



May 19, 2025

Senator Dave Cortese
Senate Transportation Committee
State Capitol, Room 405
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 377 (Tangipa) – Support (As Introduced 2/3/2025)

Dear Senator Cortese:

The Associated Builders and Contractors of California (ABC CA), a statewide organization representing working Californians in carpentry, construction, construction craft laborer, electrical, low voltage, painting, plumbing, pipefitting, and sheet metal who are building commercial, industrial and affordable housing projects, write to express our support for 377 (Tangipa), which requires the California High-Speed Rail Authority (CHSRA) to include a comprehensive funding plan for the Merced-to-Bakersfield segment in its biennial business plan, finally bringing transparency and accountability to Central Valley residents.

In 2008, voters approved \$10 billion in general obligation bonds for the project, which was then projected to cost \$33 billion and be completed by 2020. To date, more than \$13.8 billion has been spent, yet not a single usable segment has been completed. The project is significantly over budget and behind schedule, and the full extent of these delays remains unclear. CHSRA's March 2025 Project Update Report failed to include the legally required cost and schedule estimates, further eroding public trust.

Local communities have been left in limbo, unable to plan around ongoing and projected construction. Residents throughout the Central Valley, where most of the construction has taken place, deserve clarity on whether this project will ever be completed or remain an unfinished monument to government inefficiency. For these reasons, Associated Builders and Contractors of California supports AB 377.

Sincerely,

Greg Gutierrez
Chair of the Board