

INSIDE



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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

TAID

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Happy New Year my fellow TAID members! I hope your year has started off better than you expected. As for me, I am looking ahead with caution as we tread through this new legislative session. As you may know, the Sunset Commission voted in December to keep interior designers regulated. That was certainly great news, however, the new condition or recommendation was to require all grandfathered designers to take the NCIDQ exam within 3 years.

This announcement was received with mixed emotions from those directly affected as well as those that are not. In order to address this issue, TAID called a special meeting of the Board of Directors to create a survey in which members have the opportunity to share their thoughts. You will have received it by the time you read this letter. Responding to the survey will allow us to better formulate a plan based on the desire of the members. If you are reading this letter and are not a TAID member, then I urge you to join now so that your opinion can be heard. It is important for TAID to hear all points of view! This coalition exists for you and our profession and needs your feedback to make it stronger!

In addition, the strength of this and any coalition is measured by the level of support given to it ... whether the support is through financial means, through service and volunteering or providing active feedback. All of these parts are equally important and necessary. TAID cannot take on the burden of "saving our profession" alone either. We need the continuous support of our partners ASID and IIDA if we are expected to make an impact on issues that affect all of us.

Lately it seems there are more questions as to whether financial support should be given to TAID. Believe me when I tell you that now is not the time to be holding back funds! The threat on our profession is not going away soon. Even though it seems we won this recent battle, it was only a battle and there are many others ahead for us because "deregulation" is the new "trend" and we are perceived as an "obvious target." If TAID is expected to take on the upcoming battles, then we must be armed properly. We

must have the ability to hire multiple lobbyists to fight on the front lines for us at a moment's notice if needed ... we must have sufficient PAC funds to affect legislation as needed ... we must have active members ready to jump into action and establish a presence in our industry. I have said before that our legislative and lobbying presence is only as strong as the money we have to feed it. Less money equals weak presence or no presence at all. Please keep that in mind when you start planning your budgets for the year.

I also want to make you aware how impressive the board of directors is. This is a group of volunteers that is truly passionate about your profession and dedicate personal funds and countless hours away from work and family to attend board meetings all over Texas (and you know it's a long way from El Paso to Houston!) ... to hold monthly or weekly committee meetings via conference calls ... to attend meetings and hearings at the capitol to educate the legislators about what we do ... to attend and volunteer at partner association events and trade shows to strengthen those relationships ... to create and attend meetings with students at universities all over Texas ... to attend and volunteer at fundraising events that benefit TAID ... to work on and help with legislator's campaigns in order to build and strengthen those relationships ... and the list goes on. These persons do all of this unselfishly and without hesitation because they understand the mission.

So when someone asks you what TAID does for the profession, then you can tell them confidently that they are working to protect your interests. But also tell them that this is too much work for a small group of people and that our coalition needs more active volunteers. Don't assume that someone else is already taking care of it! Visit the website at www.supporttaid.org or contact us to find out what you can do to help today!

Sincerely,

Rosa G. Salazar, RID, IIDA, ASID

www.supporttaid.org

Visit our website for additional information

Executive Director News

The Legislature of the State of Texas, operating under the biennial system, convenes its regular sessions at noon on the second Tuesday in January of odd-numbered years. The maximum duration of a regular session is 140 days. The governor is given authority under the state constitution to convene the legislature at other times during the biennium. Such sessions are known as called or special sessions and are reserved for legislation that the governor deems critically important in the conduct of state affairs. Called sessions are limited to a period of 30 days, during which the legislature is permitted to pass laws only on subjects submitted by the governor in calling for the session.

As you have learned this past year, even when the legislature is not in session, work is going on. For us, the Sunset was a major item during the ‘interim session’ (when the legislature is not in its regular session.)

Many of you are asking, “What happens next?” The staff of the Sunset Commission gives their report to Leg Counsel who then crafts the actual bill language. The bill will be referred to as the Sunset Bill for Texas Board of Architectural Examiners.

The bill will have a Senate sponsor and a House sponsor, which have not been identified as of this time. Then the bill will move forward through both houses, going through committee hearings and finally being voted on in both houses. If the bill passes, the agency is continued with the suggested modifications. If the bill fails, the agency begins its one year wind down process.

What can you do now? First, we hope that you have received our survey regarding the Sunset bill and have answered the questions. The board will be looking at all the surveys and working with the lobbyists to determine our best course of action.

