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TAID

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Here we are again deep into another legislative session. We have seen the threat of deregulation every step of the way and have continued to fight a firm and steady battle with the help of our lobbyist and the many designers and supporters that took the time to make phone calls to the legislators and travel to Austin to visit their offices in person. Countless hours have been put into this effort and I am constantly humbled by the passion and the sacrifices made by designers all over Texas.

It is because of that determination that we have witnessed several victories this session. However, the remaining question is whether grandfathered designers will be required to take the NCIDQ exam to maintain registration through the Texas Board of Architectural Examiners. After much discussion and analysis of the survey results, TAID voted to oppose the examination requirement for grandfathered designers. Unfortunately, there has been some confusion and misinformation about who is opposing or supporting what. Please know that TAID is focused on maintaining what we currently have in place ... that's registration as a design professional through TBAE and keeping the grandfathering law as it was written over 20 years ago ... not requiring those designers to take the exam after 20 years of practicing as a registered design professional and taking the required hours of continuing education, while employing and supporting emerging professionals that wish to seek the registration path.

I certainly understand the current desire or argument for reduced government regulation. However, the desire to have self-imposed registration in order to have an equal opportunity to compete for work should have some validity as well. Our great country was founded on the principles of equality and the right to freedom of choice. What I don't understand is why the choice and desire to seek the registration path is now suddenly seen as a negative thing. It has always existed as an opportunity for those that want to take it ... not as a tool for exclusivity or discrimination as some may tell you. Not everyone chooses to take advantage of

that opportunity and there is nothing wrong with that. That is their freedom of choice.

It is that same freedom of choice that allowed me, this first generation minority student, that couldn't speak English, that was raised by a single mother who immigrated here from Mexico seeking the "American Dream" ... to graduate with honors from a university and take advantage of the opportunity established by the grandfathered designers ... to now find me sitting in front of you as the leader of this coalition of amazing designers!

I suppose I could have viewed the registration path as discriminatory since I seem to personally fit the categories presented by the opposition, but I never encountered that at any step along the way. I am proud of my achievement as a Registered Interior Designer because it took a lot of hard work, sacrifice and determination to reach my goal. By all stereotypical accounts I should not have succeeded as I did and that is why I am dedicated to keeping this opportunity available for others. The path to registration is not discriminatory or exclusive to a select few. It is available (and attainable) for anyone willing to plan accordingly.

TAID is taking steps to communicate more effectively with you about the legislature and legislative process in general with the new "TAID Voice" e-blast and providing regular updates during the session. So when someone asks you about TAID please encourage them to become a member or renew their membership so they get accurate information. We are listening to your feedback so that we are able to serve your needs better. Visit the website at www.supporttaid.org or contact us to find out what you can do today!

Sincerely,

Rosa G. Salazar, RID, IIDA, ASID

www.supporttaid.org

Visit our website for additional information

Executive Director News

The 83rd legislative session is almost over. These last few weeks of the session are packed with long days and meetings going well into the evening. Time is precious and tensions are high. This is our state government hard at work.

The question most of you are asking me is, "Why do all of these legislators want to eliminate our regulation?". I can only guess as to the answer but I am glad to share my guesses with you. First, is the tea party movement which has to do with less regulation and more Freedom for all citizens. No matter how much we tell them this is a VOLUNTARY registration for those that wish to have the registration in order to sign and seal their documents, it appears to fall on deaf ears. Secondly, the Institute for Justice (a libertarian law firm based in DC) opened an office in Austin. To me this means that each year their lawyer, Matt Miller, will approach a legislator about our registration. The big question is how many years are they going to waste every ones time, money and energies to fight this. Third is the Sunset Commission's job is to look at agency's every twelve years to determine if they are still necessary and serving the public in their intended purpose. An interim charge given to Sunset was to find regulation that was unnecessary and with that in mind, I think we were low hanging fruit and an easy target. Remember we have a title act, not a practice act. Again, these are my personal guesses and that is all I can give you.

Many of you may be hearing from the Past President of the ASID Texas Chapter, Kelley Barnett, who has resigned from ASID and pulled her registration from TBAE. She is now the Founder of the Texans for Interior Design Deregulation. Recently NKBA send out an email and I have copied their words – *"(Patti Morrow has) been working with Texas activist Kelley Barnett to repeal the Texas title act. While we were not successful in taking it down (this time), we were able to get an amendment in place that would force the current RID's who were originally grandfathered (the majority) to take the NCIDQ exam. Why is this important?"*

1. Grandfathering perpetrates a fraud on the public who rely on state

information to be accurate and not misrepresent their credentials.

