



## California Legislative Coalition for Interior Design

*Advocating Professionalism Through Legislation*

Oct. 12, 2006

### California Architects Board - Meeting Notes by Betty Wood, CLCID Exec. Director Topic: Certified Access Specialist Program - CASp

The CAB Board moved to respond to the DSA with a letter stating their opposition to SB 262 in its current form due to issues concerning the following:

#### ADMINISTRATION, ADDED PROJECT TIME AND COST AND LIABILITY

- \* Some board members feel CASp is adding another layer of bureaucracy that will further slow the plan submittal process;
- \* ADA is a "policy document" that is subject to interpretation;
- \* Consumer protection: DSA is giving the Plan checkers agency. Plan checkers have personal visions and interpretations. If they sign off on the plans as being ADA compliant, the consumer believes they have a safe haven;
- \* E and O insurance will be very difficult to obtain;
- \* CAB feels certification is better than licensure;
- \* Architects can currently design and submit ADA plans, Therefore the law is redundant;
- \* ADA accessibility covers a broad range of disabilities including fixtures and other areas that Architects don't often get involved raising their liability. *Note: SB 262 was initiated by the hotel industry;*
- \* Architects, Landscape Architect, and CID's are now eligible to sit for the Access Specialist Exam. *Note: The exam has two parts which include the Access Investigator and Access Designer. Both parts must be taken to qualify to design for accessibility. The exam has been written, but not implemented to date.*

#### ACTION TO FOLLOW:

1. CAB will write a letter to the DSA and DSA stating their position;
2. The Access Regulations are in the 7<sup>th</sup> Revision and to be adopted October 27, 2006. Public comment will be heard.
3. A hearing will be then held mid December.
4. SB 262 will have a Sunset Review which allows for further comment and testimony.

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