June 6, 2017

The Honorable Reginald Byron Jones-Sawyer, Jr.  
California State Assembly  
State Capitol  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: AB 1250 (Jones-Sawyer) – Counties and Cities: Contracts for Personal Services  
NOTICE OF OPPOSITION

Dear Assembly Member Jones-Sawyer:

On behalf of the County of Imperial, we must respectfully oppose your Assembly Bill (AB) 1250, which severely impacts contracting services for cities and counties. Last week, during debate in the Assembly, you indicated amendments to the bill that would remove cities from its provisions—we would argue counties should also be removed.

Local governments have a long history of addressing service delivery challenges with creativity, self-reliance and innovation. Unique local challenges and limited budgets continue to fuel innovative efforts to obtain expertise and provide high quality services. In its current form, AB 1250 places substantial burdens on local agencies by adding onerous, over prescriptive and unnecessary requirements that impede on local control and have significant impacts on local governance.

Even with the recent and proposed amendments, AB 1250 establishes onerous pre-condition standards for contracting and ignores indirect overhead costs, continues to be drafted overly broad without defining key items such as what constitutes personal services contracts, opening the door to wide applicability, and applies to existing contracts, as well as those that are entered into, renewed or extended.

The County appreciates that you are working with local governments and other stakeholders in an effort to address some of the impacts of the bill. However, this measure still places an overwhelming and significant burden on nearly every county department and would create a de facto ban on most contracting services.
For these reasons, the County of Imperial opposes AB 1250. If you have any questions about the County's position, please contact County Executive Officer, Ralph Cordova, Jr. at (442) 265-1001 or ralphcordova@co.imperial.ca.us.

Sincerely,

Michael W. Kelley, Chairman
Imperial County Board of Supervisors

cc: Senator Ben Hueso, 40th District
    Assembly Member Eduardo Garcia, 56th District