
THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2772
Author: Berman (D)
Amended: 8/17/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE BUS., PROF. & ECON. DEV. COMMITTEE: 9-2, 6/29/26
AYES: Wahab, Choi, Archuleta, Arreguín, Caballero, Grayson, Menjivar,
Smallwood-Cuevas, Umberg
NOES: Niello, Strickland

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 78-0, 5/26/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Interior designers

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill extends the sunset date of the California Council for Interior Design Certification (CCIDC or Council) to January 1, 2031, and makes statutory improvements and policy reforms in response to issues raised during the Council's sunset review oversight.

Senate Floor Amendments of 8/13/26 reduce the maximum penalty that may be imposed from \$20,000 to \$5,000 for failing to comply with civil action, judgment, settlement, arbitration award, or administrative action reporting requirements of this bill and establish criteria for determining fine amounts, including the nature and extent of the violation, whether the violation was willful, and other criteria.

ANALYSIS:

Existing Law:

- 1) Establishes CCIDC, a nonprofit organization that consists of CIDs whose governing board includes representatives of the public. (Business & Professions Code (BPC) § 5800(b))

- 2) Defines the practice of a Certified Interior Designer (CID) as the preparation and submission of nonstructural or nonseismic plans to local building departments that are of sufficient complexity so as to require the skills of a licensed contractor to implement them, and the programming, planning, designing, and documenting of the construction and installation of nonstructural or nonseismic elements, finishes and furnishings within the interior spaces of a building. (BPC § 5800(a))
- 3) Provides that the CID title act shall be subject to review by the appropriate policy committees of the Legislature and shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2027, and as of that date is repealed. (BPC § 5810)
- 4) Provides that a CID may voluntarily obtain a stamp from CCIDC that includes a unique number and bears the name of that CID and identifies the individual as either a CID or a CID with commercial designation. (BPC § 5801)
- 5) Subjects the procedure for the issuance of a stamp by CCIDC, including the examinations recognized and required by CCIDC, to occupational analyses and examination validation. (BPC § 5801.1)
- 6) Requires all drawings, specifications, or documents prepared for submission to any government regulatory agency by any CID or under their supervision to be affixed by a stamp and signed by that CID. (BPC § 5802)
- 7) Makes it an unfair business practice for any CID or any other person to represent to the public that the person is “state certified” to practice interior design, or to use any other words or symbols that represent to the public that the person is so certified. (BPC § 5804)
- 8) Provides that nothing in the CID title act precludes CIDs or any other person from submitting interior design plans for commercial or residential buildings to local building officials, except as provided. (BPC § 5805)
- 9) Requires meetings of CCIDC to comply with the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act and authorizes CCIDC to take reasonable actions to carry out its responsibilities and duties; to adopt bylaws, rules, and procedures necessary to effectuate the purposes of the CID title act; and to establish application fees, renewal fees, and other fees related to the regulatory costs of providing services and carrying out CCIDC’s responsibilities and duties. (BPC § 5811)
- 10) Authorizes CCIDC to issue a certification to any applicant who provides evidence that they meet all of the requirements and complies with the bylaws, rules, and procedures established by CCIDC and authorizes CCIDC to issue a commercial designation to a CID or qualified applicant who, in addition to the

requirements for a CID, passes additional interior design courses and examinations, as determined to be required by CCIDC. (BPC § 5811.1)

- 11) Makes it an unfair business practice for any person to represent or hold themselves out as, or to use the title “Certified Interior Designer” or any other term, such as “licensed,” “registered,” or “CID,” that implies or suggests that the person is certified as an interior designer when they do not hold a valid certification from CCIDC. (BPC § 5812)
- 12) Defines “design professional” as a person licensed as an architect pursuant to Chapter 3 (commencing with Section 5500) of Division 3 of the BPC, licensed as a landscape architect pursuant to Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 5615) of Division 3 of the BPC, registered as a professional engineer pursuant to Chapter 7 (commencing with Section 6700) of Division 3 of the BPC, or licensed as a land surveyor pursuant to Chapter 15 (commencing with Section 8700) of Division 3 of the BPC. (Civil Code (CIV) § 8014)
- 13) Establishes the California Public Records Act (CPRA) to define the public’s right to access public records in the custody of state agencies, unless exempt from disclosure by law. (Government Code (GC) § 7920.000, *et seq.*)
- 14) Establishes salaries for cabinet-level officials of state government. (GC) § 11550)

This bill sets CCIDC’s next sunset date to January 1, 2031, and makes various statutory improvements to the chapter regulating interior designers resulting from the sunset review process.

