

February 9, 2021

The Honorable Paul G. Pinsky Senate Education, Health & Environmental Affairs Committee Miller Senate Office Building, 2 West Wing 11 Bladen St., Annapolis, MD, 21401

RE: Support SB93 (Business Occupations and Professions- Architects- Scope of Licensure)

Dear Chairman Pinsky:

The Maryland Building Industry Association (MBIA), representing 100,000 employees of the building industry across the State of Maryland, supports SB93 (Business Occupations and Professions – Architects - Scope of Licensure).

This measure allows someone to alter or repair a building without hiring a licensed architect if the project does not exceed \$25,000 in estimated costs. This is an increase from \$5,000. This increase could make a difference to housing affordability; the more professionals required, the higher the cost of the project. That cost gets passed along to the homebuyer. Allowing someone – whether it's a homeowner, a contractor, a developer, or a builder – to have this work performed without having to hire a licensed architect helps a project's bottom line and makes it more affordable.

MBIA respectfully requests the Committee give this measure a favorable report. Thank you for your consideration.

For more information about this position, please contact Lori Graf at 410-800-7327 or lgraf@marylandbuilders.org.

cc: Members of the Senate Education, Health & Environmental Affairs Committee