Dear Senator \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_:

My name is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. **Thank you for all you do to make Iowa one of the best places to get an education and ultimately a great place to work. I am a *Registered Interior Designer* (or *Professional Interior Designer*) in Iowa.**

As a professional in this field, *my goal is to* ensure the safety and wellbeing of the public; balancing passion for good design and strategy for best business practices. Iowa’s Registered Interior Designers demonstrate the value of *professional* interior design services in the design of code-impacted public spaces that provide significant health and safety benefits for the public.

We urge you to vote against SF 289 and retain Iowa Code 544C!

Iowa’s law ensures Iowa businesses, clients, and consumers that *Registered Interior Designers* follow life-safety, fire, building codes, Americans with Disabilities Act, as well as best practices for space planning, sustainability, green building and ergonomics. *Registered Interior Designers*, who pass rigorous exams, in addition to earning appropriate degrees and work experience, are required to demonstrate a level of competency to our fellow Iowans. Registration protects clients and the public ensuring that if an interior space does not meet appropriate standards and building codes, legal action can be taken.

Iowa’s title act protects the title ‘Registered Interior Designer’ for those who have meet specific professional requirements but does not restrict others from calling themselves an Interior Designer. Iowa also accepts reciprocity with other states that have Interior Design Registration, such as bordering states of Minnesota, Missouri and Illinois.

This is a growing profession and it is important to ensure that we continue to provide quality educational opportunities in our higher education institutions to make this career path competitive with other states. In Iowa the University of Northern Iowa and Iowa State University have four-year CIDA Accredited Interior Design programs, as well as a 2 year Interior Design program at Kirkwood Community College.

On **Tuesday February 26th from Noon - 3:00 pm** we will be participating in **Design Professionals Day on the Hill** showcasing our work along with our partners in this profession. I hope you will take a few minutes to meet them with Iowa’s Interior Design professionals.

I look forward to meeting with you next week to discuss the importance of *Registered Interior Designers* and how they ensure the health, welfare and safety of people living and working in Iowa and the benefits of the *Registered Interior Design* profession.

Sincerely,

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