2. *It is unfair to current practicing non-NCIDQ designers who are put at an unfair competitive disadvantage.*

3. *A great many will not bother to take the NCIDQ because they don't qualify to sit for it, don't want to pay the fees, take the time to study, or just feel it's unnecessary. **This will greatly reduce the number of RID's and create an economic burden for the state to continue to fund the board, thereby making it easier to try and get it repealed in the near future.***

TAID has made it very clear that our position is one to support all those currently registered and to do everything we can to allow those grandfathered to maintain their registration without examination. So now you are hearing two different versions on the subject. My advice is to listen to the testimony for yourself. All of you need to do is go to the house website where the broadcasts are archived. www.house.state.tx.us/video-audio/committee-broadcasts/committee-archives/player/?session=83&committee=350&ram=13032612350 Then you can move the time to 1.45.40 which is the beginning of HB1717 being presented by Rep. Price.

If you want to hear Kelley, she begins her testimony at 1.51.44, this is where she testifies that she wants those that were grandfathered to take the examination. You can hear my testimony at 1.55.15. Listen for yourself and see who supports you!

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. TAID is here for you and the profession and will continue to work for ALL Registered Interior Designers.



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



Spotlight on our Board Members

Louise Nicholson Carter, AAHID, IIDA, EDAC, Principal, Skyline Art Services

TAID Vice President of Membership

Like most of you, I stay away from the world of politics. The political scene appears to me to be inherently unpleasant, confusing and self-serving. However, despite this unfortunate truth, 25 years ago TAID helped me realize how important it is to develop a relationship with my legislators. TAID taught me that I have a responsibility to communicate my needs and views to my Senator and State Representative in order to enhance and support the interior design profession. I have been educated on the responsibility our elected officials have to listen and represent me and all interior designers on legislative issues.

I am passionate about the value interior designers bring to their clients and projects. I know how critical it is for interior designers to be qualified by education, examination and experience . . . in all segments of interior design.

My career has been largely focused on healthcare interior design. My passion for healthcare design and the importance of this specialized marketplace served as a backbone for participation in the founding of AAHID, (American Academy of Healthcare Interior Designers) and to be among the first to receive Evidence-based Design Accreditation and Certification (EDAC). While I believe strongly about the important role of these organizations, none of these organizations are valid unless we continue to be heard by our Senators and State Representatives about the interior design profession. TAID is our lifeline to the real world of business, representing and monitoring legislative issues on our behalf through a lobbyist.

I encourage each of you to take the passion you have for interior design and share your work with your legislators. Most people, including your Senators and State Representatives do not understand the depth and importance of your knowledge, education and experience. They need to hear from you so they can better protect the people of Texas!

Skyline Art Services is a full-service art consulting company focused in the healthcare and corporate marketplace.

Skyline Art Services specializes in a unique discovery process, called the Skyline Signature Experience™ . By using a variety of artistic concepts and mediums we help our clients develop a visual strategy to express their unique identity and contribute to overall workplace excellence.

Louise Nicholson Carter is a founding principal of Skyline Art Services and has provided art consulting services for major healthcare facilities throughout the U.S.



NCIDQ Examination

Frequently Asked Questions about the IDFX and IDPX

What are the IDFX and IDPX?

These are NCIDQ's two multiple-choice exams administered through our partner, Prometric.

IDFX: Interior Design Fundamentals Exam (3 hours, 125 questions, US\$255)

Programming, Design Application, Building Systems, Construction Document Standards, Drawing Standards and Design Communication

IDPX: Interior Design Professional Exam (4 hours, 175 questions, US\$300)

Codes, Building Systems, Specifications, Construction Document Standards, Contract Administration, Project Coordination and Professional Practice

When are these exams given?

The IDFX and IDPX are given over a nine-day window each spring and fall at Prometric test centers. Exams will be administered Monday through Saturday. Registration will be completed through Prometric's system rather than your MyNCIDQ account. We will advise you via email when and how to register.

Where are Prometric test centers located?

You can choose from any of more than 300 locations in the United States and Canada. If you have taken the LEED or ARE exams, it is the same test network.

How do I make a reservation for a test?

NCIDQ will email you when registration is open. First, read the Guide to the IDFX and IDPX Examinations, which will contain complete information regarding the upcoming administration. Then, you will register online through Prometric's web site or via their toll-free number. The process is similar to booking an airline reservation. You will choose the location where you want to test and the day you want to test. The system will tell you what times are available based on the length of the exam(s) you are taking. You'll make your selection and provide your payment information. The system will email you a confirmation with all the details of your test center.

We recommend reserving your place as early as possible to ensure that you get the date/time/location you want. Prometric tests many

different kinds of candidates with exams of varying lengths on any given day, so you should have an alternate day in mind in case your first choice isn't available.

How far in advance do I have to reserve my space?

