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BILL ANALYSIS



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Senate Bill 656 (as introduced 9-14-95)

Sponsor: Senator Mike Rogers

Committee: Economic Development, International Trade and Regulatory Affairs

Date Completed: 1-18-96

CONTENT

The bill would amend the Occupational Code to establish additional exemptions from Article 20, which provides for the licensure of architects, professional engineers, and land surveyors. In general, the proposed exemptions would apply to licensed residential builders, licensed plumbers, licensed mechanical contractors, licensed electricians, and persons engaged in interior design or building design.

Specifically, the bill would exempt the following persons from Article 20:

- A person licensed under Article 24 as a residential builder if he or she were planning, designing, or directing the construction of a single-family residential building, and the building permit for that activity were issued in that person's name.
- A person performing any activity for which he or she was licensed under Public Act 266 of 1929, which regulates plumbing activities.
- A person performing any activity for which he or she was licensed under the Forbes Mechanical Contractors Act.
- A person performing any activity for which he or she was licensed under the Electrical Administrative Act.
- A person engaged in interior design.
- A person engaged in building design.

The bill would define "building design" as professional services involving the planning or designing of any of the following, provided that the drawings and specifications for the work were signed and dated by the authors with the true titles of their occupations:

- A single-family residential building that was to be built under a permit issued to a licensed residential builder as that term is defined in Section 2401 of the Code.
- A multiple-family residential building not exceeding eight units or two stories, excluding basements, not more than 35 feet high, including an apartment, townhouse, or condominium.
- Any structure that did not have as its principal structural members reinforced concrete or structural steel, providing its construction complied with all applicable building code requirements, including the following: stores, strip malls, office buildings, light industrial buildings, factory buildings not over 20,000 square feet in size; and agricultural, warehouse, and storage buildings of any size.

“Interior design” would mean “the performance of services by an interior designer involving the consultation, investigation, evaluation, planning, designing, design coordination, and review of material and completed phases of work and the preparation of a document where the services require the application of the principles and methodology of interior design in order to identify and research problems pertaining to the function and quality of spaces within a building and to propose creative solutions to those problems which protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public”. “Interior design” would include “the preparation by an interior designer of documents to be sealed and filed with a public authority relating to non-load-bearing construction, fabrication, power data communication outlet location plans, reflected ceiling fans, space plans, specification and supply of materials, and furnishings, including systems furniture, fixtures, equipment directional and identificational signage”.

MCL 339.2012

Legislative Analyst: S. Margules

FISCAL IMPACT

The bill would have no fiscal impact on State or local government.

Fiscal Analyst: K. Lindquist

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This analysis was prepared by nonpartisan Senate staff for use by the Senate in its deliberations and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.