

NEW JERSEY ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES
RESOLUTION - PROJECTED COST ESTIMATE LEGISLATION
Adopted: June 15, 2011

A RESOLUTION opposing **ASSEMBLY, NO. 3285** (*Wisniewski*), which requires certain public contract bid advertisements to contain certified cost estimates and specifies grounds for the rejection of all bids.

WHEREAS, this legislation would defeat the intended purpose and cost benefits of competitive bidding as it provides contractors with little incentive to submit proposals below projected cost estimates;

WHEREAS, this legislation would increase the cost of doing business with local governments as preparing bid solicitations become more complex and may require local governments to hire professional consultants to prepare comprehensive cost estimates;

WHEREAS, this legislation would lead to costly litigation if the reasonableness of a projected cost estimate is challenged in court further driving up project expenses;

WHEREAS, this legislation would eliminate the important flexibility local governments exercise under current law when making decisions concerning the acceptance or rejection of all bid proposals - including those that deal with the purchase of goods and services;

WHEREAS, this legislation would adversely impact the ability of local governments to execute cost effective public contracts under terms and conditions most favorable to taxpayers.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the New Jersey Association of Counties does in fact hereby opposing **ASSEMBLY, NO. 3285** (*Wisniewski*), which requires certain public contract bid advertisements to contain certified cost estimates and specifies grounds for the rejection of all bids.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution are forwarded to the Governor of the State of New Jersey, the President of the New Jersey State Senate, the Speaker of the General Assembly, the Attorney General of the State of New Jersey, the clerks of the boards of chosen freeholders of all twenty-one counties, and the twenty-one county prosecutors.

Signed: *Beth E. Timberman* Dated: June 15
Beth E. Timberman, NJAC President
Salem County Freeholder

