



Lisa Cini, ASID, IIDA, PMP, CHID
House Bill 504 Proponent testimony
House Economic Development, Commerce and Labor Committee
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My name is Lisa Cini and I am the Founder, President, and CEO of Mosaic Design Studio, here in Columbus, Ohio. We are a global commercial design, project management and procurement company, Mosaic's mission is to "*Improve Quality of Life by Design.*"

I am an award-winning, internationally-recognized designer with more than 27 years experience in developing the interiors of health care and senior living centers. My company, Mosaic Design Studio, is the nation's leading provider of design services for senior living, long term care and health care institutions. We maintain a diverse clientele which helps us to bring the best solutions from hospitality, healthcare and corporate into our long-term client's environments. Some of these clients are: the top local and global senior living operators, The United States Air Force, The United States Navy, the National Hockey League, Coopers Hawk Winery, and the OhioHealth Hospital System.

I frequently speak and write on topics ranging from Alzheimer and dementia care to technology at senior living industry conferences as well as TV, radio, and on podcasts including Today in America with Terry Bradshaw and have published 3 books on Senior living and design. This has all been possible with my education and my background as a facilities designer at an Ohio Hospital system and National Senior Living provider.

As a practicing interior designer, I know the impact that the built environment can have on people, particularly, aging populations. In fact, most Americans spend over 90% of their time indoors. This means interior environments shape how we work, live, shop, heal, learn, and play. Every day, I work with clients who want to create the best environment for senior living, long term care, and healthcare. I create code-compliant spaces to meet the specific needs of the occupants. Interior designers know and apply local and state building codes, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) specifications, environmental best practices, and sustainability standards. Interior design impacts lives positively every day.

Like the built environment, the legislative process requires collaboration. In the HB 504 Sub Bill, we addressed several issues of concern, particularly those of the American Institute of Architects (AIA). Per recent interested parties' meetings, it was expressed that interior design was better suited to be moved from the Ohio Board of Building Standards and be a part of the current Architect/Landscape Architect board umbrella creating the Ohio Interior Design Examiners Board who would administer the permissive certification. Despite creating a third professional prong of design professionals, this entity would essentially be better suited and save costs in administering the permissive certification program as it will utilize the facilities and administrative staff of the already existing Architect/Landscape Architects' Board. The board will be comprised of three interior

designers, one licensed architect or engineer, and one public member. We, as a profession, agree with this change as it allows other design professionals to collaborate under one umbrella, like what we do on a daily basis working together on a project. Additionally, at the request of AIA, Representative Pelanda added language in the sub bill that requires certified interior designers to carry liability insurance and made the suggested change to require all continuing education hours primarily emphasizing health, safety, and welfare. In addition, Representative Pelanda added language to ensure that nothing in this bill would require an interior designer to obtain a certificate nor would it prevent licensed persons in this state from providing the practices and services for which they are certified. More specifically, the substitute version now clearly states that an interior designer certificate does not authorize the practice of architecture or engineering, something that we believe was of particular interest to the AIA.

Most importantly, the permissive certification of interior designers would give potential clients another choice for interior projects. Since this permissive certification allows certified interior designers to submit their signature for permits, it allows interior designers to the full capacity of our training for projects within our specific scope. It creates more competition for interior projects and opens up opportunities for small interior design business, overwhelmingly owned by women. Furthermore, it establishes a credential that our clients know shows a minimum standard of competency in our profession. It gives the students from the six outstanding, accredited public interior design programs a reason to stay in Ohio.

Mr. Chairman, and members of the Ohio House Economic Development, Commerce and Labor Committee, thank you for your willingness to allow me to testify in support of Substitute House Bill 504. Interior design is a technical and human-centric practice of designing functional, code-compliant, sustainable, and efficient interior spaces. These spaces range to classrooms designed to fit the needs of all students to healthcare rooms that promote healing and wellness. Our services are recognized by tech leaders, Fortune 500 companies, and leading retailers as significant to employee satisfaction. Functionality of the space, and the bottom line in a cost effective and efficient manner. Substitute HB 504 recognizes that interior designers contribute to the built environment and have the knowledge to protect life and safety within those space. At this time, I would be happy to answer any questions that you or the committee may have.

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