It is your choice. You can register as soon as you're notified registration is open or you can wait until the day before you want to test. Obviously, the earlier you reserve, the more choices you'll have. Prometric also accepts same-day or walk-in reservations, provided space is available. You can only test during the established window, so if you wait too long, you may not get your desired location or you may miss the testing window completely.

Can I pay by company check?

No. Prometric does not accept personal or company checks. All payments must be made by credit or debit card.

What if I need to cancel or change my reservation?

Changes and cancellations are allowed. You can make changes either through the Prometric web site or through their customer service number. Depending on how far in advance you change or cancel, you may incur fees. If you are due a refund, you will receive a check from NCIDQ 60 days after the testing window closes.

Do I need to know any specific computer programs?

No, all you need to do is move a mouse over a button on the screen and click it. There is an optional tutorial before the exam if you wish to become familiar with the system. This tutorial time is not counted in your testing time.

How early should I arrive at the test center?

You should arrive at least 15 minutes early to complete the check-in process and security procedures. Plan ahead for weather or traffic delays or parking problems. If you are late for your appointment, you will be considered a "no-show," and you will forfeit your fees. You can reschedule your exam if there is time available within the window, but you will have to pay a second registration fee.



What should I bring with me to the test center?

You will need two forms of identification: one must be a current government-issued ID with your photo and signature on it (such as your driver's license or passport), and the other must have your signature on it (such as a signed credit card). Prometric will provide a small locker, and you must leave all your items in it. Don't bring backpacks, books, laptops, etc.

Other than your photo ID and locker key, Prometric does not allow any personal items in the testing room. Before entering the testing room, you will be asked to empty your pockets, and you will be scanned with a hand-held metal detector. Any time you enter or exit the testing room, you must present your photo ID.

Prometric will provide scratch paper and pencils and earplugs or noise-cancelling headphones if you want them.

What is the testing room like?

You will be seated in a room with other candidates at an individual work station similar to study carrels. The room will be monitored for security.

Will there be a clock in the testing room or can I bring my own travel clock?

No. The testing room does not have a clock in it, and you may not wear a watch or bring a clock. There is a countdown timer on the screen, and a 30-minute warning window will pop up.

Can I bring a calculator?

No. An on-screen basic calculator will be available to you.

Can I take a break?

Yes, however, you must comply with all Prometric testing-room procedures, and you will not be permitted to make up any time you are out of the testing room. Accessing reference materials is strictly prohibited and will result in disciplinary actions.

Can I bring a bottle of water to the exam?

No. You can leave food and drink in your locker and take a break to access it. However, you must comply with all Prometric testing-room procedures, and you will not be permitted to make up any time you are out of the testing room.

Will I get my results right away?

No. We will be performing quality-control checks behind the scenes to ensure fairness to all candidates. Your scores will be sent to you about eight weeks after your test.

Still have questions?

Visit www.ncidq.org or www.prometric.com for more information!

Follow us on Facebook and Twitter!

www.facebook.com/NCIDQ

www.twitter.com/NCIDQ

TAID Day of Education, June 25, 2013

Just a few of the 6 hours of CEU's for TBAE credits to be presented June 25th.
See the full schedule at www.supportTAID.org.

THE ART OF LIGHTING: Susan Judkins shows how directing the right kind of light by the use of sculptural shading shapes can place illumination where you want it in the amount you want to make an area for work or dining visually comfortable for your clients businesses and homes. Some of the product line uses recycled resin saved from previous manufacturing processes.

NEW COURSE: The NANO technology for flame resistance of fabrics we have been promising to present. Marlowe Newman, of Nano.gov, shows the burning upholstered furniture video she filmed at Consumer Product Safety Commission testing facility.

NOT THE SAME OLD BARRIER FREE: TDLR Interpretations of how to APPLY Texas Accessibility Standards when they are not clear.

WHAT IF YOU COULD CAPTURE THE SUN AND EXTEND DAYLIGHTING TIMES? Jason Brain, of Ciralite, shows a solar-powered skylight daylighting solution for retail and workplaces operating dawn to dusk as well as energy savings for those that operate 24/7.

TBAE Newsletter

Grandfathers and testing and fingerprints? Here's the story so far

By the Texas Board of Architectural Examiners

TAID has asked us for an update on the latest events from the Capitol, and we're happy to share what we know.

Odd-numbered years tend to be a little frenzied around the TBAE office, as 150 House Members and 31 Senators convene in Austin to make new laws and tweak or remove old ones. If it seems to you that 2013 is even a little bit more frantic than most legislative years, well, we'd say you're not alone.

Beginning more than a year ago, an oversight organization called the Sunset Advisory Commission (Sunset) began a thorough review of every facet of TBAE. Almost every state governmental entity is subject to this periodic Sunset review process. There is a law for each agency which says the agency will be abolished on a specific date unless that date is changed as a result of this process. The end product of a Sunset review is a "Sunset bill" introduced at the Capitol that changes both major and minor aspects of how the subject agency operates. An agency's Sunset bill is must-pass legislation. If the Sunset bill for TBAE does not pass, TBAE will be abolished on September 1, 2013.

If you are reading this, it's likely that you already have heard about some of the changes Sunset has proposed and that have been written into the bill. And understandably, you may not be thrilled with some of these ideas. Namely, the Sunset bill contains the following attention-getting proposals:

1. Requiring all RIDs who have not yet passed the national licensing exam to do so by a certain deadline (at the time of writing, that deadline is September 1, 2016).
2. Requiring TBAE registrants (including RIDs) to submit fingerprints to DPS for the purpose of criminal background checks.

There seems to be much confusion regarding the origin of these proposals. Where did these ideas come from in the first place?

As noted above, the Sunset Commission decided upon the changes for TBAE's laws and operations based upon its review of the agency. Part of that review includes receiving input from stakeholders, such as consumers within the general public, RIDs, other design professionals and unregistered interior designers. The test-taking requirement noted above would appear to be an alternative to a previous Sunset proposal to deregulate RIDs entirely. (The deregulation idea was opposed unanimously by the TBAE Board. Deregulation was never written into the Sunset bill. Other bills do exist to accomplish the same thing, though as of now

none of them appear to be progressing.) When asked by Sunset what would be a "reasonable" time frame for taking the examination, should Sunset's test-taking proposal become law, we looked into it and suggested a minimum of seven years. Ultimately, the Sunset Commission voted to write a three-year deadline into the bill instead.

The fingerprint-based background check proposal is one that Sunset recommends for many different types of occupational licensees in Texas. Dozens of other state agencies already require registrants—like attorneys, teachers, and doctors—to meet this requirement. While this was not an idea TBAE offered, we understand both sides of the issue. It may be an annoyance, but at least it would be a one-time-only annoyance and would provide a greater level of comfort for your client and protection of the public.

By design, the legislative process is slow, deliberate, and accessible by the public. But one thing your high school civics class might not have taught you is this: a state agency like TBAE does not have a seat at the negotiating table. By law, we are prohibited from advocating for one side of an issue or the other, and may only serve as a resource witness when called. Essentially, TBAE's role in the legislative process boils down most often to simply answering questions factually and rationally, and leaving the advocacy to stakeholders.

With about a month left in the legislative session, the ultimate fate of the bill's individual provisions is far from certain. In fact, the legislation is really only half the way home, at best. The bill, HB 1717, recently passed the House after some rather lively debate, and is now in the Senate, where it will be discussed by a committee and scheduled for debate by the full body. Should the bill be amended in that chamber, it will need to be agreed to by the House before becoming law. You can follow all the latest developments on our Legislative Information Clearinghouse.

One final note: We are pleased to welcome two new Board Members and one TBAE veteran reappointment. This week the Texas Senate confirmed Mr. Chad Davis of Lubbock as the new Landscape Architect Board Member, and Mr. Davey Edwards of Alvord as a new Public Board Member. And last but not least, we welcome Mr. Chuck Anastos of Corpus Christi back to his position as an Architect Member.

Glenn Garry

Communications Manager



Continuing Education



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www.supporttaid.org



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FUTURE CEU DATES DALLAS

May 7th, Tuesday

June 25th, Tuesday

September 6th, Friday

November 5th, Tuesday

All classes will be held at the
Dallas Market Center, Room 9065

Check our website for more details.

www.supporttaid.org

WE HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE

TAID Annual Art Gala

time: Thursday September 26, 2013
5:00 pm to 8:00 pm

place: Skyline Art Services
6955 Portwest Drive, Ste160
Houston, TX 77024
www.skylineartservices.com

admission tickets includes one drink ticket & snacks
\$10 adult admission :: \$3 student admission
raffles, door prizes, silent auction, art sale and live music

Texas Association for Interior Design is an association representing all the business and legislative aspects of the Interior Design industry in Texas.

Find out more: www.supportTAID.org



TAID Annual Art Gala is sponsored by: Coordinated Moving System, Inc :: Dal-Tile :: E2E :: Gulf Coast Window Covering :: Gensler :: Haworth :: I.A. Naman + Associates, Inc :: InPro Corporataion :: Inventure Design - JCS :: KC Rep Source :: L & D Upholstery, Inc :: McCoy Floorcovering :: MDC Wallcoverings :: MDI Resources :: Milestone Project Management :: Nemschoff/Brandrud :: PDR :: Putterman, Scharck & Associates :: Seminars by Design :: Skyline Art Services :: Structure Tone :: Southwest Terrazzo





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

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 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

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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.



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For additional information, call **281-257-3523**

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TOTAL _____

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 _____