

January 26, 2021

Dear Chairman and Committee,

The Idaho Chapter of the American Institute of Architects (AIA Idaho) is writing this letter to officially express our support for the <u>Senate Bill 1042</u> currently under review by the Commerce and Human Resources Committee.

AlA Idaho governing board represents over 360 AlA members across Idaho whose main professional concern is that our public infrastructure and private buildings provide safe and healthy environments. The American Institute of Architects is the national organization of design professionals whose mission is to ensure that the health, safety and welfare of the public are protected through quality design and construction practice and by industry regulations that promote quality and accountability.

The proposed revisions to the QBS Law, <u>SB 1042</u> ensure that the Qualifications Based Selection legislation originally enacted in 1976 remains adequate and relevant. The revised language requires all public agencies to protect the public interests and welfare by using the proper qualifications based and not the cost-based selection process of the design, engineering, survey and landscaping professionals for any project with service fees over \$50,000 that requires public funding.

We strongly encourage you to support the adoption of the <u>SB 1042</u>. This revised act will continue ensuring that the governmental selection of the contractors is a consistent and fair process, which supports transparency, accountability and the highest quality of the public projects. The \$25,000 increase in the service /contract fee will bring the QBS law up to date.

The updated QBS process will continue serving the building industry of Idaho and remain the foundation of a consistently safe infrastructure as the local public demands and deserves.

Sincerely,

Chad Blincoe

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Objects (2016) 231 051447 007007

Chad Blincoe, AIA
President
Idaho Chapter of the American Institute of Architects (AIA Idaho)

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