

Government Affairs Committee (GAC) Update

August 5, 2013

The AIA-MI Government Affairs Committee is excited about our addition to the Monday's Minutes and the expansion of communication this delivery vehicle provides, enabling us to keep members up-to-date on current issues. Our goal is to empower you with information pertinent to legislation that impacts our industry and in this edition we are continuing with several more topics and bills. We hope you enjoy this feature to Monday Minutes and welcome your comments/suggestions at aiami@aiami.com with subject line: "Government Affairs Committee" or "GAC".

- **Certificate of Merit (Senate Bill 309)**, Ben Tiseo, FAIA, Contributing Writer
This bill is in the Michigan Senate Judiciary Committee and would require that before a complaint against a design professional is filed with the court a Certificate of Merit signed by a licensee must accompany the complaint. AIAMI will be sending out an Action Alert to its members to contact their legislators for support of this legislation.
- **ConEd**, Ben Tiseo, FAIA, Contributing Writer
In reviewing the final submittal, some significant changes from what the board of architects submitted at the public hearing on March 13, 2013, were proposed. By example, the proposed Rule 503 states 24 HSW hours over the (2 year) renewal period, whereas the board proposed 12 hours, calendar year to conform to NCARB guidelines. For those licenses whose license is renewed on November 1, 2013, you will need to start tracking 24 hours of HSW to renew on November 1, 2015 (providing that the rules are passed before the end of October). Additionally, AIA is recognized as a ConEd provider as well as the four Michigan universities and there doesn't appear to be any provision for carryover hours (link to: [Bd of Architects – Con Ed Revised Rules – May 29, 2013.pdf](#)).
- **Electronic Drawing Submittal (House Bill 4585)**, Ben Tiseo, FAIA, Contributing Writer
This bill is in the Michigan House Regulatory Reform Committee and would give governmental agencies the option to accept and process drawings electronically. The Bureau of Construction Codes is gearing up to accept electronic drawing submittals in 2015. AIAMI will be sending out an Action Alert to its members to contact their legislators for support of this legislation.
- **Single State Fire Code**, Ben Tiseo, FAIA, Contributing Writer
For one year AIA Michigan has been at the table with other interested groups in working towards a Single State Fire Code. This group has now moved to a more formal setting as an Ad Hoc Committee chaired by the State Fire Marshal, Richard Miller. The objective of this Committee is to implement the recommendation of the Office of Regulatory Reinvention for a Statewide Fire Code modeled after the Single State Building Code. Benedetto Tiseo, FAIA and Misty Raatz represent the architects on the committee.