

481 - RECIPROCITY

The architect's comprehensive education and training encompass the impact of design and technology on the health and well-being of the public and on the built and natural environments. Each jurisdiction has a responsibility to its citizens to ensure that an architect's qualifications are evaluated through an objective, verifiable method.

AIA Florida supports maintaining the professional degree from a National Architectural Accrediting Board (NAAB) accredited program as the minimum threshold for educational training.

ECONOMIC STIMULUS

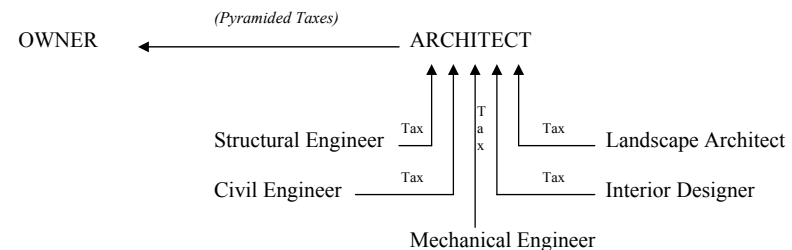
AIA Florida believes that the current economic crisis presents an opportunity not only to build, but to build better - greener buildings, vibrant communities, and a 21st century transportation network that is good for both the environment and the economy. We believe that funding for infrastructure projects, for business enterprises, and individuals should be prioritized with shovel-worthy projects and business incentives. The **SunRail** is the next important step in improving mass transit in the Central Florida region and beyond. Over time, the creation and interconnection of a number of regional commuter rail systems around the state will promote both economic development and sustainability.


CONSULTANT'S COMPETITIVE NEGOTIATION ACT (CCNA)

Adopted by the Florida Legislature in 1973, Florida Statute 287.055 CCNA requires state government agencies, municipalities or political subdivisions, school boards and school districts, to select a consulting firm based on qualifications rather than on a "lowest bid" basis. Qualification-based selection elevates this competitive process to its proper plane. The unscrupulous professional can find endless ways to cut their costs. Unjustified cost cutting may prove difficult to detect; is generally detrimental; undermines the quality of the finished product; may increase the total cost of the project; and essentially works against the client's best interests.

SALES TAX ON SERVICES

As state officials and design professionals learned in 1987, the taxation of design services is very confusing and costly. It also results in pyramiding, layering, and duplication of taxes. Any attempt to promote this idea should be defeated.



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