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June 2, 2017

Assemblymember Jones-Sawyer
State Capitol
Sacramento, California 95814

AB 1250 (Jones-Sawyer) – OPPOSE

Dear Assemblymember Jones-Sawyer:

The San Diego County Board of Supervisors opposes AB 1250, your measure related to counties and contracts for personal services. Under existing law, the Board of Supervisors of a county is authorized to contract for special services with persons specially trained, experienced, expert and competent to perform the services. These services may include financial, engineering, legal and administrative services.

AB 1250 would establish specific standards for the use of personal services contracts. These standards include requiring a county contracting for personal services, currently or customarily performed by county employees, to first meet several conditions, including requiring that the board of supervisors clearly demonstrate that the proposed contract will result in actual overall cost savings for the county for the duration of the contract and that the contract will not cause the displacement of county employees. AB 1250 also requires a county, or an independent auditor approved by the county, to perform a yearly audit and report for each contract valued at \$100,000 or more annually. The bill additionally impacts contractors by imposing new duties and reporting requirements, including reimbursing the county for the cost of the audit and the requirement to disclose information such as the salaries and benefits of its five highest paid employees, which then becomes public record. Additionally, contractors are required to disclose the names, job titles, and hourly rate of pay of their employees to the County which would leave the County vulnerable to litigation over personal privacy violations and decrease competition if private sector companies refuse to disclose the required information.

The County of San Diego makes extensive use of contracts with outside agencies. While AB 1250 does provide some exceptions, the bill would severely limit the County's ability to contract for services by imposing unnecessary and costly standards. The conditions imposed by AB 1250 increase costs and reduce opportunities to meet service delivery needs in the most effective manner with tax-payer dollars.

For these reasons, the County of San Diego is opposed to AB 1250. Please feel free to contact me at 916.441.0202 if you have any questions regarding our opposition to AB 1250.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Clay
Legislative Representative