



Q&A Information

SAFE Interior Design Coalition

<http://www.safeinteriordesign.org>

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- What is the Safe Interior Design Coalition?
 - We are a collective group of design professionals representing ASID, IIDA and independent designers across the state of Indiana. We are a unified voice that seeks recognition of the interior design profession to protect the health, safety and welfare of the public.
 - How will title legislation protect the public?
 - A title act would give the public the option of hiring a qualified “Registered interior designer.” By doing this the public will be ensured they are getting the most qualified professional for their work - a professional that has established minimum competency, including education, experience and examination.
 - How does Registration protect the public’s health, safety and welfare?
 - “Registered Interior Designers” will have met strict requirements to earn this title. Completion of a qualified education in interior design and the passage of the NCIDQ exam ensures that a design professional has the minimum understanding of knowledge, including building and fire codes, accessibility, ergonomics etc.
 - How does legislation provide a level of confidence in the consumer’s mind?
 - By providing legal definitions of the scope of the interior design profession and limiting who may refer to themselves as a “registered interior designer,” legislation helps consumers differentiate the responsibilities and services of each of the design professions. In addition to health, safety and welfare benefits, legal recognition helps consumers choose the appropriate professional and brings the benefit of open competition to the design process.
 - Is interior design language exclusionary?
 - No. The registration language is written to provide architects and qualified interior designers with the option of using the title “registered interior designer.” It does not prevent anyone from providing interior design services. Thus it will not threaten the livelihood of anyone currently practicing interior design.
 - Will registered interior designers have more liability for their work than non-registered interior designers?
 - No. Any designer who enters into a contract for services or goods with a client accepts the liability for the agreement outlined in the document. Interior Design Registration does not change that contractual responsibility.
 - What are the requirements?
 - The requirements to be eligible to become a “registered interior designer” include a combination of 6 years of education, experience and passing the exam:
 - **Education** – Completing a degree in interior design is an essential element to professional practice in interior design. This formal education prepares the professional interior designer with a unique array of knowledge and skills specific to the interior environment.
 - **Experience** – Entry-level work experience facilitates the development of competent interior designers who can provide interior design services and work as professional members of a design team.
 - **Examination** – The NCIDQ exam is currently the only examination that tests minimum competency in the full body of interior design knowledge. The NCIDQ exam is entirely directed at public health, safety and welfare.
 - Do other states have title legislation?
 - Yes, as follows:
 - **States with Title Acts:** (18) Arkansas, Connecticut, Georgia, Illinois, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Minnesota, Missouri, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, Wisconsin. California has a ‘self-certification’ form of a Title Act and Colorado has a ‘permitting statute.’ Half of the states can stamp drawings.
 - **States with Practice Acts:** (5) Alabama, Florida, Nevada, Louisiana, District of Columbia and Puerto Rico.