

Mayor  
Willard Rodarmel  
Mayor Pro Tem  
John Flourde  
Council Members  
John Gordon  
John Murray  
William Siegel



Office of the  
Mayor

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September 20, 2011

The Honorable Jerry Brown  
Governor, State of California  
State Capitol Building, First Floor  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
FAX: (916) 588-3177

**RE: SB 922 (Steinberg). Public contracts: public entities: project labor agreements (as amended September 2, 2011)  
Request for Veto**

Dear Governor Brown:

The City of Lemoore requests that you veto SB 922, which would set standards for the use of project labor agreements (PLA) during public works projects and would prohibit public agencies from having a provision, initiative, or ordinance that bans the consideration of a PLA. In addition, SB 922 would withhold state funding for projects in charter cities that have such a ban on PLAs that would comply with the new standards.

The City of Lemoore is aware of the recent controversy surrounding PLAs for public works projects. There is convincing evidence offered by both the proponents and opponents of PLAs. Our City is weighing both sides of the issue and making a decision on if and how to use PLAs based on what is best for their city. There is no doubt that this issue is complicated and evolving. There is no need for the State to reach into local charter provisions, initiatives, and ordinances to dictate PLA provisions. Even if there was a need, the state should only take this action after careful and thoughtful consideration. SB 922 was gut and amended the last week of session and heard in hastily called committee hearings.

In addition, the language included in the new Section 2502 would withhold state financing of projects in a city that prohibits the governing body from considering a PLA. The proponents of SB 922 consider this an "incentive"; we consider it coercion. In many cases, charter amendments and ordinances are a result of action by the voters. Therefore, it is highly possible that this bill will thwart the will of the voters, and withhold funding in parts of the State in great need of economic growth supplied by infrastructure projects.

For these reasons, the City of Lemoore requests your veto on SB 922. If you have any questions regarding our position on this bill, please do not hesitate to contact City Manager Jeff Britz at (559) 924-6700.

Sincerely,

Willard J. Rodarmel, Mayor

cc: Senator Michael Rubio  
Assembly Member David Valadao  
Senator Darrell Steinberg  
Jennifer Whiting, League of California Cities  
Hilary Baird, Regional Representative, League of California Cities  
Steve Samuelian, California Consulting