



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

FISCAL NOTE

SENATE BILL NO. 1319

PRINTER'S NO. 1879

PRIME SPONSOR: Farry

COST / (SAVINGS)

FUND	FY 2024/25	FY 2025/26
General Fund	\$140,000; See fiscal impact	See fiscal impact

SUMMARY:

Senate Bill 1319 updates continuing education requirements for architects and establishes professional certification requirements for interior designers.

ANALYSIS:

Senate Bill 1319 amends the Architects Licensure Law (Act 281 of 1982). The bill adds three members to the Architects Licensure Board (Board), and it extends the Board's purview to include certified interior designers. The bill imposes continuing education requirements for architects on a biennial basis, and it prohibits individuals from practicing architecture or using the title of architect without being licensed by the Board.

Senate Bill 1319 also establishes a certification for interior designers. To be eligible to take the exam approved by the Board, an individual must have a professional degree in interior design or architecture from an accredited school and at least two years of practical experience under qualified supervision. Individuals who are licensed, registered, or certified as interior designers in another jurisdiction are not required to obtain a certificate before offering their services to an architect who demonstrates competency in the field of interior design may be granted a certificate to provide interior design services without taking the examination or paying additional fees. The certification imposes a biennial continuing education requirement for certified interior designers.

Senate Bill 1319 would take effect in 60 days.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The Department of State staff estimate that Senate Bill 1319 would require changes to the Pennsylvania Licensure System (PALS) which would cost an estimated \$140,000. Additionally, there may be added staff costs depending upon the number of applications for licenses or renewals; however, Section 812.1 of the Administrative Code of 1929 requires each board to charge an application fee that covers the entire cost of administration. Therefore, any potential staff costs would be covered by additional restricted revenue from fees.

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House Appropriations Committee (D)

DATE: October 22, 2024

Estimates are calculated using the best information available. Actual costs and revenue impact incurred may vary from estimates.