

1 ENGROSSED SENATE  
2 BILL NO. 751

By: Stewart of the Senate

3 and

4 Miller of the House  
5

6 An Act relating to the State Architectural and  
7 Licensed Interior Designers Act; amending 59 O.S.  
8 2021, Section 46.21b, as amended by Section 16,  
9 Chapter 138, O.S.L. 2024 (59 O.S. Supp. 2024, Section  
10 46.21b), which relates to building types subject to  
11 act; modifying certain construction value; updating  
12 statutory language; and providing an effective date.

13 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

14 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 59 O.S. 2021, Section 46.21b, as  
15 amended by Section 16, Chapter 138, O.S.L. 2024 (59 O.S. Supp. 2024,  
16 Section 46.21b), is amended to read as follows:

17 Section 46.21b. A. An architect shall be required to plan,  
18 design, and prepare plans and specifications for the following Code  
19 Use Groups except where specifically exempt from the provisions of  
20 the State Architectural and Licensed Interior Designers Act. All  
21 Code Use Groups in this section are defined by the current  
22 International Building Code.

23 B. The construction, addition, or alteration of a building of  
24 any size or occupancy in the following Code Use Groups shall be

1 subject to the provisions of the State Architectural and Licensed  
2 Interior Designers Act:

- 3 1. Code Use Group I - Institutional;
- 4 2. Code Use Group R-2 - Residential, limited to dormitories,  
5 fraternities and sororities, and monasteries and convents;
- 6 3. Code Use Group A-1 - Assembly and theaters;
- 7 4. Code Use Group A-4 - Assembly, arenas and courts;
- 8 5. Code Use Group A-5 - Assembly, bleachers and grandstands;
- 9 6. Code Use Group H - High hazard; and
- 10 7. Buildings for which the designated Code Use Group changes  
11 are not exempt from the State Architectural and Licensed Interior  
12 Designers Act.

13 C. The following shall be exempt from the provisions of the  
14 State Architectural and Licensed Interior Designers Act; provided  
15 that, for the purposes of this subsection, a basement is not to be  
16 counted as a story for the purpose of counting stories of a building  
17 for height regulations:

18 1. The construction, addition, or alteration of a building no  
19 more than two stories in height and with a code-defined occupancy of  
20 no more than fifty (50) persons for the Code Use Groups A-2 and A-3  
21 - Assembly and Code Use Group E - Education;

22 2. The construction, addition, or alteration of a building no  
23 more than two stories in height and no more than sixty-four  
24

1 transient lodging units per building for the Code Use Group R1 -  
2 Residential, including, but not limited to, hotels and motels;

3 3. The construction, addition, or alteration of a building no  
4 more than two stories in height and with a gross square footage not  
5 exceeding one hundred thousand (100,000) in the Code Use Group B -  
6 Business;

7 4. The construction, addition, or alteration of a building no  
8 more than two stories in height and with a gross square footage not  
9 exceeding two hundred thousand (200,000) in the Code Use Group M -  
10 Mercantile; and

11 5. The construction, addition, or alteration of a building no  
12 more than two stories in height in the following Code Use Groups or  
13 buildings:

14 a. Code Use Group U - Utility,

15 b. Code Use Group F - Factory and Industrial,

16 c. Code Use Group S - Storage,

17 d. Code Use Group R2 - Residential, including apartments  
18 containing no more than thirty-two dwelling units or  
19 thirty-two guest units per building,

20 e. Code Use Groups R3 and R4 - Residential,

21 f. all buildings used by a municipality, county, state,  
22 public trust, public agency, or the federal government  
23 with a construction value under ~~One Hundred Fifty-~~  
24

1                   ~~eight Thousand Dollars (\$158,000.00)~~ Three Hundred  
2                   Thousand Dollars (\$300,000.00),

- 3           g.    incidental buildings or appurtenances associated with  
4                paragraphs 1 through 5 of this subsection, and  
5           h.    all uninhabitable, privately owned agricultural  
6                buildings.

7           D.   The addition, renovation,    or alteration of buildings where  
8   the use was exempt as new construction shall remain exempt if the  
9   Code Use Group does not change.

10          E.   Upgrades, repairs, replacements,    and changes made on  
11   projects in Code Use Groups found in this title requiring an  
12   architect are exempt from hiring an architect if the upgrades,  
13   repairs, replacements,    or changes do not affect the existing primary  
14   structural, mechanical, or electrical systems, life safety systems,  
15   fire codes,    or exit passageways ~~and/or~~ or egress as determined by  
16   the applicable building official having jurisdiction.

17          F.   Nonstructural interior construction projects in Code Use  
18   Groups requiring an architect are exempt from hiring an architect if  
19   the services are performed by a licensed interior designer.

20          SECTION 2.   This act shall become effective November 1, 2025.

1 Passed the Senate the 27th day of March, 2025.

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3 \_\_\_\_\_  
4 Presiding Officer of the Senate

5 Passed the House of Representatives the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_,  
6 2025.

7  
8 \_\_\_\_\_  
9 Presiding Officer of the House  
10 of Representatives