HB 305 Engrossed 2022 Regular Session Gadberry

Abstract: Authorizes architects to engage in the incidental practice of engineering under certain circumstances.

Proposed law adds provisions to present law to authorize an architect to engage in the practice of engineering, but only insofar as is necessary for the architect in his practice of architecture as defined in present law (R.S. 37:141(B)(3)).

Proposed law limits an architect's practice of engineering to minor mechanical, electrical, or civil-structural engineering work necessary as long as the work is secondary in scope and magnitude when compared to the architectural portion of the work.

Proposed law limits the maximum allowed occupancy load, size, and value for construction projects in which architects may engage in incidental engineering work for new construction or additions to the following:

1. For new construction - not more than 299 occupants for assembly occupancy and 49 occupants for all other occupancies.

2. For additions - not more than 299 occupants for assembly occupancy and 49 occupants for all other occupancies.

(Adds R.S. 37:701(I))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Commerce to the original bill:

1. Remove the exclusion that the engineering work not include a complete engineering system.

2. Remove occupancy conditions required to be met for incidental engineering work regarding renovations.

3. Change the occupancy requirements for new construction and additions to include an assembly occupancy limit of 299 individuals and a limit of 49 individuals for all other occupancies.
4. Remove the limit which set the scope of work allowed to be performed for additions at less than 50% of the gross floor area of the existing building.

5. Remove the limit on the allowed value of incidental engineering work relative to the total construction value for new construction.