

HOUSE REPUBLICAN STAFF ANALYSIS

Bill: Senate File 135	House Committee: PASSED March 21 (23-0)
Committee: State Government	House Floor:
Floor Manager: Rep. Golding	Senate Floor: PASSED February 8 (49-0)
Date: April 3, 2023	Governor:
Staff: Jason Covey (1-3626)	

Interior Designers

- Amends the code chapter on interior registered interior designers authorizing them to now make registered interior designs to include non-structural alterations and/or construction to an interior space of a building.
- **Fiscal Note:** Fiscal impact cannot be estimated due to a lack of existing conviction data.

Section by Section Analysis

Section 1 – Definitions (Iowa Code 544C.1)

Adds new definitions to include “building equipment”, “conveyance”, “interior alteration or construction project”, “interior nonstructural element”, and “interior technical submission”.

Section 2 – Definitions (Iowa Code 544C.1(3))

Amends current definition of “registered interior design” to include alteration and construction projects that do not affect the engineered systems of the building.

Does not include practices that constitute the practice of professional engineering or architecture or changes to the structural system of the building, exterior changes, other licensed professions (plumbing, heating, electrical, etc.), or life safety systems.

Section 3 - Establishment of interior design examining board (Iowa Code 544C.2(1))

Conforming code changes to include “registered interior designers”.

Section 4 - Qualifications for registration (Iowa Code 544C.5(2)(a,b,c))

Conforming code changes to include “registered interior designers”.

Section 5 – Scope of Chapter (Iowa Code 544C.12)

Clarifies this chapter of code does not apply to the planning, design, and implementation of kitchen and bathroom spaces in a noncommercial space.

Does not include a person not registered but under the supervision of a registered interior designer or a person executing the plans of a registered interior designer.

Section 6 – Registered interior designers – stamp and seal (Iowa Code 544C.14)

NEW SECTION – Interior designers shall have a seal to identify all technical submissions prepared by the registered designers. The seal shall only be used for submission planned by the registered interior designer.

Section 7 – Registered interior designer stamp and seal – conflicts of interest – penalties (Iowa Code 544C.15)

NEW SECTION - A person who falsely uses the seal of a registered interior designer is guilty of a simple misdemeanor.

Section 8 – Submission of interior technical submissions (Iowa Code 544C.16)

NEW SECTION – An interior technical submission shall be kept as a public record.

Section 9 – REPEAL – (Iowa Code 544C.13)

Repeals transition provisions of Iowa Code that are no longer applicable.