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MAY 11 2012



## Senate of Pennsylvania

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May 10, 2012

TO: All Senators

FROM: John C. Rafferty, Jr.

RE: Co-sponsorship

In the very near future, I will be introducing legislation which will update the Architects Act. The "Architects Licensure Law" legislation will make several changes to the current law.

Currently, 46 states require architects to participate in continuing education course work. Technological advances in architecture over the last several decades have created a situation where continuing education requirements for architects are warranted. My legislation contains a new requirement for continuing education for architects. Architects would now be required to participate in 24 hours of continuing education every 2 years. Along with the continuing education requirement, this legislation updates the law to allow for electronic seals and signatures, a practice which has been increasingly more common within this profession.

My legislation also makes changes to the current board structure and raises maximum civil penalties to make my legislation consistent with the amendment to Act 48 of 2009. This legislation will also change board member terms from 4 years to 6 years and completely removes references to prosecution and to appointments of hearing examiners by the board because the board no longer has this authority.

Finally, my legislation will also change the current law to allow for licensing of architects by replacing the term "certification" to "license". This legislation also requires applicants for the licensing exam to be enrolled in an approved training program and sets out requirements for reciprocal licensing.

If you would like to co-sponsor this application, please contact Sean Moll by phone at (717) 783-0192 or by e-mail at [smoll@pasen.gov](mailto:smoll@pasen.gov).

JCR/sgm