

By Senator Clary

7-1368A-02

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to the Board of Architecture
3 and Interior Design; amending s. 481.205, F.S.;
4 delegating to the board the duties and
5 authority of the Department of Business and
6 Professional Regulation to investigate and
7 prosecute the unlicensed practice of
8 architecture or interior design; requiring the
9 board to contract with a corporation or other
10 entity to provide investigative, legal,
11 prosecutorial, and other services; authorizing
12 the board to use funds from the unlicensed
13 activity account to perform certain duties;
14 requiring that the board submit an annual
15 budget to the department; providing an
16 effective date.

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18 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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20 Section 1. Section 481.205, Florida Statutes, is
21 amended to read:

22 481.205 Board of Architecture and Interior Design.--

23 (1) The Board of Architecture and Interior Design is
24 created in the Department of Business and Professional
25 Regulation. The board shall consist of 11 members. Five
26 members must be registered architects who have been engaged in
27 the practice of architecture for at least 5 years; three
28 members must be registered interior designers who have been
29 offering interior design services for at least 5 years and who
30 are not also registered architects; and three members must be
31 laypersons who are not, and have never been, architects,

1 interior designers, or members of any closely related
2 profession or occupation. At least one member of the board
3 must be 60 years of age or older.

4 (2) Members shall be appointed for 4-year staggered
5 terms.

6 (3)(a) The duties and authority of the department to
7 investigate and discipline persons licensed under this part;
8 issue subpoenas and citations; retain legal counsel,
9 investigators, or prosecutorial staff in connection with the
10 practice of architecture or interior design; and investigate
11 and deter the unlicensed practice of architecture or interior
12 design as provided in chapter 455 are delegated to the board.

13 (b) The board, in lieu of the department, shall
14 contract with a corporation or other business entity to
15 provide investigative, legal, prosecutorial, and other
16 services necessary to perform its duties. The corporation or
17 business entity shall comply with all requirements of s.
18 455.32 and shall report directly to the board in lieu of the
19 department.

20 (c) The board may use funds in the unlicensed activity
21 account established under s. 455.2281 to perform its duties
22 prescribed in s. 455.228.

23 (d) The board shall submit an annual budget to the
24 department for purposes of funding its activities under this
25 subsection, which must be separately itemized in the budget
26 submitted by the department to the Legislature.

27 Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a
28 law.

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SENATE SUMMARY

Delegates the authority of the Department of Business and Professional Regulation to investigate and prosecute the unlicensed practice of architecture or interior design to the Board of Architecture and Interior Design. Requires that the board contract for services to investigate and prosecute unlicensed activity. Provides for funding. Requires that the board submit a budget to the department.