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SB 136 (Hall) Public Contracts: UCLA
FACT SHEET

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ISSUE

University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA) facilities management staff carries out dozens of small renovation and remodeling projects each year. In-house personnel have intimate knowledge of the facilities and the research environment in which they work, enabling them to complete projects in the most timely and cost effective manner. Yet, driven by constantly changing requirements, UCLA facilities management department has found it increasingly difficult to attract qualified contractors to perform these smaller projects needed to effectively maintain and update their facilities.

Currently UCLA may perform projects with university employees without going through a competitive bidding process if the value of the project costs do not exceed fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) or if the project is for the erection, construction, alteration, repair, or improvement of experimental, diagnostic, or specialized equipment. Such a low project cost cap reduces opportunities for university staff to directly service facility needs and adds additional public costs due to the public bidding process.

SOLUTION

SB 136 would allow UCLA to perform projects with university employees if the value of the project does not exceed \$100,000.

By increasing the project threshold from \$50,000 to \$100,000 at UCLA, it will allow the university to build, renovate and maintain its facilities efficiently and cost-effectively using its own employees. UCLA has an in-house staff of approximately 400 employees in various trades that are ready and able to do the work.

SUPPORT

International Union of Operating Engineers (Sponsor)

(As introduced 1/22/15)