The other thing that you can always do is meet your legislator and his or her staff. Legislators want to hear from their constituents, if they don't hear from you, they believe all is fine and you have no issues. A first visit to any legislator can be very simple. Just “Hello, I want to introduce myself to you. I am Jane Doe and I live at 1234 Texas Lane, in your district. I am a Registered Interior Designer and we are regulated by the Texas Board of Architectural Examiners. Our agency is going through Sunset review during this session and I would appreciate your vote to continue the agency.”

As soon as we have a bill number, we will send out an email blast. This will be important information that your legislator will want to know. Remember that each session thousands of bills are filed which is a huge task for all legislators to read and stay current on each one. Each legislator has staff who help them with this huge undertaking. The staff of each legislator helps them keep everything in its place and assists the legislator as to how many constituents have made calls to them about which bills. Trust me a large number of calls to a legislator's office, does make an impression.

I have included in this newsletter a list of the members of the 83rd legislation, a website if you don't know who represents you, and an article about the make up of the 83rd Texas Legislature. As always, if you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

I would like to THANK each and every one of you for your continual support of TAID. We could not do what we do without your DUES. \$75.00 is the smallest insurance I have ever purchased and it insures my PROFESSION – I wouldn't leave home without it!



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



Spotlight on our Board Members

Rosa G. Salazar

TAID President

My second career as an interior designer started almost 9 years ago but it feels like I've done this my whole life. When I was a young kid, I had the Disney LP records that had the storybooks in them that let you follow along. Does anyone else remember those? I would take those, open them and stand them up end to end to make a floor plan. Then I would make furniture out of small cereal boxes. Suddenly I had the best Barbie doll house ever! I still get that excited with my projects now. I love what I do and how it makes people feel.

When I first decided to go back to school, I didn't know anything about interior design legislation or that there was a path to registration with the state. I certainly didn't know how important it would be that I was attending a CIDA accredited program either. I joined the ASID student chapter at Texas Tech University and eventually became President and Student Rep to the ASID TX Chapter Board. It was the leadership conference I attended through ASID that opened my eyes to many things. I took what I learned and brought it back to the students in Texas. At the time, TAID was working on a Practice Act and I rounded up a group of students from several schools to join us at the Capitol during Legislative Days. It was an amazing experience and I was hooked! I am proud to say that we've had students attending the Legislative Days ever since. I went on to speak to students and faculty at ASID and IDEC events about the role students play in legislation. I took what I learned and led my student chapter to national recognition by earning the ASID National Student Chapter of the Year award during my presidency.

Soon after, I graduated with honors and joined the staff at Facilities Planning & Construction at Texas Tech University, where I worked on some amazing projects and eventually earned my state registration. After my time at Texas Tech, I ran my own business for a while under the name RGS Design Studio and added some really great projects to my portfolio. About a year ago, I met Condray Design Group because they needed to contract a designer to work on a project at Texas Tech. We hit it off right away so I put my business on the back burner and went to work with them. I feel very blessed to work with architects that value what we do as designers and understand our role on the design team. My hope is that one day it will be the normal way of business in our industry.

I guess that's why I believe my role in this profession is to help it progress so that our students will have a path to higher achievement in the industry. I also want our education to have value so that no one can say, "I didn't have to go to school to do what you do." I invested too much money and many long hours for someone to tell me that my profession is more like a hobby and not important enough to have regulatory privileges. That's why I'm active in TAID. It gave me the voice to help change opinions and stereotypes and I am grateful for the opportunity. TAID has become an important part of my family's life. My husband has become a strong advocate for us as well and was instrumental in getting us in touch with the Fire Marshall that testified for us at the hearing. My 5 year old daughter has also been involved and present at TAID events since she was born and was affectionately named the "youngest member of the board." My family and I will continue to passionately advocate for the profession and hope this inspires others to do the same!



