



County Administrative Office Governmental & Legislative Affairs

Josh Candelaria
Governmental & Legislative
Affairs Director

August 23, 2016

The Honorable Edmund G. Brown, Jr.
Governor of California
State Capitol Building
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: **SB 1305 (Morrell)** – As Amended on May 30, 2016 – **REQUEST FOR SIGNATURE**

Dear Governor Brown:

The County of San Bernardino is pleased to support SB 1305, legislation that would consolidate multiple entities into one to streamline transportation related functions which administered by the San Bernardino Associated Governments (SANBAG) Board of Directors.

The SANBAG Board of Directors is composed of mayors and city council members' of 24 cities and the Board of Supervisors in San Bernardino County. Over time, SANBAG assumed various other duties and responsibilities that have evolved into multiple transportation agencies, including the San Bernardino County Transportation Commission San Bernardino County Service Authority for Freeway Emergencies, and the Congestion Management Agency for San Bernardino County.

The current legal structure is problematic as implementation of these programs has changed over time and there are now overlapping responsibilities between the Joint Powers Authority and the other transportation related legal entities. In addition, the governing statutes for the different SANBAG entities have conflicting rules and requirements related to voting, board membership, procurement requirements, and competitive bidding thresholds. Senate Bill 1305 would create a new statutory entity that consolidates the various functions under one umbrella entity, which will be known as the San Bernardino County Transportation Authority, thereby creating a more efficient, streamlined and transparent governing structure. Furthermore, SB 1305 would remove liability for the 29 members of San Bernardino Associated Governments, including the County of San Bernardino, in times of a lawsuit against the agency.

For the above reasons, the County of San Bernardino is pleased to support SB 1305 and respectfully request your signature on SB 1305. If you have any questions regarding the County's position, please do not hesitate to contact Josh Candelaria, Director of Governmental Affairs at (909) 387-4821 or jcandelaria@sbcounty.gov.

Sincerely,

JAMES RAMOS
Board of Supervisors Chairman
Third District Supervisor
County of San Bernardino

c: Honorable Mike Morrell

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