

Chair Prozanski, Vice Chair Thatcher, and Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee,

I am writing on behalf of Baker County to express our opposition to SB 1575. While we support small businesses, we believe that it is unfair to burden taxpayers with the cost of private litigation.

As you may know, counties, cities, and special districts receive almost the same amount of revenue every year, while the cost of services increases annually. Adding the cost of litigation could force us to cut services or programs, which would be detrimental to our citizens.

At Baker County, we believe that design professionals should be held accountable for their work and should indemnify counties that receive a claim based on faulty design or sub-par work. Design professionals should not be treated differently from any other contractor. We expect them to factor in the cost of potential litigation when bidding for contracts.

We urge a no vote on SB 1575

Thank you for your time and consideration.

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Sincerely,

Shane Alderson

Baker County Commission Chair