83rd Texas Legislature

Listed Alphabetically with District Number

Senate

Brian Birdwell, 22
Donna Campbell, 25
John Carona, 16
Wendy Davis, 10
Bob Deuell, 2
Robert Duncan, 28
Rodney Ellis, 13
Kevin Eltife, 1
Craig Estes, 30
Troy Fraser, 24
Kelly Hancock, 9
Glenn Heger, 18
Chuy Hinojosa, 20
Joan Huffman, 17
Eddie Lucio, Jr., 27
Jane Nelson, 12
Robert Nichols, 3
Dan Patrick, 7
Ken Paxton, 8
Jose Rodriguez, 29
Charles Schwertner, 5
Kel Seliger, 31
Larry Taylor, 11
Leticia Van de Putte, 26
Carlos Uresti, 19
Kirk Watson, 14
Royce West, 23
John Whitmire, 15
Tommy Williams, 4
Judith Zaffarini, 21

One Senate seat is open as of this printing.

The Senate is presided over by the Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst. The Lt. Gov. is elected by the public. The Lt. Gov. appoints committee chairs and members.

House

Alma Allen, 131
Roberto Alonzo, 104
Carol Alvarado, 145
Rafael Anchia, 103
"Doc" Anderson, 56
Trent Ashby, 57
Jimmie Don Aycock, 54
Cecil Bell, Jr., 3
Dwayne Bohac, 138
Dennis Bonnen, 16
Greg Bonnen, 24
Dan Branch, 108
Cindy Burkett, 101
Lon Burnam, 90
Angie Chen Button, 112
Bill Callegari, 132

Terry Canales, 40
Giovanni Capriglione, 98
Stefani Carter, 102
Travis Clardy, 11
Garnet Coleman, 147
Nicole Collier, 95
Byron Cook, 10
Philip Cortez, 95
Tom Craddick, 82
Brandon Creighton, 16
Myra Crownover, 64
Tony Dale, 136
Drew Darby, 72
John Davis, 129
Sarah Davis, 134
Yvonne Davis, 111
Joe Deshotel, 22
Dawnna Dukes, 46
Harold Dutton, Jr. 142
Craig Eiland, 23
Gary Elkins, 135
Pat Fallon, 106
Joe Farias, 118
Marsha Farney, 20
Jessica Farrar, 148
Allen Fletcher, 130
Dan Flynn, 2
James Frank, 69
John Frullo, 84
Charlie Geren, 99
Helen Giddings, 109
Craig Goldman, 97
Larry Gonzales, 52
Mary Gonzalez, 75
Naomi Gonzalez, 76
Lance Gooden, 4
Bobby Guerra, 41
Ryan Guillen, 31
Roland Gutierrez, 119
Patricia Harless, 126
Linda Harper-Brown, 105
Ana Hernandez Luna, 143
Abel Herrero, 34
Harvey Hildebran, 53
Donna Howard, 48
Dan Huberty, 127
Bryan Hughes, 5
Todd Hunter, 32
Jason Isaac, 45
Eric Johnson, 100
Kyle Kacal, 12
Jim Keffer, 60
Ken King, 88
Phil King, 61
Susan King, 71
Tracy King, 80
Tim Kleinschmidt, 17
Stephanie Klick, 91
Lois Kolkhorst, 13
Matt Krause, 93

John Kuempel, 44
Lyle Larson, 122
Jodie Laubenberg, 89
George Lavender, 1
Jeff Leach, 67
Tryon Lewis, 81
Oscar Longoria, 35
J. M. Lozano, 43
Eddie Lucio, III, 38
Marisa Marquez, 77
Armando Martinez, 39
Trey Fischer Martinez, 116
Ruth Jones McClendon, 120
Jose Menendez, 124
Borris Miles, 146
Doug Miller, 73
Rick Miller, 26
Joseph Moody, 78
Geanie Morrison, 30
Sergio Munoz, Jr. 36
Jim Murphy, 133
Elliott Naishtat, 49
Poncho Nevarez, 74
Rene Oliveira, 37
Rob Orr, 58
John Otto, 18
Chris Paddie, 9
Tan Parker, 63
Diane Patrick, 94
Mary Perez, 144
Charles Perry, 83
Larry Phillips, 62
Joe Pickett, 79
Jim Pitts, 10
Four Price, 87
John Raney, 14
Bennett Ratliff, 115
Richard Pena Raymond, 42
Ron Reynolds, 27
Debie Riddle, 150
Allan Ritter, 21
Eddie Rodriguez, 51
Justin Rodriguez, 125
Toni Rose, 110
Scott Sanford, 70
Matt Schaefer, 6
Kenneth Sheets, 107
J. D. Sheffield, 59
Ralph Sheffield, 55
Ron Simmons, 65
David Simpson, 7
Wayne Smith, 128
John Smithee, 86
Drew Springer Jr., 68
Phil Stephenson, 85
Jonathan Strickland, 92
Mark Strama, 50
*Speaker Joe Straus, 121
Van Taylor, 66
Ed Thompson, 29

