

ArchiPAC and AIA Nevada Fundraiser for Rep. Dina Titus

[ArchiPAC](#) and [AIA Nevada](#) members recently hosted Congresswoman Dina Titus (D-NV) for a fundraiser in Las Vegas that raised more than \$10,500 for the Congresswoman's campaign and provided an opportunity for substantive discussion on issues affecting architects and the profession.

Rep. Titus reaffirmed her commitment to the [Democracy in Design Act](#) and historic preservation as the bill's lead sponsor, while emphasizing the importance of keeping architects engaged in federal conversations on the built environment, including electrification and other environmental priorities.

She also discussed efforts to protect the profession, including appropriate use of the architect title and the ongoing debate over the federal definition of a "professional degree," which could significantly affect student loan limits and access to architectural education. Her office continues to monitor the issue closely.

Rep. Titus also reiterated her commitment to working with AIA and its members in Washington and offered to support future AIA advocacy visits to Capitol Hill.

Senate Passes Short-Term Continuing Resolution

On the last legislative day before it adjourned until September 14, the United States Senate [passed a Continuing Resolution \(CR\)](#) to fund the government through December 11, 2026. Notably, this bill contains a provision to prevent the administration from enacting its overhaul of the federal grantmaking process until that date.

The House adjourned on July 23 after passing its own CR that does not contain this provision; they return August 31. To prevent a government shutdown, the House will either need to pass the Senate's CR or else propose another alternative that both chambers can pass.

AIA is leading a letter on the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) rule and will transmit it to the House in the last week of August. Several AIA members are planning in-district meetings during the August recess period to convey concerns. You can see the letter sent to the Senate on [behalf of over 80 organizations here](#).

White House Ballroom

In June, AIA and ten other national and local nonprofit organizations [filed an amicus curia](#) ("friend of the court") brief supporting the National Trust for Historic Preservation's lawsuit challenging the demolition of the White House East Wing and construction of a new above-ground ballroom on the White House grounds, a designated national park unit. The brief urges the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit to reinstate the preliminary injunction and halt further ballroom construction, emphasizing that each president is only a temporary steward of the White House and cannot demolish or radically expand the complex without clear authorization and appropriations from Congress.

Last week, a federal appeals court blocked the Trump administration's \$400 million White House ballroom project, ruling in a 2–1 decision that the president lacks unilateral authority to construct the 90,000-square-foot facility without congressional approval. The D.C. Circuit placed a 14-day hold on its ruling to give the administration time to appeal the decision to the U.S. Supreme Court, which President Trump announced he intends to do.

GAPP Contributes to State and Local Heat Policy Agenda

The impacts of extreme heat cost our nation more than \$150 billion last year and 13 million households report being “too hot” at home. Given the increase in extreme heat episodes nationwide, AIA’s Government Affairs and Public Policy (GAPP) team collaborated with the [Federation of American Scientists](#) in providing sample legislation and AIA member contributions to heatproofing buildings.

Endorsed by nearly 150 organizations and government officials, the new [State and Local Heat Policy Agenda](#) supports communities to move from emergency response to long-term heat resilience. The agenda highlights proven policies and implementation strategies to help local governments address extreme heat, an implementation guide and sample state-level heat policy legislation. A news article by Smart Cities Dive about the release of the agenda is available [here](#).