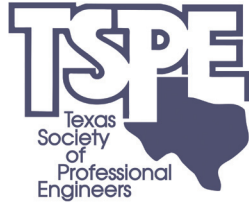




TEXAS SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTS | AIA



JOINT STATEMENT ISSUED BY:

TEXAS SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTS AND TEXAS SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS

GOVERNOR SIGNS BILL ENDING DECADES-LONG DISAGREEMENT
BETWEEN ARCHITECTS AND ENGINEERS

Governor Perry signed HB 2284 on June 17, 2011. HB 2284 is the bill negotiated between the Texas Society of Architects, the Texas Society of Professional Engineers, and the Texas Council of Engineering Companies to end the 20-year dispute between architects and engineers related to scope-of-practice issues impacting the professions.

The negotiations were difficult and concessions on both sides yielded a bill that clearly provides language articulating issues critical to ending the dispute. The following is a synopsis of the major components of the bill.

- Clearly articulates in both practice acts the negotiated overlap elements between engineering and architecture (practiced by both professions);
- Provides a method for engineers who can demonstrate having successfully practiced building design to continue designing both public and private buildings;
- States that the practice of engineering does not include the practice of architecture;
- Abolishes the Joint Advisory Committee;
- Clarifies that the term “prime design professional” refers specifically to the professional holding the prime contract; and,
- Provides that a graduate engineer enrolled in an accredited architectural professional degree program may enroll concurrently in the intern development program required by the Texas Board of Architectural Examiners rules.

Both TSA and TSPE have gone through considerable effort to resolve the longstanding dispute over scope-of-work between the professions. Now that this effort is behind us, we look forward to working together to build a stronger relationship between architects and engineers, elevating the entire building design profession together. We have much to gain by working towards a common purpose.

DANIEL S. HART, AIA P.E.
2010 TSA President

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