

February 24, 2011

**General Law Committee Connecticut General Assembly
Hartford, Connecticut**

**RE: HB 6338
An Act Concerning Landscape Architects**

Senator Doyle, Representative Taborsak and Distinguished Members of the General Law Committee:

My name is Stephen Wing and I am here on behalf of the State Board of Landscape Architects in support of HB 6338, An Act Concerning Landscape Architects. This bill addresses two distinct issues: modification of the administrative procedures for the suspension or revocation of a license, and requiring a certificate of authorization for the practice of landscape architecture in the corporate form.

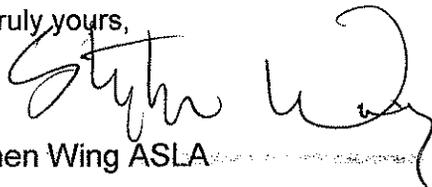
Section 1 of the proposed Act is a housekeeping measure that will make the administrative procedures of the Department of Consumer Protection and the CTASLA consistent with those of the other licensing boards when dealing with the suspension or revocation of a license. At present, the only sanction that the Board and Department can bring to bear is the suspension of a license "... for a period, not to exceed one year..." The proposed Act will enable the Board, after holding administrative hearings, to issue letters of reprimand, place a licensee on probation, and levy a civil penalty of up to \$1,000. All of these measures are consistent with the provisions of other licensing bodies within the Department of Consumer Protection.

Section 2 of the proposed Act would require a corporation or limited liability corporation (LLC) that engages in the practice of landscape architecture to register with the Board of Landscape Architects and to identify the individual(s) within the corporation who is responsible for, and oversees the landscape architecture work of the corporation. This bill does not require the person in responsible charge to be an owner of the corporation.

At present, when a corporation or LLC advertises or offers to practice landscape architecture, neither the consumer nor the Board of Landscape Architects has any way knowing if that corporation has in its employ an individual who is licensed to practice in Connecticut. This can be particularly troublesome if a complaint is brought to the Department of Consumer Protection against a corporation when such corporation is not based in Connecticut. This bill is identical to what Connecticut corporations are required to do when practicing in Rhode Island and most other states in the United States. The Act will provide effective recourse to the consumer and the Board when enforcement action may be required.

We respectfully request your favorable action on HB 6338.

Very truly yours,



Stephen Wing ASLA