



CALIFORNIA CONTRACT CITIES ASSOCIATION



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June 27, 2025

Senator Thomas Umberg
Chair, Senate Judiciary Committee
1021 O Street, Room 3240
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Assembly Bill 340 - OPPOSE

Dear Senator Umberg,

The California Contract Cities Association (CCCA) writes to express our opposition to Assembly Bill 340 (Ahrens), which would prohibit a public agency employer from questioning employees and employee representatives about their communications regarding a matter within the scope of that representation.

CCCA is deeply concerned that this legislation will directly impede on employers' ability to conduct internal investigations that involve interviewing key parties and witnesses, endangering workplace safety. Further, the bill creates a one-sided standard when it comes to privileged communications, which will have a significant impact on legal proceedings. Notably, these are concerns we raised last year as we voiced our opposition to AB 2421 (Low), a very similar bill that was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee last year. Considering the adequate protections that already exist for employees through the collective bargaining process, Meyers-Milias Brown Act, and Public-Employment Relations Board, CCCA sees this legislation as an unnecessary intervention in the current local labor negotiations process.

CCCA represents 80 cities throughout California. For more than 65 years, CCCA's mission has been to advance the benefits of the contracting model and strengthen local control. With collaborative governance as a focal point, CCCA has advanced its mission through education, advocacy, networking, and legislative access to protect and enhance the quality of life for more than 7.5 million residents. As a matter of policy, our organization supports and defends the rights of cities on policy issues pertinent to them.

We thank you in advance for your consideration of our opposition to AB 340.

Yours in service,

Marcel Rodarte, Executive Director

CC: Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee