



April 11, 2023

The Honorable Blanca Rubio  
California State Assembly  
1021 O Street, Suite 5140  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: Assembly Bill 334 – SUPPORT**

Dear Assemblywoman Rubio:

On behalf of the organizations listed below, we are pleased to be in strong support of your Assembly Bill 334, which seeks to clarify the state’s conflict of interest law, Government Code 1090.

Public agencies are experiencing an alarming contracting issue when seeking to partner with independent contractors on their projects.

For example, when agencies seek to contract with engineers, land surveyors, architects, and geologists on public works infrastructure projects, these design professionals are increasingly – and inappropriately – being subjected to the terms of Government Code Section 1090 as a result of unclarity in the law and case law. In consequence, well-qualified professionals are being precluded from participating in subsequent phases of work if they had any involvement in an earlier phase.

Engineers and architects conceive, design, and oversee much of the state's infrastructure projects, including roads, buildings, airports, tunnels, dams, bridges, rail, and water systems. The public is at great risk if qualified consultants and contractors are prohibited from working on certain phases of our projects.

Public agencies should be free to choose through a competitive process who the most qualified professional is to partner with them and deliver projects to their constituents. Thank you for your leadership in addressing this issue and working toward a solution.

Sincerely,

American Institute of Architects, California (AIA California)  
American Public Works Association (APWA) Region VIII  
American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) Region 9  
California Association of Recreation and Park Districts (CARPD)  
California Geotechnical Engineers Association (CalGeo)  
California Municipal Utilities Association (CMUA)  
California & Nevada Civil Engineers and Land Surveyors Association (CELSA)  
California Special Districts Association (CSDA)  
California State Association of Counties (CSAC)  
City of Belmont  
League of California Cities  
Structural Engineers Association of California (SEAOC)

c.c. Ethan Jones, Assembly Committee on Elections  
c.c. Daryl Thomas, Assembly Republican Caucus