

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2002 Session

FISCAL NOTE
Revised

House Bill 697

(Delegate Krysiak)

Economic Matters

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Business Occupations and Professions - Certified Interior Designers - Seal

This bill requires certified interior designers to obtain a seal to endorse documents. The State Board of Certified Interior Designers is authorized to reprimand a certificate holder, or suspend or revoke a certificate if the certificate holder signs or seals any interior design documents after the certificate holder's certificate has expired or has been suspended or revoked. Certified interior designers must sign, seal, and date any interior design documents submitted to clients or public authorities.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: The bill's requirements could be handled with existing resources. Potential minimal increase in general fund revenues due to a new violation created under existing penalty provisions.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: Potential minimal.

Analysis

Bill Summary: Under the bill, if a certificate holder signs or seals any interior design documents after the certificate holder's certificate expires, or has been suspended or revoked by the board, the certificate holder may be fined for up to \$5,000 instead of or in addition to a reprimand, or suspension or revocation of the holder's certificate. The board will determine the design of the seal, which must include specified information.

Current Law: There is no statutory requirement for the use of a seal by a certified interior designer.

The board may deny a certificate to an applicant, or reprimand a certificate holder, or revoke or suspend a certificate if an individual is convicted of a felony, or convicted of a misdemeanor that is directly related to the fitness and qualification of the individual to perform certified interior design services. The board may take the same actions if an individual is guilty of any fraud, gross negligence, incompetence, or misconduct in the use of the title “certified interior designer” or the term “certified interior design services,” or if an individual knowingly violates any provision of the code of ethics that the board adopts, or knowingly violates any provision of Title 8 -- Certified Interior Designers -- of the Business Occupations and Professions Article.

Instead of, or in addition to, reprimanding a certificate holder, or suspending or revoking a certificate, the board may impose a penalty not more than \$5,000 for each violation.

Background: Other professional occupations such as land surveyors, property line surveyors, architects, and engineers use seals to certify documents.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: SB 332 (Senator Hollinger) – Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs.

Information Source(s): Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation; Department of Legislative Services

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