DESIGN-BUILD INSTITUTE OF AMERICA | Western Pacific Region
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July 13, 2026

The Honorable Governor Gavin Newsom
Governor of the State of California
1020 N Street, Room 8220
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SB 935 (Choi) Local agency design-build projects: authorization as introduced – CO-SPONSORS-- Request for Signature

Dear Governor Newsom:

On behalf of the Design-Build Institute of America – Western Pacific Region (DBIA-WPR), the League of California Cities, the California State Association of Counties (CSAC) and Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC), we respectfully requests your signature on SB 935, which would allow local governments to continue the utilization of existing state law authorizing the use of the Design-Build (DB) procurement process for qualifying public works projects. This bill achieves this by making the statutory authority for Design-Build (DB) permanent.

The Design-Build Institute of America is comprised of architectural, engineering, and construction professionals, as well as academics, students, and project owners, its members collaborate and innovate to deliver some of America's most successful projects.

In collaboration with CSAC and the League, we have jointly co-sponsored measures creating, expanding and extending Design Build statutes for nearly 20 years. Across California, design-build has become a mainstream and widely adopted procurement method—particularly for large, complex public works projects. In many major jurisdictions, it now represents a substantial and growing share of project delivery, reflecting its track record of delivering projects faster and more cost-effectively than traditional methods.

The DB method is an approach to delivering public works projects in which both the design and construction of a project are procured from a single entity. Under design-build, the owner contracts with a single entity to both design and construct a project at a fixed price. Simultaneously, contractors are provided with more flexibility over project design, materials, and construction methods. This promotes project design and construction innovation, which can result in higher quality, as well as cost savings.

The approach also reduces the county and local agencies' risk and results in fewer litigation claims for all parties involved. Allowing alternative delivery methods for construction projects gives local governments the ability to make the most cost-effective and advantageous decision for a particular project.

The DB method streamlines project delivery through a single contract between the owner and the design-build team. Thus, using the DB method for more complex projects facilitates the completion and delivery of public works construction projects efficiently and cost effectively. SB 935 would allow local governments to continue with confidence by eliminating the sunset date on this authority.

DBIA-WPR, the League of California Cities, and the California State Association of Counties are proud to support SB 935 and therefore respectfully request your signature in support of this bill.

Sincerely,



Girish Kripalani
President
DBIA-WPR



Damon Conklin
Legislative Representative
League of California Cities



Mark Neuburger
Legislative Advocate
California State Association of Counties



Eric Will
Policy Advocate
Rural County Representatives of California