



## AIA Washington

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# AIA/WA Priority Issues for 2005

## High Performance Green Buildings (HB 1272 / SB 5509)

- The AIA/WA The Council supports the principles of Sustainable Design as a means to sustain and improve the environment.
- Architects play an important role in preserving and protecting our planet from environmental damage, and promoting the long-term economic benefits of sustainable design.
- Sustainable buildings benefit the environment, provide economic benefits, help make our communities healthier and contribute to overall quality of life.
- LEED is the only major standard for measuring and certifying building sustainability.
- Architects are prepared to implement LEED and support making buildings more sustainable and more energy efficient.
- **Support HB 1272 / SB 5509** — Sets a goal that every state-funded building would be designed and constructed to the US Green Building Council's LEED Silver Standard.

## Qualifications Based Selection for A/E Services (HB 1435 / SB 5474)

- State law (Chapter 39.80 RCW) requires that architects be selected on the basis of demonstrated competence and qualification before reasonable and fair fees are negotiated. With QBS, price quotations are not a consideration in the selection process.
- QBS gives agencies control over not only fees, but also overall construction costs.
- Federal law (the Brooks Act), 47 States, the American Bar Assn Model Procurement Code for State & Local Governments and the American Public Works Assn endorse QBS for A/E services.
- **Oppose HB 1435 / SB 5474** — Undermines QBS by allowing engineering services to be selected based on fee proposals and submitted fee rates.

## Alternative Public Works Procurement Procedures (SB 5384)

- The Council recognizes the design and construction process must respond to changing circumstances in the construction industry. Alternative delivery methods should be considered when appropriate for public sector projects.
- Chapter 39.10 RCW allows limited use of design-build and general contractor as construction manager (GC/CM) procurement practices by certain public agencies, counties and cities.
- The Joint Legislative Audit & Review Committee (JLARC) is in the middle of a study of alternative procurement practices. It will complete this study in mid-2005.
- Until the JLARC findings can be reported, the legislature should not expand the use of alternative public works procurement procedures.
- **Oppose SB 5384** — Expands the use of design build and GC/CM to more agencies and smaller counties, cities and other public entities.

## Interior Design Licensing

- The AIA/WA Council recognizes the valuable role that interior design practitioners play in our firms and in the industry.
- We have significant concerns about the details of proposed legislation.
- Protection of titles is intended to assure the public that the person using the title has specialized education and precise, practical training combined with an examination specific to the discipline.
- Any new licensing law must include strict education (4 year professional degree), examination and structured training requirements, which are based on recognized national standards.
- It is not appropriate for interior designers to have “stamp and seal” privileges.
- Architects should not be restricted from using titles such as “interior designer” that are commonly used in our professional practice.

## School Construction

- The quality of education offered by a district is directly affected by the quality of permanent facilities available to the district.
- The Council believes that efficiency and quality in school design and construction are important goals. The Council supports adequate state assistance for funding for school construction.
- Schools should be considered as a necessary service and subsequently expedited through the permitting process.
- **Support HB 1484 / SB 5144** — Amends state law to allow school construction levies to pass with a simple majority of voters in a school district voting for passage of the bond proposal.
- **Support HJR 4205 / SJR 8202** — Puts before voters a Constitutional Amendment to enact the provisions of HB 1484/SB 5144.
- **Support HB 1169** — Amends the Growth Management Act to recognize public school facilities as “essential public facilities.” This designation would speed site selection and permitting for new schools.

## Historic Preservation

- The AIA/WA Council supports reuse of existing historic facilities as a means of conserving community resources and history, and encourages public agencies to develop policies, which encourage, rather than discourage, such reuse.
- **Support SB 5056** — Creates a Department of Archaeology & Historic Preservation. Elevation of this important office is vital to promoting preservation of the state’s historic buildings, sites and materials.
- **Support HB 1352 / SB 5331** — Establishes a program to provide grants to preserve historic county courthouses. Provides \$20 million a biennium to restore and preserve historic courthouses.