

Advocacy Update July 2023: Help Advance the Interior Design Profession in MA

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts' two-year legislative session kicked off this year with a bill on the interior design profession.

[Bill S.2408 An Act Relative to Advancing the Profession of Commercial Interior Design](#) aims to elevate all within the interior design profession but specifically is focused on eliminating the barriers for those working within the commercial realm. Those working in the residential, kitchen and bath, or in an allied professional capacity will still be able to continue to work as they have. Nothing will prevent designers from using the title "interior design(er)" or limit other design professional's ability to practice their profession, including aesthetically focused designers.

On February 16, 2023, the H.315 and S.185 bills were referred to the Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure Committee. On June 21, 2023, the [Joint Committee on Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure](#) held the public hearing for HB315/SB185.

Special thanks to our co-sponsors Representative Haddad (H.315) and Senator Lovely (S.185), who both took time out of their busy schedule to testify on behalf of the bills. Also, thanks to the group in the photo below who testified regarding the many facets for our profession.



left – right

Elaine Atha, second year student at the [Boston Architectural College](#), Morgan Palm senior at the [University of Massachusetts -Dartmouth](#), Felice Silverman FIIDA, [Principal STA Design](#) Krista

Easterly NCIDQ, IIDA, WELL AP, LEED AP ID+C, Associate [Sasaki](#) , Matt Hyatt AIA, IIDA, LEED AP BD+C Principal [Bergmeyer](#) Rose Botti-Salitsky Ph.D., FASID, IDEC, Program Coordinator [University of Massachusetts Dartmouth](#)

Time Stamp 1:32.21 Panel 1 Krista Easterly NCIDQ, IIDA, WELL AP, LEED AP ID+C, Associate [Sasaki](#), Felice Silverman FIIDA, [Principal STA Design](#), Matt Hyatt AIA, IIDA, LEED AP BD+C Principal [Bergmeyer](#)



Time Stamp 1:44 Panel 2 Rose Botti-Salitsky Ph.D., FASID, IDEC, Program Coordinator [University of Massachusetts Dartmouth](#), Elaine Atha, student at the [Boston Architectural College](#), Morgan Palm [University of Massachusetts -Dartmouth](#)



The full testimony is public and can be viewed on the [committee's website](#).

On June 29, 2023, the bill was favorably reported out of the 2023 [Joint Committee on Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure](#)! This is a major step for interior design

legislation. The bill is now in the [Senate Ways and Means Committee](#) and now is [S.2408: An Act Relative to Advancing the Profession of Commercial Interior Design](#).

CALL TO ACTION: WE NEED YOU TO TAKE ACTION NOW!

Massachusetts residents, please contact your Massachusetts Senator seeking their support of S.2408, encouraging a swift favorable report out of the Ways and Means Committee! This is a vital step to establishing a registration process for Commercial Interior Designers in Massachusetts, similar to what a majority of states in the U.S. have already done.

Both IIDA and ASID New England members are responding to this call for action. Use the link below to send an auto-generated email to your Massachusetts Senator. We also encourage you to personalize the message. Feel free to modify the text on the right and add a personal message about why this legislation is so important to you!

[ADD A BUTTON: [EMAIL YOUR MA SENATOR](#)]

Please be aware that anyone in Massachusetts can participate in this campaign, so please share this link with in-state family and friends!

We appreciate all of your support! There are many ways to be involved with advocacy efforts in New England—please reach out to join ASID NE & IIDA NE collaborative efforts!

Rose Mary Botti-Salitsky Ph.D., FASID, IDEC, NCIDQ



[ASID New England Government Affairs Representative](#)

<https://www.asid.org/advocate-by-design>