



June 11, 2026

The Honorable Mike Dunleavy
Governor of Alaska
State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99811-0001

Dear Governor Dunleavy:

On behalf of the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA) and our 16,000 members, I respectfully urge you to allow House Bill 314 to become law, which will continue the important work of the Alaska State Board of Registration for Architects, Engineers, and Land Surveyors (AELS).

The AELS provides a critical public protection function by establishing professional standards and accountability to the highly technical professions it regulates. Continuing AELS's work preserves a proven regulatory system that promotes professional competence and maintains public confidence in the integrity of Alaska's natural and built environments.

Landscape architects are licensed professionals who plan and design parks, transportation corridors, community development projects, and other public and private spaces that directly affect public health, safety, and welfare. Given Alaska's unique environmental conditions and infrastructure challenges, it is vital that these professionals possess the education, experience, and demonstrate competency necessary to protect the public. Professional licensure helps ensure practitioners are equipped to address technical requirements such as accessibility, flood mitigation, and resilient site design.

Maintaining AELS is essential for Alaska's economic competitiveness. Because landscape architecture is a licensed profession in all 50 states, a stable licensing framework facilitates professional mobility and interstate recognition of credentials. This ensures Alaska-based firms can compete nationally while helping the state attract and retain the qualified design professionals needed to support infrastructure investment, community development, and small businesses.

By allowing House Bill 314 to become law, you will preserve a regulatory framework that protects the public while also ensuring Alaska remains competitive for design professionals and businesses that help build the state's future.

Thank you for your consideration of this important legislation. Once again, I respectfully ask for your support of Alaska's design community through the enactment of House Bill 314.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Torey Carter-Conneen", written in a cursive style.

Torey Carter-Conneen, Hon. ASLA
Chief Executive Officer
American Society of Landscape Architects