

March 20, 2025

The Honorable Liz Ortega
California State Assembly
1021 O Street, Suite 5120
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 339 (Ortega): Local public employee organizations: notice requirements Notice of Opposition – Orange County Sanitation District

Dear Assemblymember Ortega:

On behalf of the Orange County Sanitation District (OC San), I am writing to express our opposition to Assembly Bill (AB) 339, which proposes amendments to the Government Code 3505 that would increase notice requirements for local public employee organizations. While transparency and fairness are essential in public employment practices, this bill could create undue burden on OC San's solicitation process, potentially affecting the timeliness of essential services.

The requirement for a 120-day notice before issuing requests for proposals, contract extensions or renewals, and quotes appears excessively stringent. Public agencies operate in dynamic environments where flexibility is crucial; such an extended notice period could lead to administrative inefficiencies and delays in service implementation. Moreover, this requirement might deter private entities from engaging in contracts with public agencies due to potential delays and uncertainties increasing service costs and reducing competition.

Additionally, AB 339 provides an exemption for emergencies; however, the ambiguity surrounding the definition of an emergency situation could result in disputes and legal challenges, further complicating the process and delaying the administration of critical public services.

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Newport Beach

Orange

Placentia

Santa Ana

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Stanton

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Sanitary District

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Water District

Yorba Linda
Water District

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This added confusion would divert resources away from public services and place increased burdens on local public agencies. Resources would further be diverted from public services due to the increased staffing that would be required to manage compliance with the new regulations.

For the above reasons, the Orange County Sanitation District respectfully opposes AB 339. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Jennifer Cabral, Director of Communications, at (714) 593-7581 or via email at JCabral@ocsan.gov.

Sincerely,



Ryan P. Gallagher
Board Chairman