

<b>Legislation</b>	<b>SB 344</b> by Sen. Manny Diaz, R-Hialeah Gardens, and companion <b>HB 471</b> (Rep. Alex Rizo, R-Hialeah) calls for the review and sunseting of all occupational and professional licenses.
<b>Summary</b>	Safe shelter is a fundamental human need. Architects are licensed to protect the health, safety and welfare of all who interact with the built environment. Architects are licensed upon completion of a rigorous education program and a thorough multi-part examination process, and they possess the necessary training and experience to protect the citizens of Florida where they live, work and play.
<b>Explanation and Justification</b>	The practice of architecture by unqualified individuals endangers the health, safety and welfare of Floridians and visitors to our state. Whether designing public buildings like schools, hospitals or even state capitol buildings, this complex process can only be led by highly trained, skilled and state-licensed architects. The privilege of licensure comes with great responsibility. Architects must adhere to a high standard of education and lifelong learning.
<b>Action Sought</b>	<b>Architects, in their protection of health, safety and welfare, should immediately be removed from these bills.</b>