Welcome to Elevate, the first semi-annual publication from IIDA’s Northern and Southern California joint committee to elevate the commercial interior design profession in California. Elevate is your resource to learn how IIDA connects commercial interior designers with the public, local jurisdictions, and state legislators to increase awareness and understanding of our work and the impact we make in our communities.

This first edition looks back at the history of legislation in California and explains our current efforts to secure consistent acceptance of stamp and seal privileges for Certified Interior Designers (CIDs) throughout California.

IIDA’s knowledgeable team of advocates continues to make strides in Sacramento with support from IIDA headquarters and IIDA’s California lobbyist, Christina Marcellus of Capitol Advisors. In this issue, Christina shares her perspective on how Governor Gavin Newsom’s shelter-in-place order impacts the state legislature and political efforts on the horizon for interior designers. Continue reading to learn how you can support IIDA’s efforts by responding to a short survey and sharing a newsworthy story about our amazing community of designers.

During this historic time, we trust you are sheltering-in-place with your loved ones and know that the IIDA community is here to provide support. We look to you, our resilient, dynamic, and diverse members, to lend your voice in Sacramento and in your local jurisdictions as solution-oriented leaders.

Regardless of what the new normal becomes, commercial interior designers will continue to be trusted professionals shaping safe and healthy environments for all.

Please read on and help us Elevate commercial interior design.

Thank you.

Katie Toth
President-Elect
IIDA Southern California

Yoko Ishihara
President-Elect
IIDA Northern California

A letter from leadership
California efforts timeline

**California adopts Senate Bill 153.**
1. Certification of Interior Designers
2. NCIDQ and several alternate exams
3. No established sealing privileges within California building departments.

**Florida adopts registration for Interior Designers.** (includes later amendments)
1. Certification of Interior Designers
2. NCIDQ
3. Sealing privileges established within a defined scope
4. Florida Board of Architecture & Interior Design (state board)

**Interior Design Coalition of California (IDCC) is formed by ASID California and joined by IIDA to pursue registration for Interior Designers overseen by a state board.**

**California Assembly Bill 2482**
With support from the Interior Design Coalition of California (IDCC), IDA and ASID, Assembly Bill 2482 is introduced but is pulled prior to a vote due to objection from various groups including AIA California Council, California Architects board, National Kitchen & Bath Association and California Community Colleges (this is the one the legislators cared the most about).

1. Recognizes Registered Interior Designers as design professionals
2. NCIDQ
3. Establishes sealing privileges within a prescribed scope
4. California Registered Interior Designers Board within the Department of Consumer Affairs (state board)

**Utah adopts Senate Bill 117.**
1. Voluntary certification of Commercial Interior Designers
2. NCIDQ
3. Establishes sealing privileges within a prescribed scope
4. Utah Department of Commerce - Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing (state entity)

**Certified Interior Designers**
CCIDC introduces Commercial designation for Certified Interior Designers.

1. Commercial CID designation is not codified in California state law*
2. California-specific ID EX exam plus an additional recognized exam (NCIDQ, ARE, LEED, WELL, NKBA, etc.) and 5 ICC (International Codes Council) courses
3. Acceptance of Commercial CID stamp within building department is not codified in California state law
4. California Council of Interior Design Certification (private board in lieu of a state board)

**Current requirements** for interior designers established in 1990’s SB153 is up for Sunset Review in 2021, requiring commercial interior designers to connect with legislators and stakeholders and testify to the inconsistency in acceptance of the current CID stamp and the continuing need for Commercial Interior Designers to be registered so they may qualify as design professionals under California state law and uphold standards of health, safety, and welfare as do their registered architect and engineer colleagues.

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**ELEVATE**

**LEGEND**
1. Regulation (*Designation)
2. Qualifying Exam
3. Stamp & Seal
4. Regulating Body

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*California Senate Bill 1312 is introduced but is pulled from committee prior to vote.

**Report** prepared by California’s Independent State Oversight Agency known as the Little Hoover Commission. Report indicates that the interior design profession impacts life, safety, and welfare and therefore warrants licensure.

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*California's Independent Occupational Licensure Commission. Report prepared by California’s Independent State Oversight Agency known as the Little Hoover Commission. Report indicates that the interior design profession impacts life, safety, and welfare and therefore warrants licensure.

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*Commercial CID designation is not codified in California state law.
ELEVATE

From the advocacy frontlines

IIDA’s California Lobbyist, Christina Marcellus of Capitol Advisors, has worked with the Northern and Southern California chapters for years to help secure consistent acceptance of stamp and seal privileges for qualified interior designers in California and to understand California’s larger political climate. Christina’s input has never been more important to IIDA as almost the entire globe is in shutdown and observing social distancing protocols for months on end. COVID-19, which began as a worlds-away illness, has upended the lives and careers of billions of people.

Despite the trying circumstances, the year began with great enthusiasm. By mid-January, both IIDA California chapters agreed to pursue legislation in the form of a “study bill.” The legislation would have asked the Legislature to convene a group of experts to examine the current status of interior design, both from a practitioner and regulatory standpoint, and to issue recommendations that could potentially be incorporated into law. While there was significant legislative interest in the issue, several of the offices that were asked to author the legislation thought it more appropriate to hear and approve changes to professional scopes of work during Sunset Review – a legislative oversight system of authorizing, altering, and reauthorizing the boards and councils that administer California’s regulated professions.

Part of IIDA’s advocacy work must be making sure that policymakers are aware of the proactive approach commercial interior designers are taking, and ensuring that the state is doing everything in its power to ensure the safety of California’s buildings and their occupants. Until it is safe, IIDA’s volunteer task force will conduct this advocacy through the power of the internet, and host virtual lobby days with legislators and their staff to promote IIDA’s message. Online member trainings and virtual advocacy roadshows will also be offered. Planning for these events is underway, and those interested in participating should reach out to their chapter’s advocacy chairs to get involved.
We want to hear about your involvement with the interior design profession in California. Share your experience by completing this 5-10 minute survey. Each survey participant will be entered into a drawing to win 1 of 2 $100 gift cards from Heath Ceramics as a thank you for their time and input.

Click here to take our 5-10 minute survey.
Interested in joining our advocacy efforts in California? Reach out to your local IIDA advocates!

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Southern California: christine.peter@iida-socal.org jade.li@iida-socal.org

For the latest updates on Commercial Interior Design legislation text InteriorDesigner to 52886