

Nate Biscotti

From: Thomas Hengelsberg <thengelsberg@DoreandWhittier.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 4, 2026 3:53 PM
To: Martin LaLonde
Cc: Nate Biscotti; Thomas Chittenden; Virginia Lyons; Kesha Ram Hinsdale; Chea Waters Evans
Subject: [External] Support for H.589 (Statute of Repose)

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Dear Chair LaLonde, Members of the House Judiciary Committee, and Chittenden Southeast Senators Lyons, Chittenden, and Ram Hinsdale, and Representative Waters,

I am a Vermont architect with over 30 years' experience, a member of AIA Vermont, and I am also licensed to practice architecture in Massachusetts and New Hampshire. I am writing in support of legislation establishing a Statute of Repose for construction professionals in Vermont, H.589.

Most states have a statute of repose, the time limit after which lawsuits cannot be brought against the design professional or builder of a project, of 6–10 years. Massachusetts is six years, New Hampshire is eight years. Vermont currently has none, which creates long-term uncertainty and risk for small businesses like the one where I work. A six-year statute of repose would provide fairness and predictability while still protecting consumers. This would bring Vermont in line with other states. It is important to note that fraud and intentional misconduct would remain excluded – bad actors would not be protected by this legislation.

Thank you for considering this important issue.

Sincerely,

-TH

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