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LB 842, 1129, 1354

book under designers, interior decorators, probably most of them are women. Now there are a lot of men who are designers also, but a great many of them are women, and I think that's part of the reason that people react the way they do. I've heard people say, well, they really don't need this. What they have in their mind is this image of some little lady looking at wallpaper or fabrics or making slip covers. Designers are so much more. They have to know codes, they have to know environmental needs, and they have to be able to use that knowledge in the correct way. When they go into a building or a house, anything that they're working on, they have to know those things. We talk a lot about gender equity on this floor. This bill, when it comes right down to it, so help me, is about gender equity because as I say again, it's mostly women and we're kind of writing them off. Engineers, architects, plumbers...if you have...if you're a union plumber, you can't say you're a union plumber unless you are one. You can't say you're an architect unless you are one. You should not be able to say that you're a certified interior designer, that you have this education, unless you do. And I don't see any reason that the men and women who do those...that work shouldn't be...have that privilege of being recognized in that way. Going back, I know all of you got a letter from...a rather involved long letter from the lobbyist for the retailers who referenced the wrong bill. It's being tried...it was amended into...trying to amend it into 1354, not (LB) 1129. And certainly I don't feel very good about her, she has a lack of manners, she's never talked directly to me about the bill at all, comes in and flips a little letter around, but never talks to me. So if I sound petty, I don't mean to, but what I'm saying to you today is this bill is going to be back next year. We're going to try and do it better, try to get it prioritized early, and try to work with all of you so you understand what the designers want, and what designers do. And I'll finish once more by saying, if architects, engineers, plumbers have that recognition, designers should have it, too. So I hope that you'll all, when I talk to you during the interim, and when I come back next year, that you'll remember what I'm saying today. Take another look at the mansion, the result of the designers' work, so...and by next year, we'll be able to give them the recognition they need and understand what...LB 842 was the original bill, what that bill is all about. Thank you and now, Madam Chairman, I just respectfully ask to withdraw the