



# AIA Dallas

A Chapter of The American Institute of Architects

May 29, 2019

Governor Greg Abbott  
Office of the Governor  
P.O. Box 12428  
Austin, Texas 78711-2428

Dear Governor Abbott:

Thank you for your leadership on behalf of all Texans during the 86<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session. We appreciate the focus on important issues such as school finance and property tax reform.

The Dallas Chapter of the American Institute of Architects (AIA Dallas) is concerned about the implications of House Bill 2439 and wants to voice its opposition to this bill. HB 2439 prohibits state and local governmental entities from requiring standards for building materials used in construction or renovation that were stricter than those set by a national model code published within the last three code cycles. The legislation not only prohibits the adoption of ordinances that require more stringent building materials or processes than building codes, it also retroactively prohibits enforcing those building material requirements. It would affect existing zoning ordinances, form-based codes and planned developments that have already been adopted. We recognize and applaud the legislative exceptions for areas designated as historically or culturally significant.

AIA Dallas is concerned about the limitations this bill places on architects and municipalities to design according to the needs of a local community. AIA Dallas believes that locally-enacted codes and regulations are in the best interest of each city, town, and neighborhood in Texas.

We urge you to veto House Bill 2439 in recognition of these concerns. Thank you again for your thoughtful consideration.

Sincerely,

Richard Miller, FAIA  
2019 AIA Dallas President

*AIA Dallas, the 6th largest chapter of The American Institute of Architects and the largest chapter in Texas, empowers architects to excel and impact their practice, profession, and community. AIA Dallas is comprised of more than 2,400 members and 300 architectural firms. More information can be found online at [www.aiadallas.org](http://www.aiadallas.org).*