



COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

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April 4, 2012

The Honorable Cameron Smyth, Chair Assembly Committee on Local Government State Capitol Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 1901 (Jones) – As Introduced February 22, 2012- SUPPORT

Dear Assemblyman Smyth:

The County of San Bernardino is pleased to support AB 1901. This legislation would expand the use of design-build contracting for county projects costing less than \$2.5 million.

As you are aware, existing law limits counties' use of the design-build method to construct buildings, make related improvements, and to wastewater treatment facility projects that cost more than \$2.5 million, whereas current law authorizes cities to use the design-build method for projects that cost more than \$1 million. AB 1901 would remove the \$2.5 million design-build threshold.

This legislation would result in a number of advantages for counties using the design-build approach rather than the traditional design-bid-build method. Design-builders provide assurances to the contracting agency that it will produce design documents that are complete and free from error. The design-build method also allows construction to commence during the design phase, and permits contractors added flexibility over project design and construction innovation, which can ultimately result in higher quality as well as cost savings.

AB 1901 would reduce the cost threshold for design-build projects, resulting in increased time and cost savings and overall improved project delivery, while maintaining project integrity and execution.

For these reasons, the County of San Bernardino supports Assembly Bill 1901. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Josh Candelaria, Deputy Legislative Director, at (909) 387-4280. The County of San Bernardino thanks you for your attention in this matter.

Sincerely,

JOSIE GONZALES, Chair Board of Supervisors

Cc: Honorable Brian Jones Assembly Committee on Local Government Members Assembly Committee on Local Government Consultants

The mission of the government of the County of San Bernardino is to satisfy its customers by providing service that promotes the health, safety, well being, and quality of life of its residents according to the County Charter, general laws, and the will of the people it serves.