Background

Oversight Hearings and Sunset Review of Licensing Boards and Programs. In March 2026, the Senate Business, Professions and Economic Development Committee and the Assembly Committee on Business and Professions (Committees) began their comprehensive sunset review oversight of ten regulatory entities, including CCIDC. The Committees conducted three oversight hearings. This bill and the accompanying sunset bills are intended to implement legislative changes as recommended by staff of the Committees, and which are reflected in the Background Papers prepared by Committee staff for each agency and program reviewed this year.

Background on CCIDC. The Council was first established in 1992. Unlike the majority of programs responsible for overseeing professions and vocations in California, CCIDC is not a state agency and does not function as part of the state’s government. Instead, CCIDC is incorporated as a private nonprofit public benefit

corporation with 501(c)(3) tax exempt status. Certification offered by CCIDC is voluntary, though statute allows only certified individuals to use the term “certified interior designer” or similar language that implies CCIDC certification.

As of December 2025, there are 1,722 certified interior designers (CIDs) in California. CCIDC is authorized to issue a commercial designation to CIDs who have passed additional interior design courses and examinations.

CCIDC has the authority to grant or deny applications for certification and to discipline certificate holders by denying, suspending, or imposing probationary conditions on certificates. CCIDC may also require a CID to complete remedial coursework in ethics and business practices as a condition of reinstatement or resolution of a disciplinary action. Through these responsibilities, CCIDC helps ensure that CIDs meet professional competency standards designed to protect California consumers. CCIDC does not approve or oversee educational institutions offering programs in interior design.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: Yes Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/13/26)

California Building Officials
California Council for Interior Design Certification
California Legislative Coalition for Interior Designers
Multiple Individuals

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/13/26)

International Interior Design Association – Southern California Chapter

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: California Building Officials write in support, “Local Building Officials and the California Council for Interior Design Certification (CCIDC) share a common mission of protecting the health, safety, and welfare of the public. California's Certified Interior Designer program establishes meaningful standards for education, examination, and experience that support competent professional practice and promote public confidence. AB 2772 strengthens that successful program by enhancing accountability, reinforcing CCIDC’s public protection mission, and extending California's Certified Interior Designer program through 2031. These improvements support continued collaboration among design professionals, building officials, and public agencies in protecting California consumers.”

The California Council for Interior Design Certification writes in support, “AB 2772 is the product of the Legislature's sunset review process and reflects a

thoughtful, balanced approach to strengthening California's long-standing interior design certification program. The bill not only extends the operation of the program through January 1, 2031, but also enhances public protection, strengthens accountability, and modernizes key provisions of California's Title Act for Certified Interior Designers (CIDs).”

The California Legislative Coalition for Interior Designers writes, “CLCID believes that CCIDC is a model consumer protection body. It is laser-focused on its mission, innovates to resolve issues, and operates in a highly efficient manner. CLCID believes that CCIDC has a strong history of maintaining its consumer-centric commitment, while also exercising skilled stewardship over its resources and programs. We are confident that CCIDC has earned a four-year extension.”

ARGUMENTS IN OPPOSITION: The International Interior Design Association – Southern California Chapter writes, “After multiple sunset reviews and years of recommendations, CCIDC continues to demonstrate the same structural and operational deficiencies. Continuing to extend the organization without meaningful reform does not serve consumers, design professionals, or the Legislature. For these reasons, IIDA Southern California respectfully recommends that the Legislature allow CCIDC to sunset and evaluate more appropriate approaches to professional regulation and public protection.”

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 78-0, 5/26/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, Flora, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Muratsuchi, Celeste Rodriguez

Prepared by: Yeaphana La Marr / B., P. & E.D. /
8/18/26 16:14:23

**** END ****