



March 13, 2025

Dear Chair Xiong and Members of the Senate State and Local Government Committee,

We are writing today to express our support for SF 96, which codifies the updates to Minnesota Statutes sections 326.02 through 326.15 as proposed by the Minnesota Board of Architecture, Engineering, Land Surveying, Landscape Architecture, Geoscience, and Interior Design (AELSLAGID). We believe that the changes proposed will assist the board in continuing to accomplish their mission of protecting the health, safety, and welfare of the public, and will allow them to perform their duties in an equitable and efficient manner.

We believe that reducing the required years of experience for architect board members from ten years to five, and eliminating the minimum age requirement, will expand the pool of qualified applicants for board service. Clarifying the language related to examinations and to reciprocal licensure will help architect license applicants understand the requirements for licensure in our state. We also support removing the fee for a temporary military license, and clarifying service of process requirements will assist the board in performing its enforcement duties.

Lastly, we support the allowance of retroactive enforcement actions within two years of license expiration for rule or statute violations. Without this important tool, violators can avoid disciplinary action by allowing time to pass, time which is needed by the board to properly investigate claims, prepare their case, and resolve issues. Other professions allow retroactive enforcement, and we believe it is important to protecting Minnesotans by granting appropriate tools for enforcing our existing rules and laws.

The package of changes suggested by the AELSLAGID board is focused on efficiency and clarity of process and expanding access for Minnesota architects and other professionals to the board and the profession. We urge you to pass the changes as put forward by the AELSLAGID board.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jennifer Christiaansen'.

Jennifer Christiaansen, AIA
AIA Minnesota President

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mary-Margaret Zindren'.

Mary-Margaret Zindren, CAE
Executive Vice President, AIA Minnesota

cc: Senator John Hoffman