Senfronia Thompson, 141
Steve Toth, 15
Chris Turner, 101
Scott Turner, 33
Sylvester Turner, 139
Jason Villalba, 114
Mike Villarreal, 123
Hubert Vo, 149
Armando Walle, 140
James White, 12
Paul Workman, 47
Gene Wu, 137
Bill Zedler, 96
John Zerwas, 28

-Names in red are new this session.

* The Speaker of the House is elected by the members of the house on the first day of the Session. The Speaker appoints committee chairs and members.

If you don't know who represents you, this is a great website.

www.fyi.legis.state.tx.us/Home.aspx
Texas 2010 census population = 25,145,561

811,147 State Senate
(31 districts)

167,637 State House of Representatives
(150 districts)

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The Honorable _____
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P. O. Box 12068
Austin, Tx 78711-2068

To write to your State Representative:

The Honorable _____
State Representative
P. O. Box 2910
Austin, Tx 78768-2910

Trivia

The state constitution requires that all bills increasing taxes or raising revenue for use by the state originate in the house of representatives.



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2012 Texas Accessibility Standards (TAS) - Field Reference Manual

83rd Texas Legislature Facts

I thought you might be interested in knowing a little more about the people that represent you.

There are 31 State Senators – they range in age from the oldest being 68 to the youngest being 42. The average number of years of legislative experience is 13.5, with legislative experience up to 40 years. The senators have a combined total of 405 years of legislative experience. The Senate is currently composed of 24 men and 6 women; 19 Republicans and 11 Democrats; 25 incumbents and 6 new members.

Houston Senator Mario Gallegos passed away in October of last year due to complications from a 2007 liver transplant. The seat for Gallegos' district, Senate District 6 in Houston, currently stands vacant, pending a special election to be held on January 26. The occupations or industries include advertising, broadcasting, business, communications, education, engineering, farming, finance, law, medicine, non-profit, pharmacy, real estate and steel.

There are 150 State Representatives – they range in age from the oldest being 73 to the youngest being 29. There are 33 in their 30's or 60's; 36 in their 40's; 47 in their 50's and 1 in their 20's. The House is currently composed of 119 men and 31 women; 95 Republicans and 55 Democrats; 111 incumbents and 39 new members.

Nearly one-third of them went to a private college or university, and nearly two-thirds went to public schools. Four went to community colleges, while six have only a high school education.

Nearly one-third of lawmakers attended a University of Texas-affiliated school, including the University of Texas at Austin, the University of Texas-Pan American and the University of Texas at San Antonio. Baylor University, a private university, has been attended by 11.

Gender diversity has taken a step back this session. While more than half of Texas' population is female, women hold fewer than 21 percent of the Legislature's seats. There are 37 women in the House and Senate combined, down from 43 in 2009 and 38 in 2011.

Ethnic diversity continues to tick slowly upward in this legislative session. There are 38 Hispanic lawmakers in the Legislature, accounting for more than 20 percent of the House and Senate. The number of black lawmakers — 20, or roughly 11 percent — is up by one member since the last session. There are 3 Asian lawmakers.

The expanding diversity of the Legislature is “a trend that's been continuing for a long, long time and it mirrors the changing face of this state,” said state Rep. Rafael Anchia, D-Dallas. “This state will be Hispanic and African-American into the future, and the elected representatives simply reflect that growing demographic and that political power.”

The diversity of lawmakers' careers, meanwhile, is less varied: Roughly a third identify as lawyers, and a third identify as business owners or executives.

Real estate is the money-maker for 16 legislators. Slightly more lawmakers earn income from ranching and agriculture — 14 — than work in the health care field (12, not including veterinarians), and just a handful are educators or work in the nonprofit realm.

Texas senators elected Leticia Van de Putte, D-San Antonio, to serve as president pro tempore of the 83rd legislative session.

The Honorable Joe Straus was re-elected Speaker of the Texas House of Representatives by a unanimous vote at the commencement of the 83rd Regular Legislative Session on January 8, 2013.



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