



**DAVID EVANS
AND ASSOCIATES INC.**

February 9, 2018

The Honorable Chair Paul Holvey and members of the House Business and Labor Committee,

My name is Gavin Oien. I am writing in strong opposition to HB 4127. This bill will set back the Qualifications Based Selection (QBS) process that we've worked so hard to establish. QBS has proven to be an effective procurement method and ensures that Oregon's limited public works funds are used to provide the best value for engineering services. QBS is the right way to procure professional design services.

HB 4127 shifts the method to price based selection. This goes against the policy of the American Public Works Association, the largest and most recognized association of public works professionals in America.

HB 4217 is bad for small businesses. Bidding is a barrier to small, emerging and minority owned professional service businesses getting a fair opportunity in the market place.

HB 4217 is bad for taxpayers. Bidding for design services has proven to be problematic on public works projects. A lowest price model for selecting design firms limits opportunities to find cost-savings through innovation and new ideas. The cost for changes during construction exponentially outweigh cost for innovation during design.

Bidding for professional services works against a positive partnership between the owner and designer, creating an adversarial relationship.

Rather than tear down something, we've worked so hard to build. Let's work to find a solution to the concerns raised by the proponents for HB 4127. The American Council of Engineering Companies is committed to working with our local government clients and their advocates during the interim prior to the 2019 legislative session to do a deep dive on the QBS process.

Sincerely,

DAVID EVANS AND ASSOCIATES, INC.

Gavin J. Oien, P.E. (OR)

Vice President, Senior Project Manager