CHAPTER ADVOCACY UPDATE 5.22.2020

Fellow Members and Advocates,

First and foremost, we hope you are staying well. Your health, safety, and business wellness are at the top of our mind daily, and we are striving to anticipate your needs and provide tools and information throughout. This focus includes continuing our work on the reinstatement of the Title Act.

On Monday, May 20, the Illinois General Assembly called a Special Session by proclamation to deal with seven areas of legislation. These include the State budget and its implementation, Covid-19 issues, economic recovery, sunset extensions to expire before June 1, 2021, hospital assessment program, statewide mail-in voting, and graduated income tax. The Legislative Session, which began on Wednesday, will conclude Friday, May 22.

Unfortunately, the reinstatement of the Landscape Architecture Title Act bill will not be taken up during the three-day Legislative Session. Working with our lobbyist, we did our best to get the reinstatement onto the limited agenda, but like many other bills in similar positions to that of our own, it did not make the curtailed list. While this news comes as a disappointment, we remain hopeful that the reinstatement of the Title Act will happen once we have some return to normalcy at the legislative level. We had recently learned before the announcement of the abbreviated special session that our bill was put on an ‘agreed list’ in the House to help move it forward in the case of a regular session. Regrettably, the pandemic and current legislative circumstances at hand have put a halt to that momentum.

We continue to seek ways to move this legislation through the process for when the General Assembly returns to Springfield. We will continue to keep you updated as we move through the legislative process. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns – please contact Advocacy Chair Mark Jirik mark.jirik@site-design.com.

Thank you again for your continued support.

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Additional Letters to Members regarding the Title and Practice Acts are at https://il-asla.org/advocacy/.