't a wheelbarrow full of money, we know. But when was the last time you paid less this year for your cable TV bill or a postage stamp than you did last year? We're pretty proud of what we've done for our customers, and it's all a result of more agency efficiency."



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Architectural Examiners
Architects • Interior Designers • Landscape Architects

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HAVE YOU ORDERED YOUR DESIGN STAMP?

Especially for the Interior Design profession, exclusively from Texas Association for Interior Design.

TBAE Stamp

Stamp # **101** Rubber Stamp \$25.00
102 Self-Inking \$35.00

The Interior Design Rules & Regulations Handbook requires that the information on this stamp be provided to clients.

The Texas Board of Architectural Examiners
333 Guadalupe, Suite 2-350 PO Box 12337
Austin, TX 78701-3942 Austin, TX 78711-2337
Telephone (512) 305-9000
has jurisdiction over complaints regarding the professional practices of persons registered as interior designers in Texas.

Interior Designer Seal

Stamp # **201** Rubber Stamp \$28.00
202 Self-Inking \$38.50
203 Embosser \$42.00

***Non-TAID members add \$5.00 to the above figures

NEW Design mandated by the State EFFECTIVE January 1, 2006

The Interior Design Rules & Regulations Handbook requires that the information on this stamp be provided to clients.



Name to be on Seal

TBAE certificate number

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Stamp # **301** Rubber Stamp \$20.00
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ARE FOR DESIGN INTENT ONLY.
THESE ARE NOT INTENDED FOR
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For additional information, call **281-257-3523**

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Not a member of TAID?

Simply fill out the short form below and remit \$75.00 for annual dues to participate in this important organization representing Texas interior designers.

Name _____ Business Name _____
Address/Phone & Fax # _____ Business Address, if different _____