



May 26, 2021

Hon. Dick Stein  
Ohio Representative, District 57  
77 S. High Street  
12<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Columbus, OH 43215

RE: SB 49 - Payment Assurance Legislation

Dear Chairman Stein:

On behalf of the Ohio Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA), I would like to extend our support for Payment Assurance Legislation being proposed in the Ohio Senate that will benefit all licensed practitioners within the profession of Landscape Architecture in Ohio.

Landscape architecture is the analysis, planning, design, management, and stewardship of the natural and built environment. It is a licensed professional service regulated by the State of Ohio that includes the preparation and sealing of drawings, construction documents, and specifications and the administration of contracts in accordance with accepted professional standards of public health, safety, and welfare.

Design Professionals in the construction industry have limited options when a commercial real estate owner does not pay for plans and specifications. Unlike construction contractors, the work of Architects, Landscape Architects, Engineers, and Surveyors does not improve the physical real estate, and therefore a Design Professional cannot file a mechanics' lien. Ohio is currently one of the few, if not the only state that offers no alternative payment protection.

Senate Bill 49 would create lien authority for Ohio Landscape Architects, Architects, Engineers, and Surveyors if unpaid by an owner of real estate under written contract to perform design services. Therefore, we join our colleagues in Architecture, Engineering and Surveying in fully supporting this legislation, with our goal of assuring payment from property owners for design services rendered by professional design firms on commercial real estate projects within our state.

If you would like to contact me directly to discuss this matter, I can be reached by email at [dboyer@edgela.com](mailto:dboyer@edgela.com) or by phone at 219.614.8616.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Doug Boyer".

**Doug Boyer, PLA, ASLA**  
Vice President of Legislative Affairs  
Ohio Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects