SB 168

196805-2

By Senator Livingston

RFD: Fiscal Responsibility and Economic Development

First Read: 21-MAR-19
SYNOPSIS: Under existing law, an individual who makes plans and specifications for or administers the erection, enlargement, or alteration of any single family residence is not required to register as an architect with the State Board for Registration of Architects.

This bill would expand the exemption to include townhomes, duplexes, and other buildings containing single family residence units, regardless of size, so long as the structures are built according to certain codes.

A BILL
TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

To amend Section 34-2-32, Code of Alabama 1975, relating to the State Board for Registration of Architects; to include within the exemption from registration as an architect with the board any individual who makes plans and
specifications for or administers the erection, enlargement, or alteration of any townhome, duplex, or other building containing single family residence units, regardless of size, so long as the structure is built according to certain codes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. Section 34-2-32 of the Code of Alabama 1975, is amended to read as follows:

"§34-2-32.

(a) Nothing contained in this chapter shall prevent:

"(1) Employees of registered architects from acting under the instructions or responsible control of their employers; or,

"(2) The employment of on-site observers of the construction or alteration of buildings.

"(b) No person individual shall be required to register as an architect in order to make plans and specifications for or administer the erection, enlargement, or alteration of any of the following:

"(1) Any building upon any farm for the use of any farmer, irrespective of the cost of such building, or any.

"(2) Any single family residence building or of any kind, nature, configuration, or character, attached or detached including, but not limited to, townhomes, duplexes, or other buildings containing single family residence units, regardless of size, provided that the structure is designed and built according to the International Residential Codes or
other codes as adopted in this state governing the
construction of one and two family dwellings.

"(3) Any utility works, structures, or building, provided that the person individual performing such
architectural works is employed by an electric, gas, or
television public utility regulated pursuant to the laws of
Alabama or by a corporation affiliated with such utility, or
of any.

"(4) Any other type of building which has a total
area of less than 2,500 square feet provided it is not
intended for use as a school, church, auditorium, or other
building intended for the assembly occupancy of people.

"(c) The services of a registered architect shall be
required on all buildings except those hereinabove exempted
and no official of this state or of any city, town, or county
herein charged with the enforcement of laws, ordinances, or
regulations relating to the construction or alteration of
buildings, shall accept or approve any plans or specifications
that are not so prepared.

"(d) Nothing in this chapter shall prevent
registered professional engineers or their employees or
subordinates under their responsible control from performing
architectural services incidental to their engineering
practice. Nothing in this chapter shall prevent registered
architects or their employees or subordinates under their
responsible control from performing engineering services
incidental to their architectural practice.
"(e) No professional engineer shall practice architecture or use the designation architect or any terms derived therefrom unless that individual is registered pursuant to this chapter. No architect shall practice professional engineering or use the term engineer or any term derived therefrom unless that individual is also qualified and registered as an engineer."

Section 2. This act shall become effective on the first day of the third month following its passage and approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.