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SITE PLANNING
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
ENGINEERING
LAND SURVEYING



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May 7, 2015

Rep. Themis Klarides
Connecticut House Republican Office
L.O.B. Room 4200
Hartford, CT 06106

e-mail: themis.klarides@housegop.ct.gov

Dear Honorable Representative Klarides,

Please oppose the proposal to add CT Sales Tax for professional Landscape Architecture, Architecture and Engineering Services. **There are several reasons why the tax is bad for Connecticut:**


1. The increase in the cost of construction projects would discourage businesses from locating or expanding in Connecticut.
2. The sales tax would also impact the housing market, making housing less affordable for residents in the state.
3. It is very complicated to administer for states and taxpayers, as the multi-state nature of customers and service providers often makes it difficult to determine where, when, and how the services take place. In fact, when Connecticut taxed these services about 25 years ago, the Department of Revenue Services recommended that the tax be eliminated in part because of the complexity in administering the tax relative to the dollars the tax was generating for the state.
4. Connecticut engineering, land surveying and landscape architecture firms will also find themselves at a competitive disadvantage. Owners will find ways to have the work performed out of state. Out-of-state firms will not collect the sales tax for Connecticut. The loss of work will mean fewer jobs for Connecticut land use professionals and support staff and lower income taxes revenues for the state.
5. There are many professions necessary in the permitting and regulatory process for projects. How can the design and engineering professions be taxed and not every profession involved in the approval process?

This would be a disaster for small firms trying to perform Landscape Architectural, Architectural & Engineering services for clients with limited budgets. Please consider my

position as a Connecticut small business owner when evaluating the additional tax on Connecticut consumers.

Thank you very much for your attention on this matter and please do not support it.

Sincerely,



Jeffrey N. Gordon, P.L.A., ASLA
President